

# KILMINGTON POSTscript

Issue 259 November 2023

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80p where sold



## Editorial

In this area, I was told, we are 'not yet illegible'. This was the answer to my telephone query to the electricity people. First generation smart meters still function correctly at the billing-office end of the network, of course, but have long-since ceased to communicate with any of the in-house displays which inform the frustrated householder about usage and cost. Updated versions will all be 'rolled out' countrywide by 2025 apparently. Perhaps when we reach the required level of 'illegibility' we may be eligible to receive the necessary apparatus for the home end.

This month's Postscript looks back at the successful 'Bat walk' on the Common and a talk about hedgehogs for the Gardening Club. We also give deserved publicity to green lacewings, which should be properly respected for consuming vast numbers of greenfly. Peter and Jane strive to keep us on top of the jobs that we ought to be doing at this time of year in the garden, but they would like a bit more peace and quiet on Sundays. Mike Hudson's article about the Loughwood chapel last month has been followed up by the National Trust with information about winter opening hours, and the organisers of the village show report on the amount raised and given to the Community Association, to provide a Christmas event at the beginning of December.

We look ahead to another presentation by the Local History Group, who are focussing this time on paupers in 'A poor life in Kilminster', and to the next film, 'LION' in the community cinema. Like many events and activities these will take place in the Village Hall, which is used so often that it is easy to take it for granted, but wear means tear and safety requirements mean maintenance and maintenance means fund-raising. At this Autumn's Village Hall lunches you will be helping to support life as we know it for the whole village!

Producing Postscript is an enjoyable activity, as well as a service to the village, and most of the feedback is positive, sometimes even enthusiastic. (There may be curmudgeons who grumble and boast of binning it immediately, but they too might find it useful to know when to put bins out for emptying after Bank Holiday weekends). I have suspected for some time now that this octogenarian editor is getting too old and that younger ideas and energy are needed. So there is about to be a vacancy at Postscript for a new editor. Our last search, for a new compiler, ended very successfully with an excellent candidate. Gradually the average age of the management is shifting down a bit, which is a good and healthy development.

*Janfryd*

Front page photo: © Marie Gardner Centre spread photos: © Marie Gardner

Back page montage: © Marie Gardner  
Axminster Carnival photo: © Laurel Martin

## About Postscript



Please email all contributions and adverts for Postscript to:

***postscript@kilminstervillage.com***

*Alternatively, please give your item to any team member.  
The closing date for submitting articles for the December/January issue is 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (12<sup>th</sup> for adverts).  
Earlier submission is always encouraged to ease the burden on the volunteers!  
All submissions will be acknowledged. Please email, or ring 01297 639115 if not acknowledged within 48 hours.*

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Postscript is published 10 times each year and is delivered free of charge to every house in Kilminster. Almost all items in the magazine come from the village community who are very supportive of the magazine. The Postscript team are all volunteers and your donations, together with fees from advertisers, are used to pay for the cost of printing.

Postscript is printed by Axminster Printing 01297 32266

#### Advertising Payments, Rates, & Monetary Donations

Please see inside back cover for details about donating to Postscript, advertising rates, and how to pay for advertising. All donations go towards printing costs.

Thank you for your continuing support.

The average production cost per 28-page copy of Postscript with several colour pages is 80p.  
Extra copies are usually available from Millers Farm Shop.

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# Kilmington Parish Council

## Devon County Council Highways (DCCH)

Following our discussions with DCCH, details of the agreed extent of the proposed 20mph speed limit and signage have been posted on the village website and noticeboards. The area almost covers the whole of the existing 30mph area. We have now received the estimate for the cost of introducing the 20mph speed limit – the erection of signs and legal work. Road Traffic legal procedures demand that the intended change must be published to enable the public to make objections, should they so wish. Our Parish Council discussions continue as to how we source the funding.

## National Highways A35

Discussions remain very disappointing with National Highways (NH) regarding their progress to reduce the speed limit on the A35 and introduce a pedestrian crossing. We are told that the A35 will not receive any additional funds from the HS2 cancellation to speed up matters. The first part of the NH 'Safety Plan' continues to be developed and they expect that some initial A35 road surface lining work will start early next year to help improve safety and show that something is being done. However, lining will probably only reach Kilmington late next year.

Introduction of the rest of the 'Safety Plan' – a reduced speed limit, average speed cameras and a village gateway will then follow 'sometime later'.

Installing a pedestrian crossing is not part of the 'Safety Plan' and is defined by National Highways as a second phase – a 'Severance Plan' to help resolve our village community being cut in two by the A35.

Not a very satisfactory situation! The Parish Council will continue to lobby anyone and everyone we can, to try to accelerate the A35 improvements we need.

## New Inn Defibrillator

We apologise for the delay installing the new defibrillator, finalising the hosting agreement took longer than expected. The defibrillator has been ordered and the Palmers electrical contractor should soon agree the electrical connection. A training session in the village hall is being arranged to provide vital hands-on practical experience and theoretical training to help you to react as efficiently as possible in an emergency. This will be advertised in the New Inn and around the village.

*Peter Ball*

## Kilmington Community Speedwatch (CSW) Begins this Month

The volunteer Kilmington Speedwatch Group complete their training with Devon and Cornwall Police on 1st November. The group will then begin using approved detection devices to monitor the speed of traffic on the 30mph roads through our village residential area. Sadly, the scheme cannot be used on a 50mph road like the A35.



However, whilst we are in the hands of National Highways on the A35, we can take our own direct action to improve the safety on our other village roads.

Most of these are narrow lanes with no pavements, and many are single track between stone walls, banks, and hedges, leaving little refuge for walkers, cyclists, or horse riders. In the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire, one of the two major concerns raised by residents was the volume and speed of traffic passing through the Parish. Each day children walking to school, mothers with toddlers and the elderly, some using wheelchairs and mobility scooters travel along these lanes.



The growing number of delivery vans and trucks driving through the village, some quickly as they are paid on piece rates, also discourages cycling and walking.

As the mornings and evenings get darker, and autumn road surface conditions become more slippery, the group's

primary focus will be on the Whitford and Shute through roads.

Speedwatch activity is about a proactive solution to improve the safety and quality of life for everyone in our community. Drivers exceeding the 30mph speed limit will be reported to the police. They will be sent a letter explaining the potential risks of driving at speed in the residential area, with the aim of educating them to slow down. If further data proves a driver is ignoring repeated warnings, the police can prosecute them.

*Kilmington Parish Council*

# Upcoming Events



## Kilmington Community Cinema



**LION**  
**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> – Matinee**  
 Kilmington Village Hall



Kilmington Community Cinema

*KCC is licensed for the screening of cinematic productions to an audience.*

**“Uplifting, Heart-Wrenching, Beautiful... LION is Incredible, & True Story.”** *Lottie Jeffs, ELLE magazine*

Five-year-old Saroo (Sunny Pawar) gets lost on a train travelling away from home and family. Frightened and bewildered, he ends up thousands of miles away, in chaotic Kolkata. Somehow he survives living on the streets, escaping all sorts of terrors and close calls in the process, before ending up in an orphanage that is itself not exactly a safe haven. Eventually Saroo is adopted by an Australian couple (Nicole Kidman and David Wenham) and finds love and security as he grows up in Hobart. As an adult, not wanting to hurt his adoptive parents' feelings, Saroo (Dev Patel) suppresses his past, his emotional need for reunification and his hope of ever finding his mother and brother. But a chance meeting with some fellow Indians reawakens his buried yearning. Armed with only a handful of memories and his unwavering determination, Saroo sets out to find his lost family and finally return to his first home.

Wednesday, Doors open 6:45pm, and the evening's entertainment starts at 7:15pm and ends about 9:30pm.

Thursday matinee, Doors open 1:45pm, Film starts 2pm.

Come along and enjoy a film and have wine/soft drinks, ice-creams/tea/coffee. Cream Teas available during the matinee interval.

Please state Wednesday or Thursday when booking, and order your cream tea at the same time.

Tickets Pre-booked £5 or £5.50 on door, booking essential for the matinee.

*To book contact John 01297 639758 or email: wattsjohn307@gmail.com*

### Upcoming films:

December

*There are no film screenings in January*



## Christmas Handbells

The handbell group will start rehearsing Christmas music in St Giles' Church between 10 and 11am on Saturdays from the 4<sup>th</sup> November.

If anyone would like to join the group (it doesn't matter if you haven't done it before), please either contact me for more information or join us on the 4<sup>th</sup> November.



*Celia Dunsford*  
 01297 33563/ 07985 268656  
 celia.dunsford@bopenworld.com

## Five Alive Oil Syndicate



The November order deadline falls at 6pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November, and the January deadline falls at 6pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**Please note: There will NOT be an order in December.**

Please submit a request for either an exact amount or if requesting a “top up”, a full tank, then please furnish me with an accurate estimate (100 litres) of the quantity you require.

**A minimum order of 500 litres applies.**

*Colin Stewart*  
 01297 792538  
 cogstewartcs@gmail.com  
 cogstewart@aol.com

## Autumn Lunches



**Soup and roll, followed by a home-made pud**



**(think! Bread & Butter pud, Sticky toffee pud etc) + coffee/tea**

Come and join us, meet friends, eat a delicious home-made lunch and have an enjoyable couple of hours in the Village Hall. We will be serving lunch from 12:30 pm on Thursdays 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> November.



**To help catering – please phone 01297 35159 to book. Cost – £7.50**

*We will cater for a few extras on the day but availability cannot be guaranteed.*



All proceeds will go towards Village Hall maintenance costs.

We look forward to seeing you.

*Di, Jenny, Judith*



# Upcoming Events



## Kilmingon Sky at Night

We have two meteor showers this month and throughout November you can see Jupiter, Saturn and Venus. A great time to see **Jupiter** as it is at its closest to earth, rising in the east in the early evening, setting in the western sky before dawn breaks. **Saturn** can be seen in the southern sky at sunset, setting just after midnight at the beginning of the month and progressively earlier to 23.00 by end of month. **Venus** can be seen easily, rising in the eastern morning sky around 2–3 am. All month **Mars** is below the horizon through the night, so can't be seen.

### November

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Sunrise 07:05. Sunset 16:49**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Jupiter** at opposition, its closest approach to Earth. With its face fully illuminated by the Sun, it will be brighter than at any other time of the year. This is the best time to view and photograph Jupiter and its moons. A good pair of binoculars should allow you to see Jupiter's four largest moons, appearing as bright dots on either side of the planet. It will be visible all night long
- 9<sup>th</sup> **Venus and Moon** appear close together early morning
- 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> **Northern Taurid meteor shower** at its peak. It is active from 20<sup>th</sup> October to 10<sup>th</sup> December because the stream is rather spread out in space and Earth takes several weeks to pass through it. Best viewing just after midnight radiating from the constellation Taurus, but can

appear anywhere in the sky. Expect about five meteors per hour and some are fireballs

- 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> **Leonids meteor shower** at its peak. The shower runs annually from November 6<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>. The crescent moon will set before midnight leaving dark skies for what should be a great early morning show of up to 15 meteors per hour. Best viewing will be after midnight, meteors radiate from the constellation Leo, but can appear anywhere in the sky
- 27<sup>th</sup> **Full Moon**, known as the Frosty Moon or Dark Moon and by early Native American tribes as the Beaver Moon – the time of year to set the beaver traps before the swamps and rivers froze
- 30<sup>th</sup> **Sunrise 07:52 Sunset 16:12**

*Peter Ball*

## A Poor Life in Kilmingon – Part One “The Paupers”



Following the three hugely successful ‘Historic Picture Tour of Kilmingon’ presentations which were delivered by Peter Ball earlier in the year, we realise that there is so much interest in the shared history of the village that we have decided to tell some more stories – and what a story the next one is!

For those of us who might think that the ‘cost of living crisis’ is biting hard, we might stop for a moment and consider what life was like for those who lived in Kilmingon in the 1800s.

On **29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7:00pm** in the Village Hall, we will present part one of

***A Poor Life in Kilmingon: The Paupers.***

We will transport you two centuries back in time to tell you true harrowing stories of what it was really like to be poor in Kilmingon.

Abject misery and the possibility of life and death in the workhouse were not the only looming spectres. We have some fascinating images to show and have researched the archives for first-hand accounts.

Tickets are priced at just £4 and a bar and handkerchiefs will be made available. Please reserve tickets to avoid disappointment. All money raised will go towards the preservation of our historical documents and for digitising/managing the archive.

The follow-up story is titled ***Part Two: The Passengers*** and is an exploration of the stories of Kilmingon people who emigrated to improve their lots in life. This will be advertised later in the year.

*Kilmingon History Group*

## Christmas Celebration



Come along to the Kilmingon Christmas Celebration on Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Starting at 5pm, Follow Santa and his elves as they make their way through the village heading to his grotto in the village hall, where all the children will be able to meet the man himself.



The village Christmas tree lights will also be turned on. Mulled wine, mince pies, cakes, hot chocolate, tea, and coffee will be served.



Posters with all the details will be put on the village noticeboards, village website and Kilmingon Now Facebook page.

*This is a free event supported by  
Kilmingon Community Association*

## Mobile Library



Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 11:15-11:45 am The Street

## Vacancy for an Editor at Postscript

We are hoping to find a replacement for our editor, Janfryd, who has held the post of editor since February 2018 and now feels that it is time to stop.

If you might be interested in finding out about this voluntary role we would like to hear from you. It is not necessary to have lived here for generations – a newcomer would be equally welcome.

Please feel free to contact the editor or any team member (listed on p.2) to discuss it without obligation.



*Postscript team*



# Axminster & District Choral Society



## Baroque masterpieces in Axminster

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023 Axminster and District Choral Society will present a concert of works by Bach, Vivaldi and more. The choir will be joined by professional soloists and orchestra.

The programme features Bach's famous cantata "Wachet Auf" ("Sleepers Wake!"), in which a Lutheran hymn tune is set in a variety of ingenious ways.

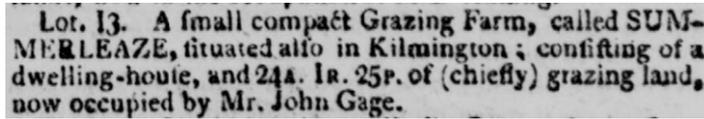
Also included are Vivaldi's Credo and Magnificat, which are almost operatic in style, and a short work by the less well-known Dieterich Buxtehude. A fantastic organist as well as a composer, Buxtehude was so respected in his time that Bach journeyed on foot for twelve days across Germany just to meet him. The performance will take place in the Minster Church, Axminster, at 7:30 pm.



For further information, contact:  
Elizabeth Twining [ejtwining@gmail.com](mailto:ejtwining@gmail.com) 01404 43805  
Or visit their website [www.axminsterchoral.co.uk](http://www.axminsterchoral.co.uk)

## The Loft Letters & Ye Olde Ænglisch Alphabet

Have you ever wondered why old books often seemingly use an 'f' instead of an 's'?



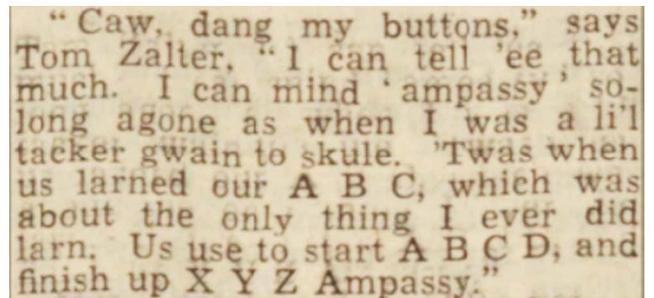
And what about the relics of other lost letters still occasionally seen today in words such as encyclopædia or fœtus?

My recent trawls through local newspaper archives of the 18th and 19th centuries certainly made me wonder about those quirks of typography. And how many people today are aware of the often considered 'lost' 27<sup>th</sup> letter of the alphabet? As ever there is more to a story than expected.

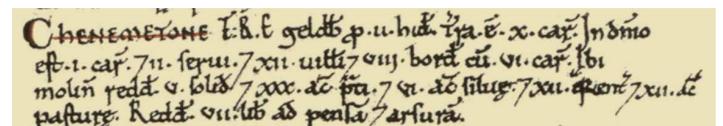
Whilst the development of the English alphabet is far too complex for me to possibly do justice to, readers might be interested to know that since the time of the Norman conquest we have gained and lost several letters. Then as now, each letter had a unique purpose to assist with either the nuances of pronunciation or because it was convenient for the scribes or later for the printing presses. A monk named Byrhtferð is credited with listing the English alphabet as it existed in 1011. There were 29 letters, but only 23 remain in common usage today: A B C D E F G H I K L M N O P Q R S T V X Y Z & 7 Þ P Ð Æ. Notably, 'J', 'W' and 'U' did not exist.

The **Ampersand**, &, was used to denote or abbreviate the word 'and' is often regarded as the *lost* 27<sup>th</sup> letter. Still in popular use today, it fell out of favour in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Its origins are Roman and early examples of this were found daubed onto the ruined walls of Pompeii. Perhaps difficult to see today, it began as a ligature (combination) of the letters 'E' and 'T' (the Latin word 'et' meaning 'and' → **ƿ** → &). Interestingly, ampersands can often be seen in old texts in the form '&c', which is short for 'etc' which is of course short for the Latin 'et cetera' ('and so on').

The origin of the word apparently stems from nineteenth century rhymes used to teach children their alphabets. You'll need to use some imagination here, but the familiar rhyme originally ended ... x - y - z 'and and', but because that was awkward to say, it became ... x - y - z 'and per se' 'and' (where 'per se' means 'by itself'). Inevitably it became corrupted to ... x - y - z - *ampersand* and the rest is recent history. That is except in the West Country (of course) where it was colloquially further corrupted to 'ampassy' or even 'ampussy'. On 5<sup>th</sup> May 1950, the *Exeter and Plymouth Gazette* published an amusing article recounting the reminiscences of an old Devonshire man confirming as much!



Another letter which was used to mean 'et' (and) was the Tironian '**Ond**' 7 which was named after its Roman inventor, Tiro. This letter fell out of favour in the Middle Ages where it became associated with witchcraft whilst also competing for attention with the dominant ampersand – which meant the same. Observant readers may even see it in use today on some Irish Gaelic road signs. They may also note its similarity to the numeral '7' which, perhaps by happy coincidence, is also the key which the ampersand shares on modern keyboards. The extract from the Domesday book for Kilmington records its use.



**Wynn**, þ, p was another part of the Old English alphabet which fell out of favour by the late Middle Ages and was used to represent the sound 'W'. It became redundant when replaced by two newly created 'U's (UU), which then became 'double-U', W!



Have you ever wondered about the origin of the faux ‘Old English’ shop or tavern names which begin Ye Olde...? With the onset of the printing press, the letter ‘Y’ became a convenient substitute for the old letter **Thorn, Þ, þ**, pronounced ‘th’. This was because of similarities in its written shape and the lack of availability of the typeset for printing. Thorn is still in use in Iceland today, where another Old English letter is also used to describe the same ‘th’ sound – **Eth, Ð, ð**.

Two more interesting lost letters are **Ash, Æ, æ** and **Ethel, Æ, œ**. These are very similar and occasionally seen in archaic spelling of words we use today. ‘Ash’ was the combination of ‘A’ and ‘E’ and ‘Ethel’ a combination of ‘O’ and ‘E’. They were used to describe the long ‘e’ sound in words such as *dæmon* or *subpœna*.

Another well known ‘letter’ which traces its origins to Roman times was the **Long s, f**. This was almost universally used until the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century to replace some letter S-es, but its appearance rapidly declined in the first part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Its use did however persist in handwriting until much later as older generations felt disobliged to keep up with

the ‘modern world’! It seems that it was the convenience of the printing presses which led to the demise of the ‘long s’ and the rules for its use were quite complicated. One (there are others) relic of the ‘long s’ did survive well into the twentieth century though – as the ‘shilling mark’ of pre-decimalised currency where 4s 6d would commonly be written as 4/6.

And the last of those missing letters **Yogh, ȝ, ȝ** became confused with the numeral ‘3’ and fell into disuse in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Yogh was used to help pronunciation of the y sound in words such as ‘yet’ or the *gh* in *light*.

As is often said, the English language constantly evolves to suit its modern users and changing times. Have we lost anything in those lost letters? I doubt it very much, but I do wonder what the future of our alphabet and language will be. Perhaps it will become just a series of acronyms, abbreviations, entirely new symbols or even emoticons and emojis!

*Thx4rdg B4N ;) 😊 Alan Clarkson*

## A Poor Life in Kilmington – “The Paupers”

### A Presentation by the Kilmington History Group

An intimate look into the life of the poor in Kilmington in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.  
Shocking true stories that paint a picture of how the unfortunate tried to survive, and how society treated them.

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7pm**

Kilmington Village Hall. Tickets £4

To reserve tickets, contact KHG@kilmingtonvillage.com or Alan 07934 854615/ Peter 07747 636810



Bar Provided

# Peter and Jane in the Garden



November is a chance to tidy up a little in the garden, in order to get things done before winter. Leaves start to tumble from the many large oak trees surrounding the garden and I try and gather them up bit by bit into a pile for composting into leafmould. I find great pleasure from making compost, with several piles on the go. Last year's garden and kitchen green waste (in separate piles from the leaves) is now ready for use. Together with old leafmould, it makes wonderful potting compost or mulch for the flowerbeds and has the added bonus of spent chicken manure from my hens, which improves the consistency and nutritional value even further.

I said that this is the month for tidying in the garden, but I don't clear everything. Any of this year's plants with seedheads, such as sunflowers, get left for the birds. The goldfinches really flock to the Golden Rod.

It is also time to overhaul my secateurs by sharpening and oiling. Other tools get the oiling treatment too, in order to prevent rusting over winter months. Every year at this time, I remind myself that it's time to clean all my pots but alas, it usually gets left until later. Perhaps this year I will get my act together?

In my orchard, once the last of the late-ripening varieties are harvested, I try to clear up any remaining windfalls from around the bases of the trees, to avoid too much rotten fruit lying around.

Parsnips and leeks still in the ground are looking pretty good, although a leek or two have annoyingly bolted. However, the Brassicas have had a massive attack of whitefly, with their associated production of sticky honeydew and consequently a proliferation of sooty mould on the leaves. Without chemicals, I cannot get rid of the little pests. I have tried bee and pet-friendly sprays, with very little effect. I have even tried hoovering them up, with even less effect! My sprouts may be inedible. Anyone got any ideas?

I have planted a row of 'Aquadulce' broad beans, hopefully to fill the spring gap when fresh vegetables in the garden are scarce. I have also planted garlic 'White Casablanca', a variety suited to colder climates, although this may become history if we continue to warm up.

In September's issue, I mentioned that I intended planting some male Asparagus crowns in the warm Autumn soil. Well, for the life of me, I couldn't find any for sale recently, so I have had to plant some Asparagus plugs. Unfortunately I don't know whether they are female or male.

I have been reflecting back on the summer. How often, on a warm, sunny Sunday, have you been sitting peacefully in the garden, enjoying a cup of tea or an 'al fresco' lunch, when someone nearby has started up a mower, hedge trimmer or other noisy small-engined machine? It seems to happen too often.

Anyone interested in starting 'quieter summer Sundays' in Kilmington next year?

*Jane Chalk and Peter Guy*

# The Green Lacewing – A Friend

It's early Autumn as I write this. My favourite time of year. Mellow fruitfulness and all that. It's also tipping down.

I have fond memories of one Autumn, some years ago, with regard to a friendly Lacewing who happily sat on my hand each morning. At this time of year, Lacewings that have survived are looking for a place to eventually hibernate. They are attracted to light and often find a nice cosy resting place in a house.

The larvae of Lacewings feast on as many as 600 aphids per day, plus mites and many other pests – a real friend to gardeners. The adult Lacewing also eats several pests. They are known to drink nectar.

They definitely drink Lucozade.

In the autumn, the beautiful lime green body turns a khaki colour. I therefore named my friendly Lacewing, Fritz – a nod to my Prussian grandfather Friedrich, pictured on my wall, also wearing British khaki, 1914-18, after he settled here.



Lacewings can live on average from 20 to 40 days. I thought I would see how long I could keep Fritz going. Lucozade seemed the obvious choice. Full of glucose with a hit of caffeine. I would place a tiny drop of Lucozade a little way in front of him. He would then walk towards it and suck it up. Fascinating to watch. I am sure his golden eyes were becoming brighter every day. This went on for about 3 weeks.

I then decided to increase the dose a little. Maybe I should have watered it down a little too. I like to think that Fritz went happily into his final amber sleep. Perhaps the caffeine stopped him resting.

Or possibly the stickiness made him rest too much. I said goodbye to my little fairy-winged friend and gave him a good send off in a matchbox, in the garden. Perhaps someone will find him one day and wonder if he had a good life.

*Jan Baker*



# Kilmington Gardening Club – Talk



## Hedgehogs in Your Garden – Alison Foxcroft

15<sup>th</sup> September

[www.kilmingtongardeningclub.co.uk](http://www.kilmingtongardeningclub.co.uk)

Alison Foxcroft set up and runs the Hedgehog Hut, a home-based first-aid and rehabilitation centre for sick or injured hedgehogs, and she is partly responsible for our large hedgehog community in Kilmington! Of the 775 hedgehogs cared for at the hospital, 70-75% have been released back into the wild, but 150 have come in since April alone. Alison stressed that she could not do what she does without helpers like Lesley (Rew), who looks after recovering hedgehogs until they can be released. They are usually released back to the area where they were found.

The subject of Alison's talk was 'Hedgehogs in Your Garden', but she freely admitted that she knows nothing about gardening! Instead, she shared her knowledge of hedgehogs to help gardeners be more aware of them and their habits and needs.

Hedgehogs have been around for 150 million years. They are insectivores and their diet consists mostly of beetles, caterpillars, grubs, earthworms, birds' eggs, baby mice, froglets, carrion, slugs and snails (but both of these carry lungworm, a common health problem for hedgehogs). They have suffered persecution for many centuries, but the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981 now protects hedgehogs and further protection came in the Protection of Wildlife Mammals Act, 1996.

The main mating period is April-June and sometimes late summer. Hedgehogs usually give birth in June and July, though the hoglet season can begin in early spring following a mild winter and stretch until autumn. The average litter size is four or five young, though it can be as many as seven. However, they usually only wean two or three successfully. The hoglets are born with their first spines, which are white, covered by skin. As soon as they are born, the spines start to come through.

The hedgehog's natural predators are badgers, but Alison stressed that that is only if the balance of food changes, for example during a drought. Cats tend to avoid hedgehogs; foxes play with them. The main threat comes from humans – there are only 800,000 hedgehogs left in this country – but Alison gave us some useful tips on what we can do to help/encourage hedgehogs in our gardens.



Hedgehogs can travel up to 2km. at night, so connectivity between gardens is essential. A small hole (CD size) in your fence or hedge will help make your garden accessible. Provide an environment that encourages their food, such as log piles, and ensure that you have plants such as dense shrubs that encourage insects into your garden. Be aware that bonfires and piles of leaves can be hiding places for hedgehogs and be careful where you use the lawn mower! They are good swimmers, but be sure to provide a slope in your pond so that they can escape. If

your garden has steps, provide a brick in each corner so that the hedgehogs can climb more easily. Do remember that they need water, so if you are feeding them, put out a shallow bowl with water alongside the food. Do not feed hedgehogs with bread and milk, as they are lactose intolerant. Moist cat or dog food goes down well, as do dry cat/kitten/hog biscuits.

One common misconception is that hedgehogs are flea-bound and will pass them on to our pets and us! But fear not, their fleas are host specific!

If you see a hedgehog staggering about during the day, it is unlikely that it is healthy, unless it is a female preparing a nest or feeding while her babies are asleep. If you find one wandering about, use gardening gloves or a towel to pick it up, put it in a high-sided box and keep it warm with a hot-water bottle under a blanket. If a hedgehog is unwell, it is often suffering from flystrike or ticks.

Hoglets go off on their own when they weigh about 250g, but they need to be up to 500/600g to survive the winter. Alison recommends feeding hedgehogs throughout the year to help them survive. We need to do everything we can to protect them – if we do nothing it is predicted that they will be extinct by 2035. Alison asked that we do not use patio cleaner which is left on overnight as hedgehogs can ingest it.

Practical tips: Create a feeding station – a plastic storage box upside-down works well. Cut holes for air and provide an entrance big enough for a hedgehog. To prevent rats, hang strips of black plastic at the entrance which seem to deter them. If you have a hedgehog house, place it in a quiet, sheltered spot. Put a ball of newspaper in the entrance and it will be moved if the house is being used. It is not necessary to clean the house more than once a year.

If you would like to support Alison's hospital and her care for these very individual creatures, contact her on 07305 129160

*Kilmington Gardening Club*

# Cookery Corner

The first recipe this month makes an ideal sweet treat for Bonfire night, it combines the flavours of toffee apples in a cake and is great served with mugs of hot chocolate. The second recipe is a quick to prepare and relatively cheap supper dish which uses leeks, which are in plentiful supply this time of year.

## Toffee Apple Cake

Makes 12 pieces

- 125g/5oz unsalted butter
- 225g/9oz light muscovado sugar
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 225g/9oz plain flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 175g/7oz peeled and diced (5mm) cooking apples
- 100g/4oz fudge cubes, the sort found in the baking aisle

### Topping:

- 150g/6oz unsalted butter at room temperature
- 150g/6oz icing sugar
- 3 tbsp caramel or toffee sauce, such as Carnation Caramel sauce
- Decoration: opt. 2 tbsp of cake decorations such as Golden Galaxy Sprinkles and a little more caramel/toffee sauce

### Method

1. Put the butter and sugar in a food processor and combine for 2-3 mins, then blend in the eggs.
2. Add the flour and baking powder and whizz together. Finally stir in the diced apple and the fudge pieces.
3. Spoon into a greased and base-lined 23cm square cake tin and level the mixture.
4. Cook in a preheated oven at 180C fan 45-50 mins. Once cooked, cool completely in the tin.
5. Make the topping by combining the butter, icing sugar and caramel sauce and mixing until smooth with an electric whisk. Spread over the cooled cake and then drizzle over a little more caramel sauce and the sprinkles.



## Oven-Baked Leek and Bacon Risotto

Serves 4

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 6 rashers smoked streaky or back bacon, roughly chopped
- 2 leeks, split lengthwise and sliced
- 250g/10oz arborio or risotto rice
- 700ml/ 28fl oz chicken stock
- 150g/6oz frozen peas
- 3 tbsp grated parmesan cheese
- Black pepper

### Method

1. Heat the oil in a frying pan and cook the bacon for 2-3 mins, remove from the pan and put to one side. Add the leeks to the pan and cook for 10 mins until soft but not browned.
2. Return the bacon to the pan, add the rice and cook for a further 2 mins. Add the stock and then pour the whole lot into an overproof dish. Cover and cook for 30 mins, stirring once half-way through the cooking time.
3. Once the liquid has been absorbed and the rice is soft, add the frozen peas and the parmesan, stir once and cook in the oven for a further 2-3 mins. Season with black pepper and serve immediately.



*Diane Overton*  
*diane.overton@outlook.com*

# Kilmington Common – Bat Walk



We were able to go ahead with the Bat Walk on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, it was the first dry evening after what had been a wet and windy week. There were 30 of us, a range of ages from 8 – 85 years old!

Ruth Worsley, AONB, and Mary-Ann led the walk along the paths through the Common and a little way up the Roman Road, a corridor between hedges that bats frequent.

Between us we had 13 Magenta bat detectors which, when set to the correct frequency, detect the ultrasound emitted by the various species of bat flying around – so there were squeals of delight and amazement from both the adults and the children at the various tck-tck-tck sounds emanated from the devices tightly held in our hands as the bats flew overhead. There were also two iPads that picked up the bat sounds which gave us a visual impression of the sounds they were making. All this as well as us being able to watch the bats flying overhead.

It was possible to identify 3 species, Serotine, Pipistrelle and Soprano Pipistrelle. How about that, a truly operatic mammal flying around the Common!

A few days later whilst walking in to Axminster I found a dead Noctule bat lying at the base of the Axe Bridge along Trafalgar Way.



This species is the largest British bat. Shortly after that we were introduced to a live bat that had appeared in the tower of St Giles' Church, near to the winding mechanism of the clock. This lone male brown long-eared bat was roosting on its own, as can be the habit of this species pre-hibernation (see page 19).

In a short period of time we had been able to positively identify 5

species of bat, these truly remarkable creatures that largely go unseen in and around the village – the good number of large old trees and mature hedgerows providing plenty of insects as food for a variety of bats. There will be more bat walks to come, who knows what will be seen next time!

The work restoring the common will continue and work parties will be held in November on:

Wednesdays 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> 10–12

Please bring strong gloves, rakes and pickaxes if you have them.

*Judith Simpson:*

*simpsonjudith71@gmail.com 01297 32694*

## Kilmington Village Show

We are pleased to announce that this year's village show made a profit of £2,000.

The money will go into the Kilmington Community Association fund and be used for village events and projects.

## Village Hall '100+' Club

*The winners of the draw held on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023 are:*

70	Mrs. L. Raven	£30
93	Mr. D. Bromley	£15
60	Mrs. J. Bond	£15
16	Mrs. A. Copeland	£5
113	Mrs. K. West	£5
134	Mrs. L. Boon	£5



For further details, please contact Jean Falconer – 01297 33708



## VACANCY

### VILLAGE HALL CLEANER PART-TIME

We are looking to recruit a cleaner to ensure that the Village Hall is a clean and welcoming venue. The hours will be flexible but will include early mornings and weekends with a need to work around hall bookings. Hours to be agreed with the successful candidate.

8 hours per week - rate of pay £12.00 per hour

We are looking for a person who takes pride in their work, is happy to work alone and maintain good communication links with the management committee.

For further information about this role please email:

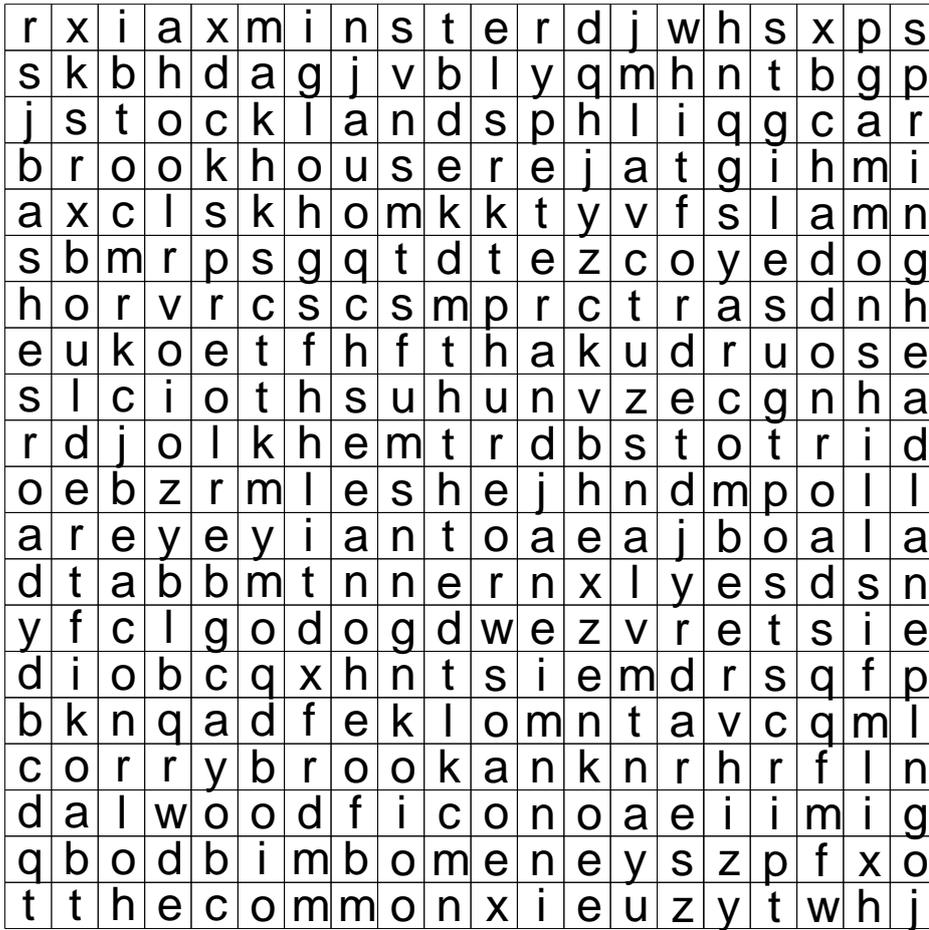
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**Closing Date 5.00pm on 3rd November 2023**

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Solution on page 24

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## *Kilmington RBL AGM Remembrance in Kilmington Christmas Extravaganza*

Regrettably, I must commence this month's update with the sad news of the passing of two of our long-standing members; Heather Cromey-Hawk and Gordon Overton. Our thoughts and prayers are with both families.

**Kilmington RBL AGM** took place on the 6th October courtesy of the New Inn. Thank you to all those who attended and to your RBL committee for providing a comprehensive and concise set of reports. Our sincere thanks to the New Inn for permitting us to use their premises and for providing a most enjoyable atmosphere for our first Friday of the month get-together.

As you read this, **Remembrance** will already be upon us, and I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with a quick reminder to please return your Poppy Appeal envelope, seal it with your donation inside and take it to the Baptist Church Kilmington. A collection box will be available when the church is open, or you can use the secure church letterbox. My thanks to Peter Wood and his assistants for helping to deliver the Poppies/Envelopes which will have been slipped through your door! We also look forward to seeing you all at our Remembrance events, commencing with Maroons on the cricket field at 1100 on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> November to mark Armistice Day. As previously highlighted, our Remembrance Service will be in the Beacon at 0945 on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November, followed immediately by the act of Remembrance at the War Memorial.

We are still looking to introduce a **Branch Community Support Officer**, to coordinate and report quarterly to the county providing an overview of what we have achieved. If you would like to volunteer and help highlight everything

that we do as a branch, please do not hesitate to contact me or any other committee member.

My last reminder is for our Christmas Extravaganza, which will take place in the Village Hall on Saturday, 2nd December. Look out for the posters!!

As always, we continue to look for new members, so if you would like to join us, please get in touch, and remember, you do not have to be a member or veteran of the armed forces to become a member! In the meantime, thank you again for supporting the Royal British Legion, but more importantly the veterans and their families.

Please take great care and stay safe.

*Cdr Staff Seward OBE RN Rtd  
Chairman RBL Kilmington Branch  
07799 612557 – e-mail t60sas@hotmail.co.uk*



*- We'll Never Forget -*

## Loughwood Meeting House Winter Opening Hours

Following on from Pastor Mike Hudson's interesting article about Loughwood Meeting House, please note that Loughwood will be open on Fridays and Saturdays during the winter (November to February) to protect this very special place. From March, we plan to open Loughwood Meeting House for more days of the week. Please check the website for opening times before visiting.

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/loughwood-meeting-house](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/loughwood-meeting-house)

Loughwood is located just off the A35 between Kilmington and Wilmington, 2 miles from Kilmington village. Postcode EX13 7DU.

*Meg Vallender, Visitor Experience Officer at East Devon  
Countryside, National Trust.  
loughwood@nationaltrust.org.uk*



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# Kilmington Events



Local boules derby between the New Inn Flyers & the New Inners at the New Inn.



Evening Bat Walk - An ideal time to see some bats flying around on the Common. Bat detection equipment was provided and the frequencies for the individual bat species were listed for all to enjoy.



Kilmington Cinema - Movie and Cream Teas



Axe Valley Boules League  
Division 2 Winners  
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Axe Valley Boules League  
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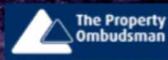
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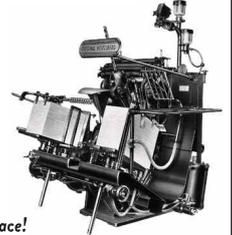
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Rev. Julie Lomas  
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revjulielomas@gmail.com

## Letter from the Churches



Pastor: Mike Hudson  
KBC Church Office  
Kilmington  
01297 631638 or 07957 738211  
pastor@baptistchurchkilmington.org

“Ready.....Steady.....Slow!” Not the usual way to begin a race, or a countdown, but this November I am minded to take these words to heart. There are good reasons to slow down and stop during this month, partly because the nights are really drawing in, and the need to hibernate comes upon many of us, not just in the animal kingdom. Autumn accelerates the earth and nature prepares for the slow season of winter, when what growth there is takes place under the ground and out of sight.

As a nation, we stop and take stock, as we remember those we have loved and lost, specifically through the national act of remembrance for our armed forces held annually on 11<sup>th</sup> November, and on Remembrance Sunday (12<sup>th</sup>). In Kilmington we will mark this sombre occasion with a service at the Baptist Church, beginning at 9:45am, followed by an outdoor service as we remember Kilmington lives from the first and second world wars, commemorated as they are on the village War Memorial.

On Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, St Giles' Church will be holding the annual memorial service for anyone from the village and across the Five Alive Mission Community who has been bereaved. Beginning at 7pm, this will be a reflective service when we will give thanks for the lives of our loved ones,

acknowledge our grief and seek God's comfort and support as we travel through “this dark vale”. All are welcome to join us, whether you are regular church-goers or not, as we all need the support of one another when we are in need.

This is the month when we can also slow down and be thankful. If we practice gratitude during the 30 days of November, think how rich our lives will be when we enter the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Here is a quick and easy idea for us all to try this month: take an empty clean jar (with or without its lid), reuse an envelope (or some other form of paper that would otherwise go in the recycling bag) and write down one thing that you are grateful for during the day. Pop it into the jar. Repeat each day for 30 days. On December 1<sup>st</sup> see what is in your jar, and if there are any surprises. Let me know how you get on!

My prayer is that we may find the slow lane this November; find that our days are blessed during this month of reflection, and find that we encourage one another as we take time to deepen our gratitude for life in all its fullness.

Praying for our village.

*Rev'd Julie Lomas*

## Messy Sparklers



To link in with harvest, our theme was the parable of the Sower that Jesus told in the Bible. In the parable, the seeds represent God's message of hope going out to different groups of people and what happens to the seeds depends on where they fall.

Outside, in the unseasonal sunshine, the children could play with beans, rice and pasta, drive tractors around a farm made of breakfast cereals, play in a water tray of orange-scented water and pine cones, and explore bread dough. The weather was so lovely that some children hardly ventured inside.



For those who did go inside, there were more harvest-related activities. Using paint and Duplo, the children could print pictures of maize. They decorated cress seed heads, which hopefully grew 'hair' at home. Other activities included colouring sheets and a nature basket with magnifying glasses plus the usual toys.

We are only able to run Messy Sparklers due to the wonderful team of volunteers. We are always grateful to those working in the kitchen to prepare the delicious lunches – especially those egg sandwiches! We have had a couple of volunteers

step back this month for different reasons and have had another join our team. We especially thank Helen who has served on the team consistently from the start in 2015 but will now be working on a Tuesday. Not only has she been preparing crafts and helping during the session, but she has also been coming in the night before to help set up, which she hopes to continue.



Messy Sparklers is a sensory stay and play group for children under 5 years and their adults. Our next session will be on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November. We meet from 10:30am to 12:30pm at The Beacon. A contribution of £2 for the 1<sup>st</sup> child and £1 for additional children covers all the activities plus lunch for both children and their parents/carers. Anyone is welcome, but booking is essential.

If you aren't on our mailing list, please contact [children.youth@baptistchurchkilmington.org](mailto:children.youth@baptistchurchkilmington.org) to receive a booking email.

Remember to dress for mess!

*Juletta Obudo*

# Hearty Harvest Lunch!



On a beautiful sunny day on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> October, many people were treated to a very tasty and very filling Harvest lunch. We enjoyed cottage pie and vegetables, followed by apple crumble and custard. As we were patting our full stomachs and commending the chefs, around came more food in the shape of the Harvest loaf and cheese!



£600 was raised, which is wonderful, and this money will be going to the Farming Community Network which does great work for local farmers.

Thank you to everyone who made the Harvest Festival such a success. Thank you to Axminster Market and to Millers Farm Shop for each donating Vegetable Hampers which were raffled off.



The Harvest loaf had had pride of place on the altar at St Giles' an hour before, as we shared our Harvest Festival service, led by Rev'd Julie. Most of the food produce generously donated by the congregation was blessed by Julie before being taken on, either to be raffled after our lunch, or to be taken to the Axminster Churches Together Foodbank to be distributed to those in need in the local area.



*Gill Heighway*



# 'Bats in the Belfry'

A local bat, believed to be a long-eared bat, roosting in the tower clock room of St Giles' Church.



*Photo courtesy of Steve Lomas*



*Photo courtesy of Emma Milford*



## The Good Old Days



Back in March some members of Axminster Choral Society suggested putting on an Old Time Music Hall evening to help raise funds for Flamingo Pool in their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year -an excellent idea as this was something a bit out of the ordinary!

Kilmington Village Hall was booked for Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> October. The Flamingo Pool fundraising committee said they would provide a light supper and rehearsals took place prior to the event, all was planned until...Covid struck down several members of the cast! It was decided to go ahead as tickets had been sold and everyone was looking forward to rekindling memories of The Good Old Days TV programme which ran for 30 years between 1953 and 1983.



The audience came, several dressing for the occasion, and enjoyed a light supper of jacket potatoes and various fillings followed by ice cream. The artists, now only five instead of eight, entertained us with a mixture of period songs and amusing monologues. There was of course a raffle and a bar to lubricate voices for the final audience sing-a-long ending with 'Down at the Old Bull and Bush'.

Thanks go to the cast, the ladies that catered, Tesco Axminster for contributing to food and gift costs and 'chiefly yourselves', the audience, for coming along and raising £1,255 for Flamingo Pool, for which they are most grateful. What an amazing result!

*Celia Dunsford on behalf of ACS and Flamingo Pool*

## St Giles' Bellringers' Outing



Bellringers like to have the opportunity to ring in different towers and we have not had an outing since before Covid. This year we decided to do something a little different, and as many of the band had not rung in the other Five Alive churches, we split the outing into two mornings.

Ably organised by Steve Lomas, we went to Yarcombe and Stockland in March and then had lunch in the Kings Arms. We followed this with Shute and Dalwood in October and –

guess what – lunch in the Tuckers Arms! It was a good experience; some bells were easier to ring than others, but everyone took up the challenge, and who doesn't like the chance to have two pub lunches!

Thank you Steve for organising these outings for us.

*Celia Dunsford*

## Stay Warm Safely This Winter



With a seasonal chill in the air and energy bills staying high, many of us will be heeding the advice of finance guru Martin Lewis to "heat the human not the home", however it is important to do so safely.

The British Burn Association report that, on average one person is seriously scalded in the UK while using or filling a hot water bottle every day, and that the number of major burn injuries caused by hot water bottle use (potentially life threatening and requiring skin grafts) is up by 46% over the same period in 2022.

The NHS has provided tips for safe hot water bottle use:-

- **Do not overfill the bottle** – fill to a maximum of three-quarters full. This is the cause of around half of all hot water bottle burns
- **Check the top is firmly closed**
- **NEVER use boiling water to fill the bottle** – this can cause the bottle to split and leak
- **Expel all air above the water level before sealing carefully** – to prevent injury from the escaping hot steam

- **When filling, hold away from the body**
- **Cover or wrap the bottle in a towel before use**
- **Check for splits and leaks before use**
- **Do not lie on, sit on, or squash the bottle**
- **Look for the Kite mark** – if the bottle is not safety stamped to BS:1970:2006 standard, throw it away
- **Replace the bottle at least every two years and preferably annually** – look for the flower symbol on your hot water bottle, this indicates the year of manufacture

Special care should be taken by those with sensory deficits, the elderly, and children. Lullaby Trust advises never putting a hot water bottle in your baby's sleep space as the baby can overheat.

If you do sustain a burn, cool the burn under running water for at least 20 minutes. If the burn is larger than 3cm, or has blistered, seek medical attention.

*Ann Dorey*

# Changing of the Times

A Victorian's Perspective of Kilmington Fair

'Nostalgia isn't what it used to be'. Well known witticisms aside, I am certain that nostalgia has instead always been constant and a necessary consequence of the changes of perspective which comes with the passage of time.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1842, Trewman's Exeter Flying Post published a local correspondent's article bemoaning that 'truly old things were passing away', and longing for the better times of yesteryears whilst polishing well worn 'rose-tinted' spectacles. The subject matter in question related to his recent visit to 'Kilmington Fair'.

The writer shared perhaps a jaded and cynical view with articulate and wistful prose, without compliment to the 'modern' world or recognition of what might come. This article seems a good window; a small and enlightening piece of social history with which to peer at the perspectives of a common person of 180 years ago. This was a time before electricity, effective transport, or communication; the railway age was just beginning. Slavery had only recently been abolished and meaningful social reform just emerging. The sociological, technological, and medical advances which we rely upon so much today were utterly inconceivable. Victoria had been queen for just five years and the austere and non-indulgent moral standards of the period were already biting.

I have extracted the text of the article, word-for-word for your own amusement and reflection.

*Old customs, old tastes, old amusements, old folks – are fast giving place to “things and being of a new creation”. We are not insensible to the advantages of social improvement; yet though we do hear a great deal about the march of intellect, and the progress of refinement, we confess ourselves to be so far left behind in the ‘onward stream’ – in other words to be so ‘unfashionable’, as to regard to the “good old times” with something of fondness and regret. We do not see that ‘better’ supply their place – we are not exactly convinced that the milk-and-water drinkers, the “new lights” etc of this enlightened age are better ‘men’ or better ‘Christians’ than their blunt and unsophisticated ancestors. The knell of some old custom – something that our fathers loved – is sounded every day in our ears.*

*In the matter of popular amusements – where are they? Even Bartholomew Fair – that prince of revels, with its shows and gew-gaws, and dancing and ‘associations’ – must now be numbered in things that were. A new standard of morality has been raised. It is ‘wicked’ now to meet one's friends at an evening party, and really awful to laugh and enjoy oneself in the open air. Talk not of a rubber – it is fearful; ‘think’ not of a dance on the green – it is most wicked! It was in this “state of thought,” and with melancholy forebodings, that on Wednesday evening, after business and the bustle of the day, we took our hat and stick, Uncle Toby-like, and girded up our loins for a walk to Kilmington Fair.*

*Alas! What a falling off was there! – what a paltry apology was it for the fair of our childhood, when with a host of tiny schoolfellows we should scamper to this scene of gaiety and bustle – of pear pie and ginger-bread. True, we found dancing*

*and fiddling, and even our fascinating old friend ‘Punch’; but his squeak, somehow, had lost its inspiration – it was hoarse, dispirited, melancholy; the poor thing seemed really heart broken and conscious that its palmy days had fled forever. The dancers were palsied – they moved – not bounding and free – but automaton like, without life, without spirit. The fiddle, too, was sadly out of tune – it sounded like it had been greased rather than rosined. And where were the fives playing, the wrestling, the donkey-racing, and all the other “merrie pastimes of ancient days?” Echo answers where? Instead of being jostled and pushed and squeezed, as heretofore, the folks we met were “few and far between;” - no ruddy lasses receiving their sweethearts’ “fairing,” no laughing, no halloaing, no nothing, as Sam Weller says. The few we saw appeared to our heated fancy much like troubled ghosts, paying a melancholy visit to their sublunary enjoyment!*

*Suddenly thick clouds overspread the sky, the lightning flashed, the thunder rolled, the big drops fell rapidly upon our umbrella'd head, sending us to the right about, and at our topmost speed we reached our dwelling, literally drenched to the skin. ‘Tempora mutandar, et nos mutamur in illis’, thought we, while changing our uncomfortable toggery.*

'The times change, and we change with them'.

It is probably fair to say that this curmudgeonly person may not have fully entered the spirit of the festivities of that late summer's day of 1842. Perhaps, more generously, if the event was only attended by 'troubled ghosts', 'palsied' dancers, 'tuneless' fiddlers and a 'heart-broken' Punch, it was because of the looming thunderclouds and impending downpour?

There is of course value in this article. Times do change, and necessarily so do we; our perspectives altered by experience. There is little that any of us can do about it – we must just get on with it and enjoy the moment. Little can be gained by bewailing progress and change. We all do it of course, at least occasionally.

Aside from the interesting and perhaps convoluted use of the English language (and Latin!), the fascinating commentary does speak of a very different time, but with many parallels. As for those 'good old days', I'm for staying in the present, but I do wonder what a citizen of the 1840's might make of today's world - should they somehow be able to read today's tabloids or walk through our towns and villages.

Alan Clarkson



# The Wind

I live for the wind whether storm force or mild  
I've loved its excitement since I was a child  
Whatever the season, direction or strength  
The four winds for me are all heaven sent

In spring the west wind laced with showers  
Helps to bring forth May's first flowers  
It gently blows through copse and trees  
Stroking the bluebells and rustling leaves

In summer the breeze refreshes the hours  
Rich with perfume from pinewoods and flowers  
The martins build their nests on high  
And glide on thermals in the sky

In autumn the wind tears through the trees  
And chills the children's hands and knees  
The gold leaves blown by wind and rain  
Take off with each gust down the lane

The winter winds are strong and cold  
Freezing the bones of young and old  
The snowflakes fly as in a race  
And coat your clothes and chill your face

But all these winds are friends of mine  
We are as one in space and time  
The world would be a poorer place  
Without their touch upon my face

*John Thorne*



Hospiscare's Light Up a Life and celebration events will be returning to Honiton, Cullompton and Exeter this festive season. The annual events offer a place to honour and remember lost loved ones and feature a selection of hand-picked readings, poems, music and carols.

Taking place throughout December, the first event takes place on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at the Deer Park Country House in Honiton, followed by Carols at Padbrook Park in Cullompton on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December, and finishing with Light Up a Life at Exeter Cathedral on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. A sign language interpreter will be in place at both the Cullompton and Exeter Cathedral events.

In addition to the in-person events, Hospiscare are welcoming dedications in their online Gallery of Memories, as well as the Hospiscare Book of Memories, which will be displayed in local churches and community centres from 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 until 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

The Hospiscare Tree of Light will also be shining in memory in front of Exeter Cathedral for visitors to attend throughout December.

The events are free to attend and open to all, however, due to limited space booking is essential for Honiton and Cullompton, with bookings closing on 20<sup>th</sup> November.

Visit [www.hospiscare.co.uk/light](http://www.hospiscare.co.uk/light) to find out more and book your place.



# Films Available For Hire

If you were unable to come and see our films on the big screen, we can now offer you the opportunity to enjoy first-rate films in your own home. For a small hire cost of £3 for up-to 7 day loan, we have the listed films on offer. Each month, following our film show, that DVD will become available for hire. We will not be publishing an updated list each month, so look out for the posters to see what the KCC is showing.

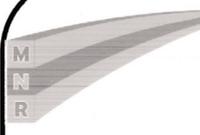
To book the film and arrange to collect, contact: Eileen and John Birch, by phone: 01297 34595 or email: [johnbirch598@btinternet.com](mailto:johnbirch598@btinternet.com)  
Collect from: Hill View, Wellmead, Kilmington (opposite the New Inn).



Kilmington Community Cinema

*Please Note: The Blu-ray discs require a player that can accept Blu-ray discs; these will **not** play on a standard DVD player. Newer equipment under 3 years old will probably be Blu-ray compatible, but check for compatibility first.*

DVD	Blu-ray Disc
West Side Story	The Courier
The House of Gucci	Little Women
Downton Abbey A New Era	No Time To Die
The Good Liar	Belfast
ELVIS	The Duke
Operation Mincemeat	
The Railway Children Return	
Fisherman's Friends One and All	
Mrs Harris Goes To Paris	
Living	
A Man Called Otto	
Empire of Light	
Allelujah	
What's Love Got to Do With It?	
Phantom of the Open	
<b>Available from:</b>	
Mid November - LION	
Mid December - And Comes the Nightjar	



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# Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support



[www.axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk](http://www.axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk](https://www.facebook.com/axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk)

Tel: 07512 279663

Email: [info@axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk](mailto:info@axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk)

Mailing address: Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support, Heathermoor, Yawl Hill Lane, Yawl, DT7 3RW



## Newsletter no. 61

Newsletter 61 starts by thanking various money raisers who have held events – an open garden, a sponsored hill walk and beach picnic and a Facebook birthday fundraiser. Between them they raised £3272.54, which can be used to fund some of the many therapeutic and supportive events which ALCS offers to its clients.

In November the creative hub offers a Zoom course on creative writing and the workshop on 'Making a Mark,' which started in October, continues on Wednesdays. There is a workshop to learn about fermented food and applications are invited for the Christmas wreath-making session on 6<sup>th</sup> December.

For men only each month there are opportunities to talk to other men affected by cancer and to ask any questions about the support which is available. Sometimes there is an invited speaker. These are usually held at Pie and Pint and Blokes' Brunch events in local pubs. Other regular events for everybody include drop-ins and support groups, some in Lyme Regis and some in the Scott-Rowe Room at Axminster Hospital.

If you would like to receive the full newsletter which has much more information and detail, or to register your interest, or have any queries for ALCS, please use one of the addresses above to contact them.



computer set up  
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computer supplies  
remote support

**01297 816002**  
[lawsoncomputers.co.uk](http://lawsoncomputers.co.uk)  
[info@lawsoncomputers.co.uk](mailto:info@lawsoncomputers.co.uk)

## eyecatching

### DRESSMAKING AND DESIGN

in Kilmington Village

Discuss your requirement with Rosemary  
Tel. 01297 639270

**PLASTIC FREE**  
**AXMINSTER**  
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

## Black Friday – A Recycling Nightmare!

**PLASTIC FREE**  
**AXMINSTER**  
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

We're all familiar with the concept by now, a day of frenzied shopping, with the odd fist fight thrown in! Around the early 2000s, the last Friday in November became the season's busiest shopping day, taking over from the Saturday before Christmas. This import from the US is now firmly fixed in our calendar, along with Cyber-Monday, and the UK is expected to spend between £4–9 billion during the weekend.

We all hope to get a bargain of course, especially during a cost of living crisis, but take a moment before you press that button. The Ethical Consumer says that 98% of discounts on Black Friday were available at the same price, or cheaper in the six months following the sales on Black Friday!

Is it a bargain if it's going to sit in a cupboard or toy box for years gathering dust before it is inevitably discarded? Green Alliance reports that 80% of electronics, clothing & the packaging they come in, are destined ultimately for landfill.

So how can we start to change things?

Shopping locally in the many small businesses or craft outlets in our towns will not only keep money local but will help to cut back on the massive amount of extra packaging generated

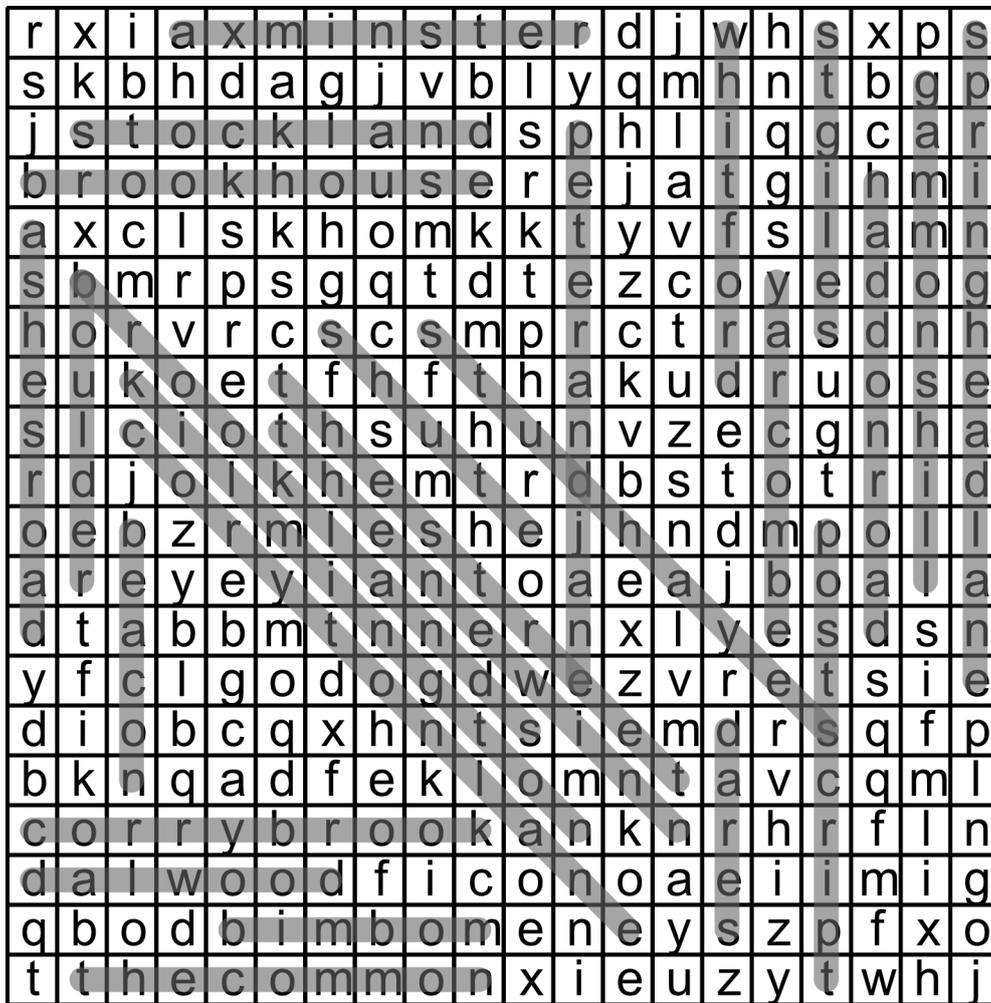
by deliveries of online purchases.

Some people actively ignore the day or use it as a day to switch off the computer and walk away from the artful advertising!

**We don't want to Grinch you out of your Christmas happy-place or talk you out of careful spending, just to be aware that there's a price for the planet too.**

**Plastic Free Axminster**  
*invites you to their*  
**CHRISTMAS ECO FAIR**  
on **Saturday November 25th** at  
**Axminster Guildhall**  
**10 am to 1.30 pm**





Solution to Wordsearch on page12

**NIGEL PHILLIPS**  
**GARDENING SERVICES**  
 Does your garden need a good tidy  
**READY FOR WINTER**  
 Phone Nigel Phillips 01297 35302

Also regular grass cutting and up-keep all year.  
 Friendly local service.

## Sudoku Challenge

To solve this puzzle, each 3 x 3 square, row and column must contain all of the numbers 1 to 9.  
**Level: Hard** *Solution on Page 26*

	8	7		1	5			3
	9				3		6	
1			9					5
	5			9			7	6
8	4			5			2	
6					2			9
	7		4				1	
9			5	6		3	8	

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# Dates for November 2023

## Events That Happen the Same Time Every Week

Sunday	10:30 am	The Beacon	Service
Monday	Early	Your house	Recycling and Food Waste Collections
	2:00 - 4:00 pm	Village Hall	Country Dancing
Tuesday	10:00 - noon	The Beacon	The Post Office and Community Cafe with free refreshments
	10:00 - noon	Village Hall	Table Tennis
Wednesday	09:30 am	The Beacon	Tummies, Toddlers & Tinies (Term time only)
	10:00 - noon	St Giles' Church	Mums and Babies Support Group
	2:00 - 4:00 pm	Village Hall	Short Mat Bowls
	2:00 pm	The Beacon	The Beacon Home Group
Thursday	7:00 - 9:00 pm	Village Hall	Table Tennis
	10:00 am	The Beacon	Just For You Ladies Bible study and prayer (term time only)
Friday	10:00 - noon	St Giles' Church	Coffee and a Warm Welcome

## Calendar Events

Wed 01 Nov	09:30 am	The Beacon	Men's Home Group (for prayer and Bible Study)
Fri 03 Nov	6:00 pm	The New Inn	RBL 'Get-Together'
Sun 05 Nov	10:30 am	Shute	Mission Community Holy Communion
	7:30 pm	The Beacon	Encounter: A time of worship and prayer
Tue 07 Nov	Early	Your House	Garden Waste Collection
	09:30 am	St Giles' Church	Said Communion
	10:30 am	The Beacon	Messy Sparklers
	7:00 pm	St Giles' Church	Annual Memorial service TBC
Wed 08 Nov	7:15 pm	Village Hall	KCC - "LION"
Thu 09 Nov	2:00 pm	Village Hall	KCC - "LION" - Matinee
Sat 11 Nov	11:00 am	Recreation Field	Maroons
Sun 12 Nov	09:45 am	The Beacon	Joint Remembrance Day Service with friends from St Giles, followed by...
	10:50 am	War Memorial	Act of Remembrance
Mon 13 Nov	Early	Your House	Landfill plus Recycling and Food Waste Collections
Tue 14 Nov	10:00 am	The Beacon	Create Craft Group
	11:15-11:45	The Street	Mobile Library
Thu 16 Nov	12:30 pm	Village Hall	Autumn Lunches
Sat 18 Nov	08:00 am	The Beacon	Men's Breakfast
Sun 19 Nov	09:30 am	St Giles' Church	Holy Communion
Tue 21 Nov	Early	Your House	Garden Waste Collection
	09:30 am	St Giles' Church	Said Communion
	12:30 pm	The Beacon	Community Contact Lunch
Thu 23 Nov	12:30 pm	Village Hall	Autumn Lunches
Sat 25 Nov	08:30 am	The Beacon	Women's Breakfast
Sun 26 Nov	09:30 am	St Giles' Church	Morning Prayer
Thu 30 Nov	12:30 pm	Village Hall	Autumn Lunches

## Sudoku Solution

4	8	7	6	1	5	2	9	3
2	9	5	7	4	3	1	6	8
1	6	3	9	2	8	7	4	5
3	5	2	1	9	4	8	7	6
7	1	9	2	8	6	5	3	4
8	4	6	3	5	7	9	2	1
6	3	1	8	7	2	4	5	9
5	7	8	4	3	9	6	1	2
9	2	4	5	6	1	3	8	7



Samaritans Purse Shoeboxes are available from The Beacon to take away and fill with toys for children all over the world.

Filled shoeboxes need to be returned to The Beacon no later than Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

# Useful Telephone Numbers

## Village Contacts

Bell-ringing – Celia Dunsford	01297 33563	Kilminster Gardening Club Bev Perkins, Secretary	01297 631801	RBL – Jean Falconer – Sec Stafford Seward – Chairman	01297 33708 01297 33909
Bridge Club – Eric Samways Gill Bullock	01297 24260 01297 647768	Kilminster Community Cinema John Watts	01297 639758	Short Mat Bowls – Edith Turner	01297 34090
Country Dancing – Gill Perkins Marie Thorne	01297 32888 01297 631194	Kilminster Service Station	01297 300459	Table Tennis – Jenny Nickolls	01297 639758
Cricket – David Lavender	01297 631868	Kilminster Primary School (incl. Kilminster Pre-School)	01297 32762	Telephone Box Library Karen Hodder	01297 35162
Footpath co-ordinator, Tom Cook <i>footpaths@kilminstervillage.com</i>	07974 001197	Millers Farm Shop	01297 35290	Tennis – Christopher Eastwood Jane Chalk	07772 930411 07866 040310
Hitchcock Pavilion Bookings Peter Huscroft	01297 32243	The New Inn	01297 33376	Village Hall Bookings Louise Quincey	01297 32358
<i>www.kilminstervillage.com</i> Luke & Maxine Lawson	07719 909532	The Old Inn	<i>Closed</i>	Village Hall 100+ Club Jean Falconer	01297 33708

## Medical and Support

Axminster NHS Hospital	01297 630400	'Devon Doctors On Call' (Out of Hours GP Service)	0845 6710270	Coombefield Veterinary Hospital	01297 630500
Axminster Medical Practice St Thomas Court Surgery	01297 32126	Emergency Dentist Helpline	0333 006 3300		

## Services and Facilities

EDDC Recycling and Waste	01395 571515	Axminster Library	01297 32693	Clerk to the Parish Council	07800 826657
Water – General	0344 346 2020	Mobile Library (Tiverton Branch)	01884 244644	Iain Chubb	01297 35468
Water – Leaks	0800 2300561	Axe Valley Ring and Ride	07510 255965	E. Devon District Councillor for Newbridges	07932 459595
Electricity – Emergency, National Grid (formerly Western Power Dist.)	0800 6783 105 or just 105			Devon County Councillor for Whimpe & Blackdown	
Axminster Care Service	01297 35550	Police: Crime stoppers – 0800 555111    Emergency – 999    General – 101			

## Churches

St Giles' Church Rev. Julie Lomas	01297 35004	Baptist Church Office Pastor: Mike Hudson	01297 631638	Axminster Catholic Church Parish Priest: Father Jacek Kostuch	01297 32135
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## Advertising in Postscript, Payments, and Donations

Postscript is published ten times each year and is delivered free of charge to every house in Kilminster. All advertising fees and donations to Postscript are used to meet the cost of printing. ALL advertisements which are set out, from any source, are chargeable as follows and must be paid for in advance.

**Exceptions:** Any adverts which publicise events that are **in and for the direct benefit of the Village** will be free. The Editor's decision of eligibility is final.

The Editor also reserves the right to limit the number, size and content of such adverts.

**Closing date for adverts is the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication to allow time to resolve any technical issues. E.g. The 12<sup>th</sup> October for the November Issue.**

Please supply adverts as a **print-ready pdf wherever possible**, alternatively a hi-res png or jpeg can be accepted.

For full specification or any questions on advert size, format, or technical questions, please email Rob via [postscript@kilminstervillage.com](mailto:postscript@kilminstervillage.com)

	Black and White Advertisements	Colour Advertisements
Credit Card (70 mm x 40 mm) - design as a 7:4 aspect ratio image	£7 or £30 for 5 editions	Not Available
¼ Page (90 wide x 136 mm high – Portrait) - design as A6	£15 for one-off or £65 for 5 editions	£20 for one-off or £90 for 5 editions
½ Page (184 x 136 or 90 x 276 mm – Landscape) - design as A5	£25 or £100 for 5 editions	£35 for one-off
Full Inside Page i.e. not back cover (184 x 276 mm) - design as A4	£40 or £150 for 5 editions	£50 for one-off

Please Note: Credit card sized adverts may sometimes be printed slightly larger for aesthetic reasons in some editions.

**BACK COVER:** Occasionally the back cover is available for a one-off colour page advertisement. Cost: £60. Requires **print-ready pdf with 3mm crop & bleed**.

**PAYMENT:** Cheques should be made payable to: **Kilminster Postscript** and posted to: **Mrs V. Larcombe, Brookside, The Street, Kilminster, EX13 7RJ.**

**BACS account name is Kilminster Postscript, sort code: 51-61-23, account no: 18159400**

**COMING AND GOING FOR A SONG:** There is no charge for these entries for items valued at £20 or less. However, donations are appreciated – these can be popped through Vicky Larcombe's door.

**Please post payments for advertising in Postscript and donations to help with printing costs through the front door of Vicky Larcombe's house. Thank you.**

**Directions for finding Vicky Larcombe's house.** Vicky is treasurer for Postscript.

From Whitford Road turn left and walk up The Street, passing Koppers, Khushi Kitchen, the Bull Pen, and West Gate on your right. The next house is Brookside where Mrs Vicky Larcombe lives. If you find yourself crossing Meadow Bank, you have gone a few steps too far.



What a time of year

