

Silkstone Parish Magazine Summer 2025 Issue 106



A selection of contents

Addergram	6
Annual report & Accounts	8-10
Silkstone Handbells come home	14
Village walk pullout	19-22
Parish Council contact details	30-31
Twinning event	34
Local Organisations	37-40

The Deputy Lord Lieutenant lighting the beacon on 5th May to commemorate VE Day and above part of Old Silkstone Band playing their wonderful music.

The Editor of this magazine is Sue Williams. Views expressed in in this magazine are those of the Contributors and not necessarily the views of the Parish Council.

A word from the Chair

Welcome to the summer magazine. Although with the glorious warm sunny weather we have experienced during the spring it feels like summer is already here. We do need some rain now for the farmers and gardeners to make sure the crops and garden plants continue to grow.

We have recently held our Annual Parishioners meeting, the annual report delivered at that meeting and a summary of accounts are both printed later in this magazine. Also, I am honoured, to have been re-elected as Chair of the Parish Council at the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

We are looking forward to our friends from Saint-Florent-des-Bois, the village we are twinned with, in France visiting in the summer. Please if you see our visitors around the villages, stop and say hello to make them feel welcome.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the magazine. Special thanks to Sue and Linda for their hard work as usual.

Meryl, Chair Silkstone Parish Council

Silkstone Warm Welcome

Warm welcome, warm drinks, warm friendship

**June 24
July 8, 22
August 5 & 19
September 2, 16, 30
October 14 & 28**

Huskar Community Rooms - 10.00am -12.30pm

Join us for drinks, biscuits, and a chat.

For more information contact:

**Richard 07966 466507, Julia 07941 527250 or
Alan 07870 191873**

Editorial — Spring 2025

Welcome to the Summer Edition of the Magazine.

At the time of writing this Editorial the weather is definitely cheering up, lots of sunshine, bit of a breeze, a few showers, but mainly looking good! Everything crossed for more sunshine in the Summer months!

We have an array of articles in this Edition spanning different interests and information for all.

The Care group are asking for all 'knitters' of the Parish to get their needles out and make some lovely Poppies for our Remembrance Day - Poppy Day – displays in both Silkstone and Silkstone Common (our own Tower of London display!). I am really looking forward to seeing these displays, so please get knitting!!



A big shout out to my Mum, Ann, (who lives in Cheshire) who read the Spring Edition of the Magazine and immediately knitted 20

Poppies for the Care group. Thanks Mum!

This Edition has our usual brain teaser from Mick, the Silkstone History group have shared the historical journey of our Silkstone Hand Bells, Matt has kindly taken time out from his involvement in Chelsea Flower show to share his gardening design hints and tips, Canon Keith shares his thoughts and updates us regarding All Saints Church, Old Silkstone Band share their brilliant

competition success and future concert dates, Barnsley College have shared further Education options in 2025 for all ages, yet another wonderful walk around our Parish from Steve, and a heart-warming article from Liz Whitehouse revealing memories of the romance between her parents during the war, including reflections by her father as a soldier serving in the Second World War, to commemorate VE day 8th May 2025.

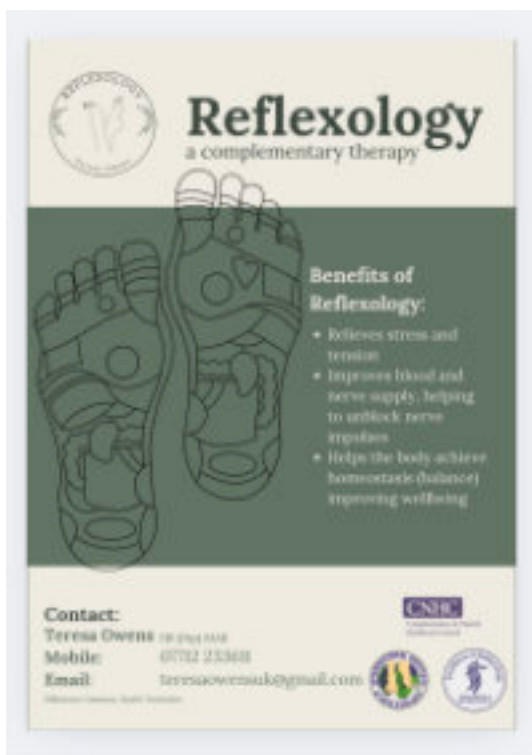
After a successful and entertaining Tractor Run through the villages on 27th April, congratulations to the organisers as the event collected over £10,000 for the Children's Air Ambulance. How wonderful! Loved the David Brown Tractor! (see Tractor Run article)

There are also a number of events both within the Parish and in Barnsley Town Centre throughout the Summer, included in this Edition.

I wish you all lots of lovely Summer days, blue skies, and plenty of ice cream moments.

**Sue
Editor**





A poster for Reflexology, a complementary therapy. It features a circular logo at the top left with a stylized 'R' and 'F' and the text 'Reflexology' and 'a complementary therapy'. The main title 'Reflexology' is in a large, bold, serif font, with 'a complementary therapy' in a smaller, sans-serif font below it. To the left of the text is a large, detailed line drawing of a human foot, showing the various reflexology points. To the right of the foot, the text 'Benefits of Reflexology:' is followed by a bulleted list of three points. At the bottom left, the contact information for Teresa Owens is provided. At the bottom right, there are three logos: CNHC (Complementary Nursing Council), a logo for the British Reflexology Association, and a logo for the International Association of Reflexologists.

Reflexology
a complementary therapy

Benefits of Reflexology:

- Relieves stress and tension
- Improves blood and nerve supply, helping to unlock nerve pathways
- Helps the body achieve homeostatic balance, improving wellbeing

Contact:
Teresa Owens CPD 2142 RAB
Mobile: 07732 233608
Email: teresaowensuk@gmail.com

CNHC
Complementary Nursing Council

British Reflexology Association
International Association of Reflexologists



A photograph of an elderly couple sitting at a table outdoors, smiling. A small white dog is sitting on the table. The background shows a garden with trees and a small wooden structure. The text 'Home Instead' is in the top right corner, with 'care' in a smaller font below it. Below the photograph, there is a purple banner with white text. Below the banner, there is a quote from Mrs L. from Silkstone. Below the quote, there is a teal banner with white text.

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Mrs L. from Silkstone

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Poppy Appeal - CARE

A **BIG** thank you to everyone who has started to knit or crochet poppies which will contribute to displays across both our villages in November to commemorate Remembrance Day.



Our displays will depend on how many poppies we get donated, so please keep knitting/crocheting. We would like as many as possible for both villages. In Silkstone we have ideas for displays just behind the war memorial and potentially a cascade on/around The Cross. In Silkstone Common our crafting ladies will have a fabulous display in the front of the Methodist Church and we are hopeful for a cascade type display on/around the steps up to the station platform.

We are very happy to receive your knitted/crocheted poppies at any time, this gives us a really good idea of how many we will receive, allowing us time to plan the displays. (*Poppy pattern in the Spring issue available from the PC website*)

If you have any to drop off or we are happy to collect, please contact :

For Silkstone Karen Gorman on 07788185502 or kgorman963@btinternet.com and

For Silkstone Common Susan Dunwell on 07973 310925 or susanwareham@talktalk.net

Thank you in advance.

CARE volunteers out and about

You will have noticed that our volunteers are regularly out in both villages. We absolutely love what we do and are very enthusiastic about what we can achieve for the benefit of all residents and visitors to our beautiful villages.

We are delighted that we have also commenced work in the grounds of the Methodist Church. This is a big project for us and may take a while to bring back some order to a lovely space.

We are always happy to hear from potential new volunteers. It's not just about weeding or sweeping, we carry out a whole range of tasks and hopefully have something of interest for everyone. Whether it's planning a walk, strimming a curb side, planning a poppy display, designing a new garden area, working at the Methodist Chapel - we really would love to hear from you.

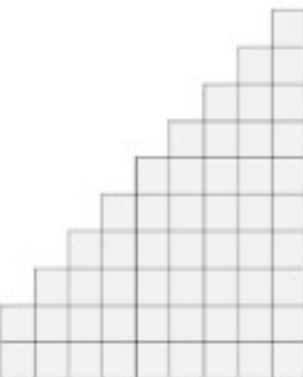
There are huge benefits from volunteering, the feeling of giving something back is very powerful and really does help mental well being. Our team is made up of a diverse group of villagers and are happy to welcome new people to the team. Please get in touch :

For Silkstone Karen Gorman
For Silkstone Common Susan Dunwell

Same contact details as for poppies

Addergram Puzzle Date : 16-May-25

Clues Answers



- Sixth note of musical scale (2)
- An open area of grassy or arable land (3)
- Wind force 8 on the Beaufort scale (4)
- A person of exemplary conduct or virtue (5)
- Brief look or peek (6)
- An absurd or embarrassing blunder (7)
- An open space in a forest (8)
- Involving short, severe pains felt suddenly along a nerve, especially in the neck or head (9)
- Coating with a protective finish (10)

How to play Addergrams ...

Each word is an anagram of the previous word **plus one extra letter**.

Use the clues together with the letters from the previous and next answers to solve each word.

Fresh puzzles available every day at : addergrams.com

There is no software to download or install, you don't need an account, no adverts are shown and no personal data is collected or stored.

Addergrams is a fun daily word puzzle created by a retired Silstone resident.

Play Addergrams online and your result can be shared on social media if you wish.

Addergrams copyright is owned by Mick Jennings, 2023. This puzzle is published with permission.

Feedback and comments to ...

info@addergrams.com

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Annual Report from the Chair Councillor Meryl Liddell

Thank you - Councillors

I would like to thank all the councillors who have given their time and effort for the benefit of the Parish this past twelve months. Although the Parish Council is an elected body, councillors give their time freely, many councillors attending multiple meetings a month.

I would like to thank each councillor individually. Peter Miller, Janice Wake, Debra Smith, Jim Logan and Derek Liddell. I would especially like to thank our Vice Chair Richard Leech, not only for the support he has given me this last year, but to all the tireless hours of work he carries out around the parish, without expecting any thanks or recognition for it. I would like to take this opportunity personally thank him especially for the litter picking he carries out at Silkstone playing field almost daily, without this effort the car park MUGA and playing field would look very different.

As always, our Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer Richard Bell has gone above and beyond to ensure the council stays on the right tracks. Thank you, Richard, for all your hard work.

Sadly, Lesley Gill and Alan Thompson have both decided it is time for them to use their energies elsewhere. I would like to thank them both for their contributions and their hard work whilst they were on the parish council.

Ward Councillors

I would also like to thank our Ward Councillors Robert Barnard, Alex Burnett, John Roberts and our local Member of Parliament Dr Marie Tidball for the support they have given us when dealing with BMBC.

Supporters

Amongst the many people who help within the parish, thank you to Sue Williams and Linda Marsh in creating the newsletter, it is a good read and an important way of keeping everybody informed about what is going on in the parish. Also, can I thank Stuart Walton for his DIY skills helping maintain the pavilion and benches around the villages. More recently the work he is involved with the Huskar Memorial, and finally thanks you to David Hughes, our internal auditor.

Horsfields Garden Centre provided the village Christmas trees again. Thank you, they looked wonderful

Groups

I would like to thank the CARE Group for all the marvellous work they do in both villages. CARE has again been instrumental in keeping the Parish neat and tidy arranging regular litter picks and village maintenance sessions. CARE has a Community Equipment resource where tools and gardening equipment are available for use on Parish projects. CARE is a fabulous group of volunteers

who work tirelessly throughout the villages. CARE also assists in other Parish Council environmental projects.

Thank you to Good Companions and The Luncheon Club who provide essential support to our more mature parishioners. Also, Julie and Mark at the Station Inn Silkstone Common who welcome the Luncheon Club every week at little cost to the club.

Parish Projects

Summer Fair

Unfortunately, due to the adverse weather conditions last summer when the fair should have been held it had to be cancelled. After all the demanding work that went into organising it especially by Lesley Gill and Janice Wake, this was a real disappointment. There will be no fair this year but keep an eye on the Parish Council web page, Facebook page and Newsletter for updates about 2026.

Christmas Lights.

The Christmas lights and trees were again extremely popular this year. This is the tradition we hope to continue.

Silkstone Common Methodist Chapel

The Parish Council is supporting plans to purchase the chapel building. When the sale was originally thought to be imminent earlier in the year a well-supported public meeting was held by the Parish Council, with a large number of parishioners in Silkstone Common

supporting plans to make the chapel into a community hub. Progress has been very slow, due to circumstances beyond the Parish Council's control. We will however continue to try and find ways, if possible, to bring the building into parish ownership. The building has already been recognised as a public asset. There will be a public meeting held by the Methodist Church Council at 7:30pm on Monday 19th May 2025. I hope as many people will attend as possible.

Parish

The Parish Council continues to support Churches in the Parish where they can by providing grants for one off items.

Grants are also awarded to other community groups within Silkstone and Silkstone Common. Details of how to apply for a grant from the Parish Council can be found on the parish council website.

The Huskar Rooms have recently undergone many changes in the volunteers running the rooms, The Parish Council would like to especially thank Linda Jackson, Chair and Nick Perry Treasurer, outgoing Chair and Treasurer respectively who have worked hard to make the rooms a success in the past. I would like to welcome Stephen Dolman, the new treasurer, thank you for picking up the mantle. The Huskar Rooms still need more people to volunteer to help on the committee to continue with the success it has enjoyed since it opened.

Silkstone Parish Council Accounts 2024/2025

Generally, our parish continues to have a low level of crime compared to other parts of the Borough. Remember if you see anything suspicious please use the 101-phone number for reporting non urgent crime.

Dog fouling continues to be an issue within the Parish. A minority of dog owners continue to allow their dogs to mess and not clear up. This is both inconsiderate and dangerous when allowed on the playing areas of both our recreation grounds.

If you feel you would like to contribute by becoming a parish councillor, in the first instance please contact Richard Bell, there are currently two vacancies available.

Finally, the Parish Council continues to strive to make our parish a great place to live. Please help all our community groups where you can, you can be as involved as much as you like.

Thank you

Councillor Meryl Liddell
Chairman 2024 - 2025

	Amount
Receipts 2024/2025	
Precept (Council Tax)	£76,800.00
Council Tax support grant from BMBC	£4,708.00
Allotment Fees	£813.80
Advertising in Newsletter	£820.00
Pavilion & Recreation Ground	£3,476.50
Hanging Basket sponsors	£3,920.00
Huskar Community Rooms Rental Fees	£10,128.91
Donations & Miscellaneous	£403.02
Total	£101,070.23
Payments 2024/2025	
Administration, Insurance & Newsletter	£10,779.02
Employees	£26,559.78
Silkstone Recreation Ground & Pavilion	£28,323.57
Woods & Allotments	£3,715.42
Villages Maintenance, Christmas Lights & Hanging Baskets	£12,948.66
Grants to local groups	£956.00
Training	£179.37
Loan Repayments	£13,488.36
Villages Events & Warm Welcome	£1,768.59
SC Methodist Chapel Project	£1,803.00
Miscellaneous	£175.00
Total Payments	£100,696.77
Carried Forward	£373.46

The above represents a summary of receipts and payments, net of VAT. Please direct any questions or clarification requests to the Responsible Finance Officer – Richard Bell. Silkstoneparishcouncil@gmail.com

Gardening with Matt B

Continuing our series on Garden Design

This issue builds from how you wish to feel in the garden and starts to create a layout.

A journey through a garden is all about creating changes of feel, through the use of mass and void. Mass is anything solid in the garden, it could be a hedge, a wall, plants or a tree. The key thing is that the mass constrains the space, bringing everything in or directing you around. Void on the other hand is open and freeing, bringing light and air, this could be an open lawn, a gap between shrubs or the sky.

Imagine you want your garden to feel calming and peaceful. Translating calm into mass and void, for me, would be by creating an enclosed central area, perhaps a lawn on which to sit. I would be surrounded by planting, but with space between me and the plants. I wouldn't want to be overlooked, but equally I wouldn't want to feel penned in. Imagining this scenario, we can use mass and void to create this space. An open central lawn, void, gives the feeling of air and openness. A low growing mass of plants surrounds, set at a comfortable distance away ensuring the area is not crowded. Beyond the planting some taller mass, a pleached hedge, to envelop the garden in green and give screening from neighbours.

Overall, the space uses mass and void to

create a feel of calm. The polar opposite of this is perhaps a maze. Cramped, tight, very directional and imposing. All created by having tall mass right up next to you. Great for getting lost in, perhaps not so good for a garden!

Along with mass and void comes proportion, which is good to relate back to a human scale. How does the mass or void relate to you and how you wish the garden to feel. For example, being above or below your eyeline is crucial for larger mass such as hedges.

Your next step is to take your list of adjectives from last time along with an outline of your garden and start to place mass and create void to carve out a journey. Do this repeatedly, you can use tracing paper over the outline, doodling away quickly to build different shapes and sizes of mass. Then at the end of each, consider how the mass or void you have created would impact on that journey. Is it maze like and busy, or more open and calming? Would it interrupt your usual path from your door? Would it create or interrupt sightlines from windows?

At the end you will have settled on an overall layout that is pleasing to you and creates an atmosphere you like. One key element at the outset is not to be overly practical. Think, 'I will have some 'mass' here, not 'I will have a hedge here'. These practicalities of hedges, patio or plants come later, when next time we will discuss how to choose these whilst

working with your garden.

Image 1: Palace of Versailles.

Masterful use of mass and void to create a classic French vista. The use of mass void and geometry here quite literally changes the perspective (Designed by André Le Nôtre, 1661).

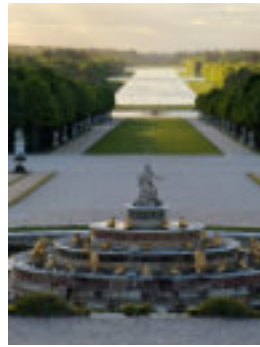


Image 2: Parc André Citroën, Paris.

The subtle use of mass and void creates texture, with the space between the hedging and tree canopy giving a sense of calm (Designed by Gilles Clément and Alain Provost, 1992).

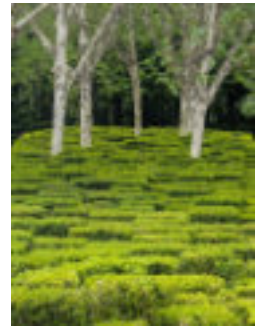


Image 3: Quick, rough sketches

Working for a current garden design.

MattB

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Dates are:

June 26th

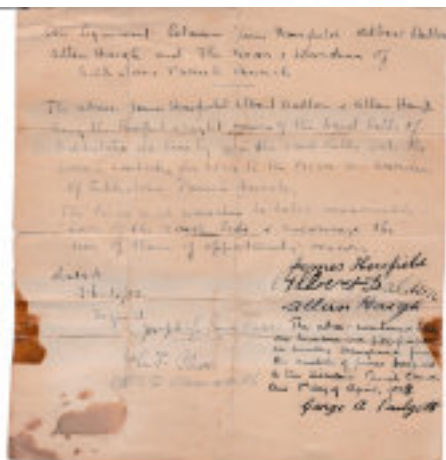
July 10th & 24th

Aug 7th & 21st

Silkstone Hand Bells Come Home

In the early twentieth century Silkstone had a very successful group of hand bell ringers. They had three sets of hand bells making a total of 156 bells. The bells had been purchased by public subscription and it is believed that they were played in some rooms at Stable Fold.

Needing somewhere to house the hand bells, in 1923 three of the ringers signed an agreement with the then vicar of Silkstone, Rev. Joseph Prince, and the churchwardens that the church should be the custodians of the hand bells. One of the signatories was James Horsfield the great grandfather of Heritage Silkstone Chairman Andy Horsfield.



James Horsfield

Since then, the hand bells have been on loan to various churches, chapels and colleges. In the 1960's the bells were in Noblethorpe Hall and then on loan to churches in the Selby area. Bretton College wanted to purchase the hand bells but it was stipulated that the bells could only be on loan to the college.

Over the following years the three sets of Silkstone hand bells were played at Bretton College, Byram church and churches and chapels in the Grassington area. Silkstone School also enjoyed playing the hand bells.

During this time some of the hand bells went missing and finally in 1984 139 hand bells went on loan to Cannon Hall Museum where they were kept in storage for many years.

Storage space at Cannon Hall needed to be rationalised so in March this year the hand bells were returned to Silkstone church for safe keeping.



Heritage Silkstone chairman, Andy Horsfield, with just a few of the hand bells



A small selection of Silkstone hand bells

During their time in storage the condition of the hand bells deteriorated. Some had been lost over the years leaving a total of 138 bells. Some have now been sent to a conservator for restoration. There are now 122 hand bells in the church in need of some TLC. One of the curators at Cannon Hall has offered help and advice on how to restore the hand bells so the village can hopefully have a set to play at the end of the restoration project.

The history of hand bell ringing in the Silkstone area goes back much earlier. Andy has searched through newspaper archives and the earliest record is when Mr Wentworth Beaumont of Bretton Hall married Lady Margaret Ann in March 1856. The bride and groom arrived early to listen to a performance by Silkstone ringers.

It would appear that hand bell ringing was very popular in the surrounding villages with mention of several completions fiercely fought. In October 1859 the Barnsley ringers travelled to play at the Crystal Palace.

All England Completions were held at the Zoological Gardens, Belle Vue, Manchester, attracting 20,000 visitors. In

1878 Silkstone ringers entered and came 4th winning £3.10s. The following year at the same venue they came 1st winning £15 and a gold medal. The test pieces of music were taken from works by Hayden and Mozart. Having reached notoriety Silkstone ringers were asked to play at several events in the nearby villages.

The popularity of hand bell ringing seemed to decline towards the end of the nineteenth century then in 1902 an article in a local newspaper stated that Charles Horsfield, the church sexton and one of the early ringers, intended to restart hand bell ringing in Silkstone.

The original set of bells for some unknown reason had been taken away by the late William Hoyland when he left the village. Three sets of recently acquired hand bells came under the chairmanship of Charles Horsfield who with other members of the original group had undertaken to teach new members. Charles Horsfield's nephew, James Horsfield was one of the new recruits and it was hoped that the new Silkstone ringers would once more take part in nation competitions.

Any readers who may be interested in taking part in the Silkstone hand bells restoration project please contact Heritage Silkstone via our email address heritagesilkstone21@gmail.com

Heritage Silkstone is very grateful to Silkstone Parish Council who has awarded us a grant to carry out this restoration work.

Heritage Silkstone

Heritage Silkstone will be holding a Family History day on a Saturday in early August. The date will be confirmed later on Social Media. If you want any help tracing your Silkstone family, ahead of the planned family history day, please contact Heritage Silkstone on the above email address.

Jane Raistrick
Andy Horsfield
Heritage Silkstone

Penistone Tractor Run 27th April 2025

What a wonder procession of tractors, of all ages, from our local farmers on Sunday 27th April. There were 147 tractors in all, and all donations have gone to the Children's Air Ambulance.

Heather Harrison, from Yummy Yorkshire shared:

'We are delighted, proud and overwhelmed to say we raised £10,706.52. A massive achievement now able to donate to the Children's Air Ambulance'.

Sue Williams

Photos courtesy of Yummy Yorkshire





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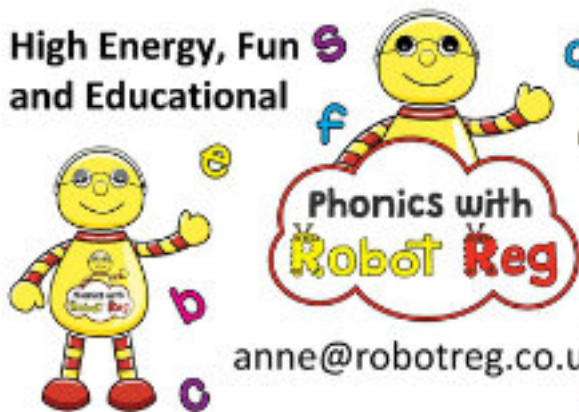
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**South
Yorkshire
West**

For ages 1-5



The odd but thankful Vicar.

You'll probably come to the conclusion that your Vicar is a bit odd because I must confess to enjoying Church council meetings and Annual General Meetings. I enjoy discussing, debating, and developing the business and mission of the church. It is always my hope that any hot air I produce in a meeting will be transformed into usable energy for good! I'm in my element with four church councils each month and four Annual General Meetings. I would like to share a paragraph from my annual report to the Church and extend my grateful thanks for your support during the last twelve months.

'Our primary purpose as a church community is to worship God, seek him in prayer and take up the call to follow Christ in our daily lives. It is a joy to see attendance at Sunday worship gradually increase. There is a strong sense of unity within the Benefice with people sharing in Sunday worship. I would like to repeat a paragraph from my report last year as it still stands as a core part of my work.

It has been a privilege to be alongside members of the community in what we refer to as 'Occasional offices'; weddings, baptisms and funerals. This is the 'bread and butter' ministry of clergy. It is where much of the outreach and ministry of the church has traditionally made its impact and is most keenly felt and appreciated. This pastoral ministry has given me much opportunity to build up a relationship and

friendship with very many people. The ministry of a vicar belongs to the whole community and long may it be so.'

As your vicar I have much to be thankful for as I know the affection people in the community have for the church building and the way it holds for us a huge part of our community heritage and history. In the coming months we will be faced with some considerable building repairs and I will be appealing to the community to assist us and respond to the need. Each generation have worked together to maintain the magnificent treasure we have had passed down to us through the past 1000 years. I am confident that this generation will continue to do the same.

If you have never been inside the church or to a service you will be made most welcome. Our Sunday services are on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 9.15am (I think my sermons are fairly bearable...and more often than not short enough....I try to work on the premise, if I've not struck oil in 10 mins then stop boring!) We also have the Wednesday Heritage Silkstone Group 10 – 2pm and our Cutler Café in the Chancel on the last Saturday of the month 10-12noon with wonderful coffee and cake. Come and pay a visit to YOUR church.

With prayerful best wishes,
Your odd...but thankful Vicar!

Canon Keith

Silkstone Parish Walks

Partridge Dale and Berry Moor





General Information

Distance 3/3.82 miles. Some sections can have wet, muddy or uneven ground and weather conditions can vary. Choose appropriate footwear and clothing.

Travel For bus and train times telephone Travel South Yorkshire on their Traveline number 0800 952 0002 open 7pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 7pm Saturday and Sunday Or use their website <https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/>

Acknowledgements

K. Jowett and E. Hebden for the original route text.

Walk Description

- A. The walk starts and finishes at Silkstone Common railway station. Leave the station and turn right along Knabbs Lane. At the end of the village turn right onto the Trans Pennine Trail (TPT). After 150 yards turn left over stiles and pass to the right of Knabb's Hall Farm.
- B. Follow footpath markers to Hadley House, turn left and take farm track to Coates Lane.
- C. Cross Coates Lane and follow footpath in a straight line downhill across fields and cross Hollin Dyke at bridge, after which ascend to Pinfold Lane.
- D. Turn left at Pinfold Lane and follow the road for a short distance turn right at kissing gate at Cobblers Bottom Farm towards Partridge Dale.
- E. At cottages turn left at signpost to Berry Moor House and here take stiles to right of the house, crossing several fields towards Dodworth Moor End.
- F. For the Huskar Monument turn left along House Carr Lane to railway bridge. Monument is just inside Nabs Wood. Retrace steps along House Carr Lane continue for 20 yards and then turn left at signposted footpath across middle of field.
- G. Ascend steps to join the former railway line, now the Dove Valley Trail, part of the Trans Pennine Trail. Turn left to view the Beyer-Garrett boundary stone on the Silkstone/Dodworth parish boundary.
- H. Return to the steps, descend and turn right through the tunnel, taking footpath to Moorend Houses.
- I. Follow track past Silkstone Equestrian Centre and Barn Owl Cottage.
- J. At Viewpoint House turn right to take footpath parallel with South Yorkshire Buildings and leading into Silkstone Common recreation ground.
- K. Leave recreation ground, cross Hall Royd Walk and take footpath to Ben Bank Road.
- L. At Ben Bank Road turn left and return to Silkstone Common railway station.

Additional Information

- A Knabbs Hall Farm is one of the oldest buildings in the village. It is known that the house was rebuilt in 1644 and that there was an earlier timber-framed house there. A large royal crest over the door implies that royalty once slept there.
- E Partridge Dale is aptly named. Other birds found in Tom Royd Wood include sparrowhawks in search of prey such as chaffinch or members of the tit family. In summer visitors from Africa include willow warblers and blackcaps.
- F-G To the left where you cross House Carr Lane in Nabs Wood (owned by the Woodland Trust, but with public access) is the location of the day hole or drift of the former Moorend Colliery. Here on the 4th July 1838 a violent thunderstorm led to water from House Carr Dyke pouring into the day hole. At the same time children working in the mine were trying to make their way out and 26 of them between the ages of seven and seventeen were trapped against a ventilation door and drowned. Their graves and a large memorial stone are to be found in Silkstone Churchyard. In 1988 on the 150th anniversary of the disaster a second memorial was dedicated near the site and this depicts two crouching figures of child mineworkers. This disaster was partly responsible for passing of the Mines Act of 1842 forbidding women and children under the age of ten from working in the mines.
- G The Beyer-Garratt engine (2-8-0+0-8-2, number 2395/69999 LNER Class U1) was a double engine built in 1925 for banking heavy coal trains on the Woodhead route.

Notes from CARE

This is a pleasant stroll, about 3 miles, or 3.82 with the side trip to the Huskar monument. Starting and ending at the Railway Station/Station Inn in Silkstone Common.

You can pull out the walk from the centre pages or if you prefer, use a digital version on your phone. If you want the digital version, you can find it at <https://www.komoot.com/tour/1597263549>. The full list of walks is at <https://www.komoot.com/user/silkstoneparishwalks/tours>

where we are a partner with Komoot. If you use Komoot, they include a free map of the larger local area when you sign up to a free account.

Please remember to follow Silkstone Parish Walks on Komoot, it helps by giving an idea of how much the Komoot app is being used. Any comments/ feedback, email us at silkstoneparishwalks@gmail.com

Enjoy - Steve Jones

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Stan and Grace: a Story of Love and War

Liz Whitehouse tells of her project to publish her parents' wartime letters.

The recent celebrations of the anniversary of VE Day and renewed interest in the Second World War made me think that readers of the Parish magazine may be interested in a project which I started in February, 2024.

Why February? Well, 82 years previously two young people met at a dance in Grimethorpe, on the other side of Barnsley. He was a soldier, conscripted into the Royal Signals, and she was a nurse, training in Nottingham. Both their families lived in Grimethorpe. They agreed to write to each other. My sister and I discovered the hundreds of letters they exchanged when clearing my mother's house more than 20 years ago.

The letters documented not only a developing love story, but also the effect of a world war on Stan and Grace's everyday lives. Grace's letters paint a picture of nursing in the 1940's and life on the 'home front' with the challenges of rationing and the other inconveniences of living in a country under siege. Stan's letters, although limited by writing under Army censorship, tell of his day-to-day life in the Army, of tedium interspersed with playing a part in momentous events. In 1943 Stan was sent to North Africa, taking part in the Sicily landings and Italian campaign.



Over many years I transcribed the letters and always intended to “do something” with them. In December, 2023 I was 69 and suddenly realised that if I was going to “do something” it needed to be now! I realised that the letters would lend themselves to being published in a blog.

The first letter was dated 12 February, 1942. I had never even followed a blog, never mind designing one, but I ‘had a go’ and the blog was ready for the first letter to be posted on 12 February, 2024. Letters are published on the same day that they were written 82 years previously.

Why not follow Stan and Grace through the Second World War? The letters are real life - not ‘East Enders’ - both exciting and mundane, full of hope, frustration and above all, longing.

You will find the blog at <https://stan-and-grace.blogspot.com>

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Hello to all residents of Silkstone Common and Silkstone Village.

2025 has been an amazing start for Old Silkstone Band. The last few months have been full of positivity for the band.

In March the band took part in the Yorkshire Regional Championships where we competed against all the other 1st Section bands in Yorkshire. Norman Law stepped in 3 weeks before the contest and worked the band incredibly hard and we are pleased to say that we came 2nd place out of 11 bands. This result sees the band qualify to represent Yorkshire at the National Finals of Great Britain in September 2025 at Cheltenham Racecourse and we have also secured promotion to the championship section from January 2026. At next year's Yorkshire Regional Championships we will be competing against some of the best bands in the world – Black Dyke, Brighouse and Rastrick and Grimethorpe.



Following on from our success at this contest, Norman Law has been appointed as our permanent Musical Director. Norman conducted OSB between 2000 and 2006 and are delighted to have him back working with the band.



The band will be heading down to Cheltenham Racecourse to take part in the National Finals of Great Britain. This contest takes place over the weekend of the 13th and 14th September. We are so incredibly proud that we will be representing the area of Silkstone. We currently have a Crowdfunder set up – if you would like to support the bands journey to get to the Finals contest please follow this QR code to read more about it.



The band enjoyed a concert in the All Saints Church with Local Vocals back in May. The band are always excited to do a concert for the local community and we love to see you all.

Some key dates of where we are, and what we are doing are as follows:

- Sunday 13th July 2025 – 2pm – Locke Park Band Stand
- Sunday 27th July 2025– 2pm – Brodsworth Hall
- Sunday 10th August – Wetherby Band Stand

We thank you all for your continued

support and we look forward to seeing you over the next few months.

Danni Brookes – Old Silkstone Band Secretary

Follow us on:

[Facebook @OldSilkstoneBand;](#)

[Tiktok @oldsilkstoneband](#)



This is one of several RSPB/Ella's Kitchen worksheets created for families with little ones. You can find more on their website. Here's a link to the website – <https://rspb.ellaskitchen.co.uk/>? To jump directly to Ella's Kitchen worksheets use this link. You can find the activity sheets here <https://d3vkqbkn8hevrij.cloudfront.net/files/Ellas-Kitchen-x-RSPB-Nature-Activities.pdf>



Addergram Solution : 16-May-25

Clues Answers

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MP

MP Dr Marie Tidball

marie.tidball.mp@parliament.uk

<https://www.marietidball.com/>

magazine deadlines and dates

Articles, events and adverts

If you:

- have a news item for the next issue
- want to update details for your organisation,
- advertise or amend an existing advert

please email Sue on sue@8highstreet.co.uk

The deadline for the next magazine is
Friday 1st August 2025.

Our usual deadlines and distribution dates are below:

Deadline for articles	Distribution dates
Last week of February	Last week in March
Last week of May	Last week in June
First week of August	Last week in September
Last week of October	Last week in November

Views expressed in in this magazine are those of the Contributors and not necessarily the views of the Parish Council.

Parish Council website and Facebook page

www.silkstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/SilkstoneParishCouncil>

If you are a local society or business you can ask to be listed and described on the website with a link to your own website if you have one. You can find all publicly available documents on the website. If you do not have internet access and would like to view anything from our paper files please contact the Parish Clerk. The Parish Clerk is also the contact for the Facebook page

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Email: silkstoneparishcouncil@gmail.com

Parish Council Meeting dates for Jan 2025 - Apr 2025

PC meetings are advertised in both village notice boards and on the website. They are held on the first Monday in the month in Silkstone Sports Pavilion unless stated otherwise.

Dates for the next four months are:

7th July

4th Aug

1st Sept

6th Oct

Would You like to Be a Parish Councillor and Help to Make the Parish Of Silkstone a Better Place to Live?

There are currently 2 councillor vacancies on Silkstone Parish Council.

We are looking for individuals with energy and passion who want to make a positive difference and give back to their local community.

The work of a councillor can be extremely rewarding. If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor, please write to or email the parish council and include

details of why you would like to apply, together with the skills and experience that you feel you would bring to the role.

If you wish to apply, require any further information about qualifications for being a councillor or just want more information about the role, please contact Richard Bell, Clerk to the council on silkstoneparishcouncil@gmail.com

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Find more at www.barnsley.ac.uk/events

Marketing, Communications and PR Team, Barnsley College

Silkstone Parish Twinning's event with our French families 2025

This year is flying by and our French Visitors will soon be with us – less than 8 weeks away. The active members of the Twinning Organisation have been working with our partners to put a programme of events together and secure sufficient hosts for our guests.

In all fairness, there does appear to be a distinct lack of interest in Twinning locally. Articles have been included in each of the Parish Newsletters over the last year, notices have been placed on notice boards; meetings have been publicised in the St. Andrew's Community Centre; invitations have been extended to the second of the meetings to be held forward with the intention of providing accommodation. In total we have 8 local hosts and 2 from out of the immediate area – by some taking multiple guests we should be able to provide a bed for all visitors.

Our local scout group are supporting us.
Local Secondary Schools were contacted
but have declined to be involved.

The Community Ceilidh which had been proposed for one of the evenings, subject to other local groups/organisations becoming involved has been cancelled. It appears the Community were just not interested.

All is not lost, however, there are still chances to be involved.

Our guests are to arrive on **Monday 14 July.**

Tuesday 15th they will be spending time exploring the villages, possibly with a quiz or treasure hunt. In the evening we intend to have a games night at Broad Close Farm with Pizza's (commencing at 6.30pm). Any local people wishing to take part is most welcome. If you can join, we

Sadly this event is now cancelled. The French have decided not to come after all. They have funding problems which I am sure we can all sympathise with

Linda

da
May. Time
in Barnsley. A visit to
is planned and a possibility that
the young folk will go swimming at the
Metrodome. In the evening The Bells are
Hosting a Barbeque; Old Silkstone Brass
Band and possibly another local
entertainer will be there to entertain us.
Once again this event is open to all –
Marcin will have the barbeque going and
food will be available for everyone to
purchase.

Thursday 17th – the group are to visit Liverpool. Some are intending to visit Anfield Football Stadium, others are going to explore this vibrant city.

Friday 18th – a trip to York is planned. Our French partners have visited York on each Twinning visit and have once again asked to return there.

Saturday 19th – Meadowhall beckons, for those that do not wish to go shopping Kelham Island Industrial Museum; Cannon Hall Park & House and an afternoon tea are all under consideration.

Sunday 20th – our guests depart.

In addition to the above, Outdoor pursuits at Cmade, Broad Close Farm; cycling along the TPT & Dragon Boat racing at Manvers are activities that we are hoping the young people can enjoy. It would be good if some of our teenagers could join in. Even just taking a ball around to the rec for football or basketball with our visitors would be great.

Please contact me if you want further information on how to become involved or to book Pizza on the Tuesday evening. My mobile number is 07986264481 and email liz.waterlow@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you to all that are involved, have given their time, and are going to share their home.

Liz Waterlow

What's On Summer 2025

Barnsley Live

June 21, 2025

This multi-venue free music festival will be held across Barnsley Town Centre, taking place in over 20 Venues and featuring over 200 artists throughout the day.

Barnsley's BIG Weekend

July 12, 2025 - July 13, 2025

Barnsley's Big Weekend returns to the **Town Centre** (Glass Works Square, Mandela Gardens and Cheapside) in July with an exciting, packed line-up of free events and entertainment, with something for everyone.

This thrilling event will feature Barnsley Pride, a family #WhatsYourMove sports

day, and the return of the popular Brassed On! Festival, amongst other exciting activities. All activities are free.

International Market

September 4, 2025 - September 7, 2025
BARNSELY'S SECOND INTERNATIONAL MARKET OF THE YEAR – held at the Glass Work

The Barnsley International Food Market is a vibrant event that brings together a mix of global cuisines, offering visitors the chance to embark on a delightful culinary journey.

To find out more go to:
theglassworksbarnsley.com



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Local Organisations

General

Silkstone Common Good Companions

Provides companionship, entertainment and recreation for people aged 55+ who live locally. Meets fortnightly on Wednesdays 2-4pm in the Methodist Church Hall. New members are very welcome. Varied programme including speakers, trips and entertainers. Younger helpers urgently required. Annual subscription £20. For more information contact Bev Almond on 07502303470 or email bjalmond@hotmail.co.uk

Silkstone Luncheon Club for the over 60s

Meets every Monday at 12 o'clock in the The Station Inn, Silkstone Common. New members always welcome. Please call Stuart Moody Chairman 01226 49683 Or Stuart Jubb Secretary & Treasurer 01226 790704

Stainborough Rotary are the local Rotary covering the Parish.

We meet every Thursday at The Fairway Hotel, Dodworth at 7.30 pm. For details contact the Club Secretary , Ian Whittle 01484 3153386 or stainboroughrotary@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Watch

Janice Wake, Neighbourhood Watch Area Coordinator
janicewake@btinternet.com
07540957639

Silkstone Common Methodist Church

Currently closed for worship. Open for community use. Contact for Hall bookings Elvin Athey tel 01226 791999

Silkstone - St Florent Twinning Organisation

Contact Elizabeth Waterlow
email liz.waterlow@hotmail.co.uk
tel 07986264481

Tuesday Group

We meet in the Methodist Chapel, Ben Bank Road, Silkstone Common, every week on Tuesday 2 o'clock - 4.

Some of us enjoy doing crafts, such as sewing & knitting but others love to come for a cuppa ,cake and a good old natter.

Everyone is welcome.

Please just turn up or you can contact Mary (07942894029) for more information.

Silkstone/Silkstone Common Village News and Community Group

Facebook community group for locals

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/860075201163623>

New Swaine WI

Meet on 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.15pm in Hoylandswaine Village Hall and at additional times throughout the month. Contact:

Newswainewi@outlook.com

Silkstone Bell Ringers

We welcome visiting bands and can arrange ringing for weddings and other special occasions. Would you be interested in learning to ring or are you experienced and willing to help

Contact: Mrs J Jennings 01226790080
juliajennings27@gmail.com

Local Organisations

Sports/Activities

Silkstone United FC

DJ Walker 07730 039599

Yorkshire Regional Talent Centre

Under 6's – U 16's Contact Steve Fletcher
07990 805694

Silkstone United Cricket Club

Main Sponsor : Norcroft Electrical Ltd

Associate Sponsors : Barnsley Timber
Merchants, John Whitmore Electrical
Contractors, Plascompo Ltd

Contacts:

Junior Coordinator – Lee Willford 07931
298213 - lee.willford@gmail.com

SUCC Senior / Main Contact – Kevin Taylor
07462 877416

kevin.taylor@plascompo.com

Website : www.silkstoneutd.play-cricket.com

Facebook : [Silkstone UTD C.C.](https://www.facebook.com/SilkstoneUTDCC)

Twitter : @SilkstoneCC

Silkstone Common Sports & Recreation Association

Secretary - Michael Winder

Tel - 07719392775

snappylad@outlook.com

Rising Sun Martial Arts

Karate / Kickboxing Thursday
6:00pm - 7:00pm (Children & Adults)

Silkstone Common Methodist Church
Hall, Ben Bank Road, S75 4PA

Chief Instructor: Master M.T. Middleton

Tel: 07904 700786

Web: www.risingsunmartialarts.co.uk

Barnsley BSAC Divers

Meets every Tuesday 7:30 onwards in the
Boardroom at the Metrodome.

Contact: Dave on 07783 291955 or visit
the website

www.barnsleybsacdivers.co.uk

Pilates, Power Pilates and Yoga

Silkstone Common Methodist Church

Tuesdays

Pilates 5.20-6.20 pm & 6.25-7.25 pm

Yoga Flow 7.30-8.30 pm

Thursdays

Power Pilates 7.15-8.15 pm

Contact (to book) Tracy (Fitness for all)
07398 238691

Music

Old Silkstone Band

Rehearsals - Silkstone Common
Methodist Church. Sunday 7pm - 9pm,
Wednesday 8pm - 10pm

Contact - Secretary Danni Brookes 07540
240703

Email oldsilkstoneband@outlook.com

Web site www.oldsilkstoneband.com

Facebook [Old Silkstone Band](https://www.facebook.com/OldSilkstoneBand)

X (Twitter) @OldSilkstone

Instagram [old_silkstone_band](https://www.instagram.com/old_silkstone_band)

TikTok @oldsilkstoneband

Millhouse Green Male Voice Choir.

Practice night is Mondays in Millhouse
Green Institute at 7.30. Secretary:
Richard Craven 07895 555113

Email: mgmvc@hotmail.co.uk

Web site www.mgmvc.co.uk

Local Organisations

Children

Silkstone Pre-School Playgroup Ltd

Ofsted registered offering Full Day Care, Sessional Care, Wrap around Care for children up to 11 years. Open Mon-Fri 7.30am to 4:30 pm

Email silkstonepreschoolpg@gmail.com

Shining Stars Out of School Club

We cater for children aged 4 – 11 years and provide high quality, affordable, reliable and accessible childcare from 7.30am to 9am and from 3.30pm to 6pm during term time.

Contact: email at shiningstars@silkstoneprimary.com

phone on 07591630348

Shake Rattle and Roll Children's Music Group

From babies up to pre-school children are welcome at our friendly group. Please also bring along mum, dad or carer to join in an hour of engaging musical fun, action and rhyme. We meet every Friday during term time at 10am in Silkstone Common Methodist Church. Refreshments for adults and children are provided. Attend just when you like. No booking or commitments.

Find out more <http://www.facebook.com/srrmusicgroup>

Contact: srrmusicgroup@gmail.com
Tracy 07905 421015

9th Barnsley (Silkstone) Scout Group: Huskar Community Rooms

Monday Scouts 19:00 - 20:30
Aged 10 - 14

Tuesday Cubs 18:30 - 19:30
Aged 8 - 10

Wednesday Beavers 18:30 - 19:30
Aged 6 - 8

All queries and membership to the Group Scout Leader rob.flewitt@barnsleyscouts.org.uk

Childminders

For details of registered childminders please ring Families Information Service on: 0800 034 5340.

Schools

Silkstone Common Junior & Infant School

Moorend Lane, Silkstone Common. Educates children 4-11 yrs. The school is interested in developing the use of the school outside normal school hours.

Contact: Mr Simon Tabbner 790471

Visit <http://www.silkstonecommonji.co.uk/>

Silkstone Primary School

Educates children 4-11 yrs. The school is interested in developing the use of the school outside normal school hours.

Contact: Ms Sally Adams 790333

Visit <http://silkstoneprimary.com/>

Local Organisations

Environment & Local History

Silkstone CARE Group

Caring for and improving our natural environment by planting hedges, trees, shrubs and bulbs, clearing paths, litter-picking plus other activities. Tools available on free loan for environmental projects.

Contact:

Susan Dunwell 07973 310925

susanwareham@talktalk.net

Karen Gorman 07788 185502

kgorman963@btinternet.com

Linda Marsh 07792321829

lmxx.13@gmail.com

Roggins Local History Group (Silkstone)

We collect, preserve and share photographs, stories and memories of Silkstone, Silkstone Common and the surrounding areas

Contact: Andy Horsfield

email rogginshistorygroup@gmail.com

01226 791929

Heritage Silkstone

Local and family history on your doorstep. We meet in Silkstone church every Wednesday between 10am to 2pm. AND Cutler Cafe on the last Saturday of every month between 10 am to 12 noon.

Website address

www.heritagesilkstone.co.uk .

Facebook page [Heritage Silkstone](#).

Contact:

Jane Raistrick, secretary, 01484 868254

Churches - The Benefice of West Barnsley

All Saints' and St James the Greater Silkstone with Stainborough 9.15 am 2nd and 4th Sundays in the month. Messy Church 4th Sunday in the month 4-6pm.

St John the Evangelist, Hoylandswaine 11.00am 2nd and 4th Sundays

St John the Baptist, Dodworth 9.15am 1st and 3rd Sundays. Holy Communion Service every Thursday 9.30am followed by a Coffee Morning

All Saints' Cawthorne 11.00am 1st and 3rd Sunday. Last Tuesday in the month 10.00am Holy Communion service

Benefice website:

<http://www.beneficewestbarnsley.org.uk>

Vicar: Rev Canon Keith Farrow DL
The Vicarage, 12 High Street
Silkstone, S75 4JN

Telephone: 01226 492294

For enquiries about Weddings, funerals and general enquiries please contact the Benefice Administrator:

Mrs Loraine Wills

Email beneficewestbarnsley@hotmail.com

Mob: 07973 381131

For Baptism enquiries contact the Benefice Baptism Coordinator:

Mrs Lynn Wilkinson

Email: lynnw1308@googlemail.com

Mob: 07876 750983