

KILMINGTON

POSTscript

Issue 233 April 2021



EDITORIAL

Black-tailed godwit sounds like a spoof name dreamed up by a cartoonist, but these tall, handsome wetland birds are now the subject of an RSPB campaign to save the small remaining breeding population in the UK from extinction. They are threatened by the rapidly changing climate and habitat loss resulting from human activity in draining the wet grasslands. They are not one of Kilmingtong's problems, but people who have lived for a few decades almost anywhere in this country may have become aware that there were many more birds about when they were children. The Common Bird Census shows a slow and gradual decline in all bird numbers, especially in the 80% which is farmland. Do you remember turtle doves or tree sparrows? We have even lost more than half of the song thrushes and skylarks. Apparently many garden birds are doing a little better. Long may it last! Our centre pages show some of those seen in Kilmingtong gardens.

As usual, this month's Postscript reflects some of the diverse activities, interests and wisdom of the people who live here. Peter's 'Sky at Night' features a meteor shower and a full supermoon with many names. Alan Clarkson explains the original reason for the construction of trig points, once essential in a nationwide project, but becoming redundant as technology progressed and now merely a curiosity - or a mossy prop for posing photos. John Mellows shares his delight in the bountiful fish shack at Millers, Diane Overton and her brother spent time during the first lockdown researching their family tree with many generations in and around Kilmingtong and Mary-Anne recommends *Bergenia* for early Spring. I was intrigued by old minute book references to WI support for a DP family after WWII and pursued it a bit further.

As we begin to look ahead, Martin Huscroft advertises the launch of a new cricket programme for boys and girls aged 8-11 and coaching sessions for older ones. Please bring it to the attention of any such who may not be regular Postscript readers! Heather Gibbard is establishing a community non-profit forest bug school and community tree nursery. How many villages can boast either of those? Jane Chalk has sent us information about the Plant market on May 1st as well as the Open Gardens weekend organised by the Gardening Club and the RBL are resolutely looking forward to their family BBQ in July and Trafalgar Night dinner in October.

In February and March treasurers and accountants are much in demand to sort out their clients' finances into easily readable statements. Many thanks to Vicky for providing one for us and for keeping track of our adverts, donations and printing outgoings.

Janfryd

Front and centre pages - Marie Gardner

CONTRIBUTIONS TO POSTSCRIPT

Please remember to use the email address for Postscript:

postscript@kilmingtongvillage.com

Alternatively, please give your item to any team member.

The closing date for submitting items for the May issue is 15th April 2021. All will be acknowledged. Please email or ring 01297 639115 if not acknowledged within 48 hours.

POSTSCRIPT TEAM

Editor

Janfryd Gordon-Kerr 01297 639115
janfryd@gordon-kerr.org.uk

Team

Peter Ball 01297 32631
mycraigdon@aol.com

Marie Gardner 01297 33489
m.gardner6819@gmail.com

David Bromley 01297 631801
david.bromley3@btinternet.com

Valerie Harding 01297 34206
vharding38@gmail.com

Jill Collier 01297 32390
summerleaze@hotmail.co.uk

Gill Heighway 01297 33951
gillheighway@gmail.com

Gill Perkins 01297 32888
john.perkins444@btinternet.com

Distribution

Diane Overton 01297 33569
diane.overton@outlook.com

Treasurer

Vicky Larcombe 01297 33858
vlarcombe30@aol.com

Postal address

The Granary, George Lane, Kilmingtong, EX13 7RT

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Postscript is published 10 times each year and is delivered free of charge to every house in Kilmingtong. 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.

DONATIONS

Arrangements for donating to Postscript have changed as a result of the closure of the village shop. Please see page 26 for details. Donations to the middle of February came to £3.00 All donations go towards printing costs. Thank you for your continuing support.

ADVERTISING RATES

Please see inside back cover for details.

The average cost per 28-page copy of Postscript with several colour pages is 75p.
Extra copies are available from Millers Farm Shop, where donations may be made.

Disclaimers: Items in this publication are the work of individuals and do not necessarily reflect the thoughts or opinions of the editorial team. The editorial team reserves the right to make small alterations to items submitted. Contributors are responsible for ensuring that parental permission has been obtained before pictures of children are submitted for publication.

The content of advertisements is not the responsibility of the editorial team. Queries should be addressed to the advertiser. This publication is online at www.kilmingtongvillage.com. In addition, earlier issues will also appear online from time to time.

KILMINGTON CRICKET CLUB

JUNIOR AND ADULT CRICKET 2021 SEASON

This summer the club is launching a new cricket programme for boys and girls aged 8-11.

DYNAMOS CRICKET is a national programme starting on May 13th and running for 8 weeks, providing a fun way to meet friends, to exercise and learn the fundamental skills of cricket. Each session will involve Batting, Bowling, Fielding and playing a new exciting countdown game of cricket where everyone participates equally.

Children who sign up will receive a New Balance personalised T-Shirt with name and number, a Cricket App for their phone packed with skills videos, and related activities plus quizzes and game scoring facilities. Each week they will be given a set of Topps Cricket Attax cards with links to the new Hundred competition and the chance to get tickets for the matches.

KILMINGTON sessions will be led by a fully qualified Level 2 ECB coach as well as other qualified Activators.

In order to sign up please visit:

www.ecb.co.uk/play/dynamoscricket

The cost is £25 for the 8 week programme running from Thursday 13th May from 5.00-6.00 pm.

For further information please contact:
Eddie Clarke edandjoc@btinternet.com

KILMINGTON COLTS CRICKET

There will be coaching for children of 12 years old plus on Thursday evenings from 6-7pm and for those who wish there will be the opportunity to join the 2nd XI net sessions as a progression into Senior cricket.

KILMINGTON ADULTS CRICKET

For those aged 13 to adults, Saturday cricket consists of a 1st XI that is in the B Division of the Devon League, and a 2nd XI in the G Division (East) of the Devon League. There are a number of midweek games against touring sides and the club has also entered a new midweek evening 20-over-a-side league. If you are interested in playing cricket (at any level), or know someone who is, please contact the club via **David Lavender** (see Postscript contacts) or come and introduce yourself at a net session or a game. You will be very welcome.

SUPPORTING OUR FISHING INDUSTRY

It is sometimes said that, despite being an island nation surrounded by some of the best fishing grounds in the world, the majority of British people only eat fish if it is smothered in batter and deep fried!

Whilst I too greatly enjoy fish and chips, there are many different ways of having a lovely fish supper, and living here in Kilminster it is very easy to enjoy a huge variety of fresh fish.

Supermarkets often source their fish from abroad and whilst some of it is very good, nothing compares with freshly caught fish from a local fishmonger.

In the past year, with Covid curtailing our movements, I have established a weekly practice of visiting the Lyme Bay Fish Shack outside Miller's Farm Shop to buy fish for ourselves and another village couple and in the process have tried to learn more about the different species, whilst my wife has excelled herself in finding new recipes for serving them. This is quite a challenge, because what I bring home will entirely depend on what I like the look of that day!

The easier ones are cod, haddock, hake and pollock which I always buy as fillets and which can be accompanied by a variety of homemade sauces. The flat fish, the soles and plaices we tend to buy as whole fish, just gutted and with heads and tails removed. Whilst my technique has improved, I still have great admiration for those waiters who can expertly serve such fish at the table 'off the bone'.

Slightly more expensive, but well worth the money, are seabass, bream and brill and a real treat for special occasions is that prince of fish, turbot.

By way of a complete contrast a stir fry containing fresh hand dived scallops from Lyme Bay is absolutely delicious. Smoked haddock and salmon are also great favourites of ours.

The choice goes on and includes monkfish tails, red or grey mullet, dabs, gunnard and squid.

We also buy from the fish shack their excellent fish pie mix and fish cakes which are useful additions to the freezer.

Now that summer is in sight, many of us will be getting the barbecue going, but instead of incinerating burgers and sausages I urge you to try cooking fish. A whole seabass wrapped in foil only needs a very short cooking time, is very easy to serve and is quite delicious. Equally mackerel and sardines are excellent candidates for the barbie. Summer is also the time for salads and whilst a whole crab or lobster might be a little daunting, a crab shell full of dressed Cornish crab makes an excellent salad, as do shrimps and prawns.

When we first moved to Kilminster there was a large trailer at Miller's with a somewhat surly gentleman selling very expensive fish, but luckily that disappeared and the new fish shack is a modern building with its own preparation room and a well presented counter of fresh fish either from their own local boat or from Brixham market. There are also local fishmongers and market traders, so we are ideally positioned to shop locally.

Our fishing industry has suffered from French intransigence following Brexit, but we are well placed to take advantage of the abundance of locally caught fresh fish and so learn that there is much more to fish than batter, chips and fingers.

John Mellows

KILMINGTON SKY AT NIGHT

Some interesting skies above, as usual, with a meteor shower and a supermoon this month. Enjoy!

5th to 8th Moon close to Jupiter and Saturn. Use the waning crescent moon to guide you to respectively, the largest and second-largest planets of the solar system. Because the moon always travels eastward relative to the backdrop of stars and planets, in the days ahead it will work its way past Saturn and then Jupiter.

16th to 25th Lyrid Meteor Shower. The Lyrid Meteor shower occurs at the same time each year. These meteors travel at approximately 107,000mph and explode about 55 miles above the Earth's atmosphere. You can usually see up to 18 meteors per hour during its peak, which is expected to fall on the 21st and 22nd. Nicknamed 'Lyrid fireballs', they cast shadows for a split second before leaving smoky debris trails that linger for minutes behind.

25th Moon close to Spica. If you haven't located Spica, the brightest star in the constellation Virgo the Maiden, before then use the waxing gibbous moon tonight to help you find it. Spica, one of the brightest stars in our sky, is a prime



example of a 1st magnitude star and it sparkles a beautiful blue white.

27th Full Supermoon. Known as the pink moon, named after a species of early blooming wildflower, it is also called the sprouting grass moon, the egg moon, and the fish moon. This full moon is the second-closest full moon of the year and the first in a series of three supermoons this

year. Some prefer to call a full supermoon a *perigean full moon*, when the full moon and the moon's closest point to Earth in its monthly orbit - the *lunar perigee* - closely coincide. This April, the full moon occurs about twelve hours before the moon sweeps to lunar perigee. Next month, the May full moon will turn full some nine hours *after* the moon swings to perigee. As the moon comes close, our oceans feel the extra gravitational pull which combine with the sun to create larger than usual tides, called *spring tides*. When the full moon comes closer than average, what we call supermoons, its gravitational pull is greater and this elevates the tides even more. Low tides plunge especially low and, on the same day, high tides climb up especially high and can cause coastal flooding.

Peter

KILMINGTON POSTSCRIPT

Income and Expenditure Account
Year ended 31st December 2020

	£ 2020	£ 2019
Receipts		
Post Boxes	40	55
Individuals	271	306
Council Contribution	250	250
Interest	1	2
Advertising	3291	3370
Total	3853	3983
Payments	2820	3630
Printing		
Stationery and Sundries		
Sundry Expenses		31
Total	2820	3630
Excess Expenditure over income	1033	353
Bank Balance 1 January 2020	2211	1858
Increase/Decrease in Year	1033	353
Bank Balance 31 December 2020	3244	2211
Bank Balances 31 December 2020		
Current Account	2196	1164
Reserve Account	1048	1047
	3244	2211

If you would like more information on these accounts please contact the treasurer.

11 March 2021

Mrs V Larcombe, Treasurer

SUDOKU CHALLENGE

Level: Moderate

To solve this puzzle, each 3 x 3 square, row and column must contain all of the numbers 1 to 9. The solution is on page 12.

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

MOBILE LIBRARY

Suspended at present time

JAM, JERUSALEM AND MUCH ELSE BESIDES

DPS IN GERMANY – THE KILMINGTON CONNECTION

Who were DPs? They were ‘displaced persons’, about nine million of whom were stranded in West Germany at the end of WWII in 1945. They included Jews, Poles, Estonians, Latvians, Lithuanians, Ukrainians and more, originating from countries which Nazi forces had invaded or occupied. Some had been slave labourers, brought in to boost the war-time workforce. Some were concentration camp survivors, POWs, or political prisoners. Some had collaborated with the Nazis occupying their countries and were now fleeing, and there were other refugees from all parts of Eastern Europe who feared to return or had no homes to return to. All were now stateless, malnourished, lost and desperate. They were wandering about, without means of support, in a defeated country whose own towns were in ruins, transport routes smashed, the local population demoralised and overwhelmed by this added mass of needy humanity. The numbers were further swelled by others, not DPs, but an influx of native Germans from what had now become the repressive and brutal Russian occupation zone, who left everything, migrated as refugees and trekked westwards to reach the safety of the American, French and British occupation zones.

Help for the DPs came mostly from the British and American governments, whose soldiers established ‘temporary’ camps for them in West Germany, Austria and Italy. Despite all their efforts to repatriate or resettle DPs, there were still nearly a million left in the camps two years later. Many charitable organisations provided various forms of humanitarian relief and services among the DPs on the ground, especially the Red Cross. Others gave what help they could from wherever they were. Kilmington WI’s members’ record book mentions a letter received from Hamburg in March 1956, thanking them for a parcel of clothing sent to DPs in Germany after holding a ‘special effort’. A few months later the Institute was asked by a Mrs Hartley of Exmouth whether they would like to adopt a family under the Displaced Persons’ Adoption Scheme. They obtained more information from Mrs Rigby of the Adoption Committee, decided they would, and so began a long relationship with the Stojanovic family.

WI secretaries over the years recorded numerous letters and cards sent and received, money raised and parcels dispatched

to ‘our DP family’ in a camp in Germany but, frustratingly, without much actual information about them. The minutes and records tell us, however, that Mr Stojanovic had a wife and three children, older boys Wladislav and Miroslav and a younger girl, Liliane. The eldest was twelve on his birthday in 1959 so they must all have been born since the war and spent their childhood in the camps. Mr S died in May 1957 during an operation and Mrs S was also in hospital in September the same year but recovered. A DP sub-committee organised fundraising, faithfully remembered all the birthdays with presents or money and always sent parcels of food and clothes at Christmas. They read the DP newsletter, and a play called ‘If they only knew’, advertised in the October 1956 issue, was performed by the drama group at the WI birthday party in December. There is no information about the family’s nationality and language but letters from them were always sent to be translated. Many squares were knitted, some of them for a competition amongst all the Institutes in the Group, and became blankets for the family, while a whist drive at a member’s house made £4 for Mrs S to buy coal.

In May 1958 Miss Pearce, from Exeter, ‘gave a most interesting talk on her work amongst the DP families’, but no details are given. In 1958 a letter came ‘telling us about our DP family’ from Baroness von Wangenheim, who (according to Wikipedia) had fled with her husband in 1945 from their castle in Thuringia as the Red Army approached. How she came to meet with family Stojanovic and then send that letter to Kilmington is not recorded. A thank-you letter from the family in 1965 is said to have enclosed snapshots. In 1966 a WI member, Miss Lambert, visited ‘Our Family’. Do any of the letters or snapshots still exist? It is puzzling that the connection lasted so long, since the last two camps, at Föhrenwald and Wels, were finally closed by 1959, but the correspondence with the WI continued throughout the 60s. Where was the family? What became of them? In 1969 a letter arrived from Liliane, thanking for her birthday present, and written for the first time in English. The Stojanovic children, if they survived, would be in their 70s by now. Perhaps they may still remember that connection with Kilmington WI.

Janfryd

VILLAGE HALL ‘100+’ CLUB

**The winners of the draw held on
22nd February 2020**

L Stewart	£30	S Boon	£5
V Turner	£15	L Reed	£5
V Harding	£15	J Hitchcock	£5

For further details, please contact
Jean Falconer - 01297 33708

FIVE ALIVE OIL SYNDICATE

Please note that the deadline date for this month’s order falls on Friday, 23rd April. Please submit requests by 12.00 noon.

As usual I invite requests for specific amounts or, if ordering a ‘top up’ or a filled tank, then please furnish me with a pretty accurate estimate as to how much oil you require. Minimum order of 500 litres applies.

Colin Stewart
01297 792538
cogstewartcs@gmail.com

SPRING OPEN GARDENS, VILLAGE WALK AND FAMILY QUIZ - 24th AND 25th APRIL

1.30 - 5.00 pm

UPDATE!

The Kilmington Gardening Club is still planning to go ahead with the spring celebration, as advertised in last month's Postscript.

Entry will be by donation to the Village Hall, collected in buckets available at each open garden, so that you can start at any point along the route. Your maps and quiz details will await you at any of the gardens and rewards can be collected from six of the gardens.

Numbers per garden will be restricted, depending on the size of garden and ability to social distance, and

unfortunately we will not be able to provide teas, due to COVID restrictions.

A pack containing guidance notes will be provided for each open garden owner and, EVERYONE, please don't forget to decorate your front gardens with bunting and scarecrows.

Details of the quiz and scarecrows are in the articles below.

Please join in the fun and celebrate Spring and the light at the end of the tunnel!!

PUT A SPRING IN YOUR STEP

as you walk round the village taking part in a family quiz. The quiz will take you round the village so you can visit gardens on your way. It might take you into lanes and byways you haven't walked along before. You may see trees and wildflowers or find other things you haven't noticed before, and you will probably see loads of scarecrows and bunting.

As mentioned already, you can start and finish wherever you like.

Children – don't forget to collect your reward of seeds for taking part.

SPIRIT OF SPRING

How about adding to the fun by making and decorating a scarecrow?

Get the family together and make a fun garden creation. Dress your scarecrow in eye-catching, bird-scaring colours. Give it a springtime theme with bright foliage or colourful flowers made out of materials, paper or card.

Don't forget have your creation ready by the morning of 24th April. Make us all smile.

Please contact Krisztina and Paul if you need further information.

Email: talbot571@btinternet.com or, if you prefer to talk, 01297 32094.



Vacancy
St Giles' Church
Kilmington
01297 35433



Letter from the Churches

Pastor Darrell Holmes
KBC Church Office
Kilmington
01297 631638
pastor@beaconbaptist.co.uk

I enjoy flicking through what people would term as 'religious books' rather more than I do reading them from cover to cover. That's why I enjoy reading books that have thoughts for the day, short reflections and meditations, rather than huge religious tomes – other than the bible of course!

Whilst pondering what to write about this month, I was leafing through some books by Eddie Askew, one of the best-selling Christian authors of the late 20th Century, looking for inspiration, when I came across one of his Thoughts for the Day in his book 'Chasing the Leaves'. It's very pertinent for our current times so I thought I'd share it with you.

The extract is based on Psalm 130:5:

*I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word
I put my hope.*

"Queen's Medical Centre, F floor, I [Eddie Askew] was waiting for a lift to take me down to the main entrance on B. I'm past walking down the stairs for four floors even if the alternative is to wait. There are three lifts on every landing but, when I press the little button on the wall, the lifts are

usually well down at ground level. All you can do is stand and stare at the three closed doors, and wait. Then, like the proverbial buses, two lifts come together.

Sometimes, wherever we are, all we can do is wait. We may feel we need to move on from where we are, but doors seem to be firmly shut. However hard we wish to change things, we just have to wait. It's out of our hands. Waiting's often harder than doing, but we don't get anywhere banging on the wall or repeatedly ringing the bell. The lift will come when it's good and ready, and bring with it new opportunities. Maybe the waiting time's been given to encourage us to think things through a bit more carefully.

And when the lift finally arrives, we have a choice. Ignore it, or step into it, press a button, and hope it'll take us where we want to go. Life's a bit like that.

Lord of time and eternity, stand with me when the waiting's hard, and teach me patience. But do it gently please."

Take care.

Gill Heighway

ANCIENT GRAFFITI IN THE FLOWER ROOM

The Organ in St Giles' Church has recently needed a bit of repair work, but the organ tuner was unable to complete the job without removing the back panelling of the instrument. To expose the woodwork everything needed to be removed from the flower room....everything, from the



woodwork with penknives or pins by the junior choristers of St Giles' choir. There are dates and initials and I wondered if any readers would remember being in the choir with anyone with matching initials all those years ago. It would be interesting to find out, would it not? The work on the organ was completed very speedily, so new shelves are now in place. I was lucky to take my pictures.

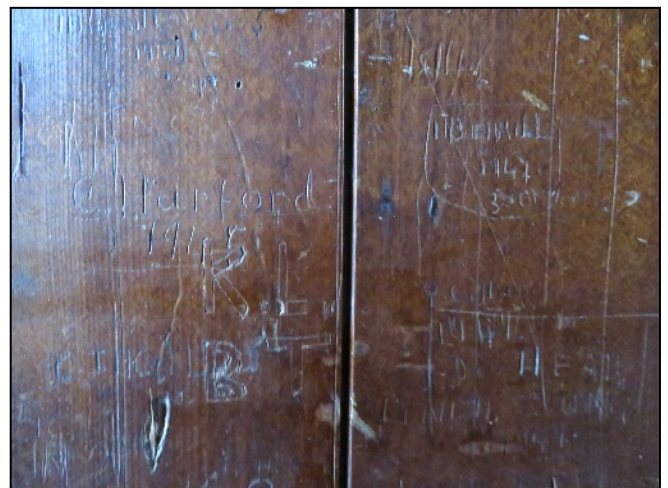
Diana Mellows



Christmas crib to the flower pedestals and all the vases and cleaning materials! This area had once been the vestry and the robing area for the vicar as well as the choristers. The hooks are still to be seen where they hung their cassocks and surplices.

I took the opportunity to look at the room while it was empty and was amazed to see scribbings on the

panelling. Luckily, I had my camera with me and took a few snapshots. They must have been scratched into the



We hope this finds you all well and staying safe. As always, our thoughts remain with all those who are suffering from illness, the vulnerable, and the families and friends who provide such essential support. Sadly, on this occasion we must report the loss of John Astbury, who passed away on Wednesday, 24th February. His funeral took place on Friday, 19th March and several Legion members lined the route from their home to pay their last respects. Both John and Margaret have been incredible supporters of the Royal British Legion and we shall miss him greatly.

In last month's edition we spoke about having to cancel some of our earlier events due to the pandemic. It would now appear that we have some light at the end of the tunnel (I hope I haven't spoken too soon!). We would wish to assure all our members and readers that we are continuing to plan future events and are currently in discussion to confirm the details of our Annual Family BBQ in July as well as a 'Trafalgar Night' dinner in October. Of course, we will also aim to provide support to other village events as and when needed and continue to plan for events later in the year.

Looking further afield to next year and with regards to our own centenary event on Saturday, 7th May 2022 (100 years since the unveiling of the War Memorial), we would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have provided ideas of how we might celebrate the occasion, which we will discuss at our next meeting. If you have any ideas, it is not too late to submit them either to myself or any of your committee (don't be shy, we welcome any thoughts you may have).

On a National level, our corporate partnerships team have been working to secure some great partnerships to celebrate



our centenary through the sale of some special memorabilia including:

~ **Cooking with Heroes** cookbook – To celebrate the centenary of The Royal British Legion, some of the world's bestselling celebrity chefs – including Jamie Oliver, Ainsley Harriott, Cyrus Todiwala, Melissa Helmsley and the Hairy Bikers – have teamed up with acting or former members of the military to create this unique cookbook. The book will be released on **Tuesday, 18th May** and is available for pre-order here: *Cooking With Heroes: The Royal British Legion Centenary Cookbook*: Amazon.co.uk: £19.95 or £16.05 if you order before the release date (18th May).

~ **We are the Legion**: Richly illustrated with over 350 images, including an extraordinary collection of early poppy designs, Legion posters and unseen archive shots, the book also includes original

photography specially commissioned for the project. This book promises to be an insightful read, full of interesting facts about our lesser known projects and missions throughout our 100 years. It is due for release on **Thursday, May 6th** and can be pre-ordered here: *We Are The Legion: The Royal British Legion at 100*: Amazon.co.uk: £18.99 or £16.91 if you order before the release date (6th May).

As always, I would like to thank you all for your continued support and incredible generosity. I look forward to seeing you all as soon as we are permitted.

Take great care and stay safe.

Cdr Staff Seward OBE RN Rtd
Chairman RBL Kilmington Branch
07799612557 – E-mail t60sas@hotmail.co.uk

THE SOUP GANG

The 'Soup Gang' from St Giles' Church are about to set off on their delivery rounds: Jill Hitchcock, Diana Church, Anna Crabbe and Diana Mellows with one of the gallant soup makers Colin Stewart. Other soup makers, not in the photograph are Jenny Newbery, Caroline Lavender, Gill Heighway, Christine Thorne, Christine Mills, Tom and Jo Cook, Peter Guy and Jane Chalk. The soup has been very much enjoyed by the recipients each week and donations have been made to several charities including RNIB, Cancer Research, Riding for the Disabled and St Giles' Church.

A very big Thank You to all those who have contributed to the success of this venture throughout Lent.

Diana Mellows



FROM ORANGE GROVES TO FOREST SCHOOL (AND COVID IN THE MIDDLE)

As we slowly shuffle out of Covid restrictions, we cautiously evaluate what has changed and how to return to a 'new normal' life. Soon we will be able to visit family and friends, go out on day trips, picnics, even go on holiday. The pandemic has had a short-term effect on my mental wellbeing certainly. I am a social person, my children say I'm a chatterbox! Covid has had a long-lasting effect on my life; my career is taking a scenic detour!

I'm an entomologist and I love all bugs, and I have worked with lots of different insects in Africa, Europe and USA. Before moving to Kilminster, we lived in Florida for two years, where I researched citrus pests in orange groves all around Florida. The lab was in a small research station halfway between Orlando and St Petes. Lots of amazing wildlife, beautiful beaches, great friends, alligators and the Kennedy Space Center! Our daughter was born in Florida, she was nearly a year old when we moved to Kilminster in the Spring of 2015.

We moved to Beechcroft two years ago and it has been a great place to go through a pandemic! Like everyone home schooling, the last year has been a challenging, fun, lively, snack fuelled, BBC Bitesized, Zoom blur. I loved spending time with my children outside in our garden and woods, but I really appreciate that many children didn't have access to this level of freedom and space. Spending so much time with my children outside made me realise I didn't want to go back to working in a lab. While planting a small orchard and

some sapling trees in our woods and garden I was accidentally forming a plan for my own 'new normal'. After taking lots of advice from friends, I am training as a forest school leader and establishing a community non-profit forest bug school and community tree nursery. On reading the last Postscript, it is a timely venture. As we emerge from our third lockdown we will be able to meet in small groups outside. There are plenty of people, myself included, who have really missed social interactions. There also have been some new arrivals into the village (babies and whole families) who have not been able to join in with groups in our normally very active community.

Starting from the 19th April I will be running small group sessions in our woods. I will be running woodland and bug sessions for parents and babies, parents and toddlers, pre-school groups, school groups, home ed groups, adult forest school and adult forest crafts and finally a tree planting and tree nursery group called the Kilminster Tree Musketeers! Lots of information about sessions is on the Kilminster Now Facebook page and on my website www.greenbeebugs.co.uk Spaces are limited, so please call to book on 07859 943 768. This is an environmentally sustainable community enterprise so I would encourage participants to walk to our woods and leave your cars at home.

Starting a community forest and bug school at this time feels right. The last Postscript edition was thick with environmental articles and even the pandemic hasn't dampened our community spirit; I would say it has strengthened it! Scarecrows, Christmas trees, helping each other with shopping, and now a drive for green spaces, trees and wild flowers. As we move towards spring, we will not be the only ones emerging from winter cover. Birds will be nesting, flowers blooming, insects busying, animals bustling and we will be watching – see you there!

Heather Gibbard



Preparations of a small natural clearing for woodland bug adventures in our woods

Session Times:

Monday	10.30 am	Baby Bear Hunt
Wednesday	10.00 am	Forest Crafts for Adults
Thursday	10.00 am	Parent and Toddler Forest School
Thursday	6.00 pm	Kilminster Tree Musketeers

GreenBee Adventures

Outdoor learning sessions



- Baby Bear hunt
- Forest school
- Bug school
- Forest Art
- Woodland play
- Wildwood seniors
- Team sessions
- School sessions

GreenBee Adventure sessions tailored for all age groups in Kilminster.

Call Heather on 07859 943 768 or email heather@greenbeebugs.co.uk
www.greenbeebugs.co.uk

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

Like many people during the first lockdown, my brother and I spent a lot of time researching our family tree. It all started with a chance remark about my grandmother's old house, Kilmington Farm, which is now Koppers, and spiralled from there. We knew a little about our family history and, interestingly, my brother and I remembered different stories, so between us we could piece a few things together. When we embarked on what was to become a fascinating but time-consuming journey, we knew that some of both our maternal and paternal families were buried in Kilmington churchyard. We also knew that at the time of our parents' marriage in 1955, both sides of the family were living in the village, Dad's family (the Brooms) at Kilmington Farm and Mum's (the Webbs) at Dulcis Farm. The Quicks, who were Dad's cousins, were also living in the village. We also knew that both sides of the family had links to several other villages in the area including Dalwood, Stockland and Cotleigh. What we didn't appreciate, however, until we did the research, was that since the mid-1700s, there have always been members of our family who have lived and worked within a ten-mile radius of Kilmington. We did discover a few exceptions, such as those who originated from Cornwall and those who moved to London. It was those family members who had 'escaped' from East Devon who became perhaps the most interesting to research, because we initially knew so little about them.

By the end of our research, we had found out about the lives and located the graves, of numerous relatives dating back to 1742, some here in Kilmington, others in the surrounding villages and one reaching as far afield as Calcutta. In Kilmington churchyard alone there are twelve marked family graves and one unmarked grave going back five generations. Some of these we knew about and some were kindly found with the help of Bob Farley. Not only have we



*Our paternal great,
great, great
grandparents
William and Ann
Studley*



*Our paternal
great, great
grandparents
Edwin and Ellen*

found out who our relatives were and what they did, how long they lived etc., but it has also given us a glimpse into what life was like around Kilmington through the centuries. It is actually quite heart-warming to know that some of the farms and houses where they lived, the churches and pubs they frequented, the views they appreciated and the roads they used are still here today and that we can follow in their footsteps to some degree. It seems that around every corner now there is a reminder of our relatives, for instance just driving up the A35 on the Loughwood corner, the thatched house on the bend used to be a pub, The Sun, where my dad's great uncle lived at one time. He and his wife are buried in the unmarked grave in Kilmington churchyard. Just opposite that, if you know where to look, is a small wall of bricks, all that is left of Loughwood Villa where my great-grand-parents lived before it was knocked down to allow the A35, as we now know it, to be built.

FAREWELL STELLA

Stella Carter was considered by all who saw her to be the best principal boy who ever graced the stage in pantomimes by Kilmington Players.

Her voice was sweet and so loud that it filled a room easily without any microphone.

But for some, it was also for her legs in fishnet stockings that many a man would attend the pantos with eagerness. Yes, those legs were considered to be the finest in Devon. When Stella stood on stage she would steal the scene from anyone else. (As Betty Gage can testify).

(Tongie made sure of that when she made her tunics).

Many in her later life may have known of her tireless work for the British Legion.

But for me (and for all who knew her as a young woman) those appearances on stage remain our lasting memory.

Farewell Stella.

Sandra Ward

KILMINGTON PLAY AREA

Until further notice, the Play Area is still CLOSED and should not be used.

Unfortunately, until ROSPA (Safety) have undertaken the annual inspection and an incomplete piece of equipment is repaired, the Parish Council cannot re-open the Play Area. With the lovely new fencing (and better weather) it is difficult not to have the use of the facility.

WHEN re-opening occurs, it will be under the relevant COVID regulations. These will be posted at the Play Area, so that it is clear to all users.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Sally Huscroft

THANK YOU

Thank you to the many kind people for their lovely cards and messages after the death of John in March.

Sybil Jowett

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

Great grandfather, Henry Studley 1869 – 1954, was living at Kilmington Farm at the time of his death and is buried in Kilmington churchyard. He also lived at Loughwood Villa.



On popular TV programmes celebrities find out about their ancestors and then have an expert ready with the next relevant piece of information. In reality unearthing information can be slow and frustrating. The internet, of course, has made the job easier because there are so many heritage sites where documents including birth, death and marriage certificates and Census reports, pictures, other people's family trees etc. can be accessed, but because of the volume of information out there, it is quite easy to get side-tracked and find yourself going down an incorrect family line. It is also staggering how much information is out there which you can stumble on by accident. Dalwood church records, for instance, are a fantastic source providing information on all the burials and marriages going back to the 1800s. Newspaper articles, estate agents' records, court records, maps, church records all provide invaluable information which, with a bit of tenacity, can be accessed. It is also possible under normal circumstances to visit the Devon and Somerset Records office. Unfortunately we couldn't do this because of COVID restrictions, but hope to do so sometime in the future. In conjunction with the desk-research we also did as much practical field research as we could including visiting local villages and their churchyards. The sheer delight when we found a previously unknown relative's name on a headstone is indescribable. The excitement of finding the next piece of the puzzle became addictive. However, as in all family history, some of the

information we discovered wasn't what we were hoping to find and some questions have remained unanswered; this was hard to accept, as we found that we had become quite invested in some of the relatives and their stories. Many of the relatives we found were farmers who owned or rented their farms. These farms often couldn't support all the family members so some of the sons in the family had to seek work elsewhere. One such relative was our three times Great-Grand-Uncle Valentine. He left Cotleigh in the mid 1800s and travelled to Calcutta to work as a coachmaker. The journey he must have taken is almost unimaginable. Sadly, he died in 1856 at the age of 29, from what we don't know, but can only guess. He is buried in the famous South Park Street Cemetery in Calcutta. The incredible thing is that we were able to find online a beautifully handwritten, detailed list of everything he had in his possession at the time of his death, including a comb and a mirror. Another relative who sadly died far from home was Valentine's Great-Great Nephew, Augustus, who died aged 23 at Gallipoli and is buried in a War cemetery in Egypt.

Another relative who we became interested in was Great-Great-Uncle Lawrence. He was a bit of a character, but had a sad ending. His story and decline in fortunes threw up all manner of questions which we haven't been able to answer. He was a farmer, publican and family man who ended up spending his final few years in, and dying in, the Workhouse in Wellington. We again can only guess at what befell him, but we do know that early one Sunday morning he turned himself into the police station in Axminster, confessing to killing his wife. Luckily, he hadn't done this. Every family has an Uncle Lawrence!

Diane Overton (nee Broom)

KILMINGTON GREEN SPACES

The green spaces in Kilmington are an asset that everyone enjoys. The Common, Jubilee Green and the Green outside the old Hurford's Stores, are all areas frequently used by all ages. To ensure we keep it that way, we would ask everyone to respect the areas and refrain from parking on the edges which are gradually being eroded and making maintenance much more difficult.

While highlighting maintenance, we fully understand the enjoyment of paddling and playing in the stream, but would request that stones or pebbles removed from the stream are

replaced and not left on the banks. Stones and pebbles left on, or which have become embedded in the grass, may not be visible to the Council's grass cutting contractors using mowers and strimmers and not only damage the machinery but are a potential **dangerous hazard** to the contractor's, and others, property and vehicles in the area.

Thank you.

Kilmington Parish Council

WHERE IS DONKEY COPSE?

Several people have asked me do I know where Donkey Copse is. Apparently it is either in Shute or Kilmington parishes where a rare wild flower was reported to be growing there some years ago.

Can anyone provide information on this mysterious copse? If so, please contact me on 01297 34958 or mwtyler2@googlemail.com

Mike Tyler

WASHING v BONFIRES

A reader has asked us to include a plea to anyone thinking of lighting a bonfire on a good drying morning to be aware, not only of neighbouring washing lines, but of others in the vicinity downwind of it and to consider whether it is really necessary or could wait until later.

Editor

ELECTRIC CARS – NOW FACE THE MUSIC

Electric powered vehicles are quickly becoming more common on our roads; there are now several running around Kilmington. In just nine years from now new cars and vans powered wholly by petrol and diesel will not be sold in the UK. Aside from the benefits of less exhaust pollution on our streets, electric vehicles are much quieter and therefore drastically reduce traffic noise.

However, after their introduction it was quickly realised that they were too quiet, to the point where pedestrians, particularly the visually impaired, couldn't hear them coming. Something had to be done to reduce the risk of collisions between electric cars and pedestrians, especially when the vehicles were travelling at low speeds.

So the UK Government introduced new laws that from July 2019 all manufacturers must fit to electric vehicles sound generators that produce a specified level of noise similar to that made by a conventional engine when they were running below about 12 mph or reversing. Until now each manufacturer has been free to design its own 'electric sound', known as acoustic vehicle alerting systems (AVAS). Inevitably this has resulted in a range of somewhat strange sounds, many of which have been criticised as being 'extremely annoying buzzing sounds'.

However, some exciting new legislation is about to change all this as, in addition to 'electric engine sounds' the Government is set to allow electric vehicles to play music. It will be regulated within similar AVAS speed parameters and must be played at a similar minimum and maximum volume levels.



A Ministry of Transport spokesperson said "We envisage that giving scope for a greater variety of more 'pleasing' acoustic vehicle alerting systems will provide positive mental health benefits over the existing mundane 'buzzing' sounds. Hopefully our streets will sound a little happier in the future and the more pleasant surroundings will

encourage more people to walk, thereby further improving the environment."

The new AVAS units will also allow owners and operators of vehicles to upload their own choice of music, which should give the marketers yet another opportunity! One supermarket chain has already announced they will be playing 'Food Glorious Food' in their electric home delivery vans. Thames Water is going for a more classical theme with Handel's Water Music. A selection of upbeat tunes - 'Please Mr Postman' and the Proclaimers hit 'Letter from America' - has unsurprisingly been chosen by The Post Office. We understand one Ambulance Service plans to use several songs including the Bee Gees' hit 'Stayin' Alive' and the Thompson Twins' 'Doctor Doctor'. Another obvious selection is The Move's 'Call the Fire Brigade' and for more urgent calls they'll use 'FIRE!' by The Crazy World of Arthur Brown.

Listen out for the new roadside sounds after the legislation comes into effect on the 1st April.

Peter

WHAT DO YOU SEE?



Rhinocrocosaurius Silvanus

Is it a Dinosaur, Rhinoceros, Crocodile or just a fallen tree!

Gill Perkins

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

Cookery Corner

Looking at the calendar, there seem to be several celebratory days in April. The 25th is Anzac Day. The biscuits which were given to the troops at Gallipoli were known as Anzac biscuits or diggers. The recipe below is very quick and easy to make and was one of the first things I learnt how to bake when I was quite young. Many of the more traditional recipes use plain flour and bicarb, but not being a fan of the bicarb after-taste, this is my preferred recipe. The 4th April, as well as being Easter Sunday this year, is also national carrot day! The carrot and potato gratin is a lovely accompaniment with roast meats. Finally, the fruit fool is a light, quick and easy to make dessert which uses in-season rhubarb.

ANZAC BISCUITS

Makes approx 20

125g/5oz softened butter
1 tbsp golden syrup
175g/6oz caster sugar
75g/3oz self-raising flour
75g/3oz desiccated coconut
100g/4oz porridge oats



Method

1. Heat the butter, golden syrup and sugar together in a pan until the butter has melted and the sugar has dissolved.
2. Stir in the flour, coconut and oats and mix well.
3. Working quickly before the mixture gets too cold, place large teaspoonfuls of the mixture on to greased baking trays, spacing well apart. Flatten very slightly. Over flattening will result in the biscuits spreading too much and becoming too crunchy.
4. Cook at 160C fan/180C/gas 4 for 8-10 minutes until the biscuits are lightly brown at the edges.
5. Cool on the tray for a couple of minutes before transferring to a wire cooling rack.

CARROT AND POTATO GRATIN

Serves 4

500g/20 oz waxy potatoes, peeled and sliced wafer thin
1 small parsnip, peeled and sliced wafer thin
350g/14 oz carrots, peeled and sliced wafer thin
2 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
1 tbsp chopped fresh rosemary
300ml carton of double cream
150ml/6 fl oz milk
50g/2 oz grated parmesan
Salt and pepper



Method

1. Lightly grease a 2 litre ovenproof dish. Layer the potatoes and the parsnips in the dish. Scatter over the sliced garlic and season with salt and pepper.
2. Pour the cream and milk into a saucepan, add the rosemary and carrots. Bring to the boil and simmer on a low heat for 3 minutes.
3. Pour the carrot cream mixture over the potato and parsnip layer. Sprinkle on the grated parmesan. Cover the dish with foil and bake at 180C fan/200C/gas 6 for 40 minutes. Remove the foil and bake for another 20 minutes. Reheats well in a microwave.

RHUBARB FOOL

Serves 4

450g/18 oz forced rhubarb, roughly chopped
3 tbsp golden caster sugar
200ml/8 fl oz double cream
1 tbsp icing sugar
2 balls of stem ginger, diced plus 1 tbsp of the syrup from the jar
120g/1 small pot thick, creamy plain Greek yogurt

Method

1. Put the rhubarb, caster sugar and 1 tbsp of water in a pan and cook covered over a gentle heat until the rhubarb is tender. Remove the lid and turn up the heat and cook for 2-3 minutes to allow the liquid to become syrupy.
2. Tip the rhubarb into a sieve over a bowl to catch the syrup and allow the rhubarb to go cold.
3. Puree the cooled rhubarb with 1 tbsp of the rhubarb syrup and the ginger syrup until smooth.
4. Whisk the double cream and icing sugar together until it forms soft peaks.
5. Fold the yogurt into the cream mixture.
6. Gently fold the rhubarb mixture into the cream and yogurt along with nearly all the chopped ginger. Keep a little of the ginger back to use as decoration.
7. Spoon the fool into the glasses, decorate with the left-over ginger and chill.

Serve with shortbread fingers or brandy snap biscuits.



Diane Overton

Kilmington Gardens RSPB Watch



Just some of the birds that the Postscript team saw.....

WHO MIGHT YOU BUMP INTO WHEN YOU PLAY FOR KILMINGTON CRICKET CLUB?

One of the joys of cricket is the eclectic group of people that you meet playing the game, who have made their mark in life in one way or another. This list is not exhaustive, there may well be people I have missed (apologies) and there will certainly be new names to add in future years. As one would expect, Kilminster have played against a number of outstanding cricketers.

The highest accolade in cricket is to play at test match level, even if the remuneration is not as good as 20-20 cricket. Kilminster has been lucky to play against a number of Test cricketers over the years including **Ian Botham** (Yeovil 2nd XI), **Bob Cottam** (Seaton), **John Price** (The Boffins) and **Naved Anjum** (Barton). In addition, former Australian Test captain, **Bill Lawry**, was at The Arthur Hitchcock Memorial Playing Field, at the instigation of Dr Simon Hodges, when we celebrated former President Harry Pape's 90th birthday. His signature is on the bat that we presented to Harry to mark the occasion.

It is only possible to play test cricket by representing one of the twelve (current) test playing nations. If you don't represent these nations, the highest level to aspire to play is One-Day/20-20 international level. **John Nagenda** (The Boffins) played for East Africa in the 1975 World Cup and against Kilminster on many occasions. **Prakash Joshi** (The Boffins and Chagford) played for the West Indies in the Commonwealth Games, as well as West Indies A. Kilminster have fielded their own international cricketers in the Dutch father and son pairing of **Rene** and **Jelte Schoonheim**, who guested for several seasons.

The list of County and First Class cricketers who have played for and against Kilminster is even longer. Our local first class county, Somerset, has been a rich source of players playing against Kilminster over the years. Former first class umpire, **John Harris** and **Haydn Sully** (Sidmouth), **Ray Windsor** (Wellington), **Sam Spurway** (Ilminster), **Murray Turner** (Taunton Vale), **Andy Cottam** (Seaton), son of Bob, and **Gary Palmer** (Taunton) are all Somerset players who have played against Kilminster. Gary Palmer, son of England test cricketer Ken, has now forged a fine reputation as a top batting coach, whose clients include England's leading test run scorer, Sir Alistair Cook.

Touring sides are a regular source of top class cricketers. County professionals **Bill Merry** (Norwood Green), **John North** (Arundel), **Archie Sim** and **Bill Bourne** (both Four Counties Nondescript) have all played at Kilminster. Bill Bourne made his mark with very fast bowling and big hitting. This included what John Lavender describes as the biggest six ever seen at Kilminster when he hit Peter Huscroft's bowling so that it was still going up when it went over the bungalow at the Church end of the ground. Peter would not forgive me if I failed to mention that he did get Bill Bourne out in the 90s later in that innings, caught and bowled, although it nearly put a hole in him. Kilminster's 1st XI, in B Division, is probably one league below facing the really top rank players who have graced the

upper echelons of the Devon league like Stuart McGill and Fanie de Villiers. We have still come across **Jamal Anwar** (Cullompton), and rather more alarmingly for the 2nd XI, **Mark Mbofani** (Kentisbeare 2nd XI), who was extremely rapid, with no sightscreens, at Kentisbeare.

Worcestershire provided opponents and players for Kilminster in the form of **Norman Humphries** (Seaton) and **George Chesterton**, father of Colin, who guested for the club and proved to be a very fine bowler well after his first class career had finished. **Andy Clarke**, whose father John had played cricket in Essex with Mike Wallis, played a number of times for Kilminster during his Essex playing career, at a time when he played for his county in a Lords final. I haven't included all the very good club, county 2nd XI and Minor Counties players who have played for and against the club.

Many top class sportsmen are outstanding at sports other than the one that they make their name in. This is illustrated most clearly by the outstanding all-rounder **Norman Borrett**, who guested for Kilminster after World War II and played top class cricket, hockey, squash, tennis and golf.

Football has been a rich source of cross-over with players and managers **Maurice Setters** (Honiton), **Matt Taylor** (Alphington), **Kevin Miller** (Exeter Civil Service), **Jimmy Giles** (Ottery St Mary) and our own **Denis Hutchings** and **Geoff Wake** showing cricketing ability.

From rugby union, **John Scott** (Teignmouth) played number 8 for the 1980 England Grand Slam winning team and later captained his country. **Graham** and **Russell Bess** (Sidmouth) both played rugby for Exeter, and their brother **Greg** was the long time understudy to England international Graham Dawe at Bath. Russell's son Dom plays cricket for Somerset and England, although he will soon be joining God's county, Yorkshire. Sons of famous sporting fathers also feature. **Andrew Robson** (The Boffins), son of Sir Bobby, has been known to travel from Newcastle just to play at Kilminster, and Mike Collier somehow managed to upset a muscular young man named **Downes** (Old Haberdashers), who turned out to be the son of World Middleweight Boxing Champion, Terry Downes! Michael kept the quietest I have ever seen when he saw that our opponent was wearing a 'Terry Downes School of Boxing' t-shirt and we found out who he was in the pub.

People who have made their name in all walks of life love the game and play it to varying ability. Locally, we have come across the former MP **John Denham** (Uplyme & Lyme Regis), who was a member of the Cabinet from 2007-2010, former Somerset County Cricket Club Chief Executive **Peter Anderson** (Seaton) and Spotlight sports presenter **Martyn Dean** (Sidmouth 2nd XI). Of course, our own patron, **Guy Lavender** was the Chief Executive of Somerset County Cricket Club before becoming Chief Executive of the MCC, one of the key administrative roles in the world of cricket.

WHO MIGHT YOU BUMP INTO WHEN YOU PLAY FOR KILMINGTON CRICKET CLUB?

The Boffins touring team have been a particular source of interest with players including **Tony Fairbairn**, who formed the Racing Information Bureau and The Racegoers Club. Tony was a friend of Terry Wogan, who provided 'Wogan's Winners' for Terry's Breakfast Show and they co-authored the book, 'To horse, To horse'. Many Boffins had strong horseracing links including **Claude Duval**, The Punter's Pal, **Chris Poole**, The Racing correspondent for the Evening Standard and the author **Paul Mathieu**. The Boffins most

famous alumnus is probably the author **Sebastian Faulks**, who toured a number of times with his brother **Baron Edward Faulks**, a QC, former Minister of State and Chairman of the Independent Press Standards Organisation.

What I haven't included here is all the people you meet playing cricket who are simply good company, the most important part of any sport.

Martin Huscroft

CENSUS – STAND UP AND BE COUNTED!

By now you should, by law, have completed and returned your census information. Anyone who has done any family history, local history or house research will be familiar with the enumerator's forms and the information they list for each household. Over the years their format has changed; in the past forms were delivered to each house. But, like many official forms, they were sometimes not fully understood or were deliberately completed inaccurately.

For example, did you include any pets on your return? Well it seems our ancestors were pet lovers, so much so that some did include them on their census. James Little - head of the Little family in Dulwich, London, wrote "Incidentally, we have an Airedale Terrier. I do not know whether particulars are required, but in case you want them here they are: Roger is five years old and was born in, Keighley, Yorkshire". He listed Roger's occupation as "a watchdog, employed on own account" and his industry as "looking after house". In the section of the census form dedicated to listing an individual's children, James wrote "? - but something over a 100!"

The Rigby family of Upton Road, Birkenhead included Tom their pet cat. 'Tom Cat' was listed as being an 8-year old, married Mouse-Catcher, Soloist and Thief with 16 children. His birthplace was listed as Cheshire and he was described as being 'speechless' in the infirmity section of the form. The Ladbrook family of 358 Bramford Road, Ipswich also included their cat 'Bobs, the black cat'. He was described as one year old and his birthplace as "a stable in Ipswich". His occupation was listed as 'Nomad' working in the 'Mice Hunting industry, mostly from home'.

The 1911 census also recorded illnesses and infirmities in a column which details descriptions of people's ailments as perceived by the head of the household who, for the most part, would have had no medical knowledge. Consequently plenty of amusing and unusual health conditions were recorded including 'old age', 'bald' and being 'short of cash'. In this age of less politically correct use of language, 'lunatic', 'imbecile' and 'feeble-minded' were all in the top five most common ailments.

John Underwood from Hastings, East Sussex, was clearly having problems at home and described his children as 'quarrelsome', 'stubborn', 'greedy', 'vain' and 'noisy'. He records himself as 'bad-tempered' and his wife as suffering from a 'long tongue'. A father of another 15-year-old girl named Catherine Cudney had "does as she pleases" listed as her occupation.

In 1911 women were still battling for the vote. In protest tens of thousands decided to boycott the census by resisting being counted. Many women hid or attempted to confuse enumerators by travelling to different addresses throughout the night. The Women's Freedom League launched a campaign of passive resistance encouraging women from all over the UK to return their forms 'spoilt'. Their supporters simply filled in forms with slogans such as, "I don't count so I won't be counted".

I wonder what interesting records this year's census will reveal.

Peter



I just wanted to let you know that Hospiscare is holding a Coffee Month this year, taking place in April. Due to the ongoing restrictions, we're not asking friends and family to get together but are hoping that people might still support Hospiscare in new inventive ways, such as:

Hold a virtual Coffee Morning and invite friends and family for a cuppa, a slice and a natter over Zoom.

Delight friends and neighbours with doorstep deliveries.

Grab a take-away coffee with a friend for your daily exercise.

Donate the cost of your normal commute or office coffee.

Restrictions allowing, hold an al fresco socially distanced Coffee Morning.

For more information, please visit:

www.hospiscare.co.uk/support-our-work/fundraise/hospiscare-coffee-morning.

Ali McGeown
01392 688054

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*subject to eligibility

MAD moments in the garden

What a pleasure it is to see signs of spring in the garden. The snowdrops are going over, daffodils and narcissus are providing a splash of bright yellow or, more tasteful to some, various delicate creamy shades and wafting scent.

Whilst weeding a patch in my front garden I removed the not very successful planting of *Euphorbia Robbiae*. It was lovely for the first three years but for the last two years has looked scrappy and very sad. Time to put it out of its misery.

I like groups of one particular plant variety, I think it gives a calmer sense of space to areas of the garden, the alternative being 'noise' of different plants and colours together, although in some areas I like that too. The disadvantage of this block or drift style is, of course, if you don't choose the right plant or want a change, then you are left with a large bare patch. The optimist in me calls that an opportunity! Given minimal spending, or rather no spending, on going out, holidays or clothes of late, I decided on the treat of buying plants to fill the space rather than propagate them slowly over a couple of years. So what to choose? Something that looks good for a couple of seasons, especially when other plants might not be at their best in that area. Something that can be left to its own devices much of the time and that might be a bit different. Looking around, rather than introduce a new variety of plant I decide on *Bergenia*. I already have a few large clumps of *Bergenia*, mostly inherited, although one somewhat superior clump has been created from three plants bought five years ago and propagated to now provide about twenty plants. In trying to identify the variety, I realized that there are some ten different species with seventeen different cultivars of them holding the RHS Award of Garden Merit, so they must be deserving of a better image than they seem to have in general.

One variety that caught my eye was *Bergenia Borodin*, 'another Jim Inchbald cultivar' it says on the website... The

internet makes it very easy to find out more. Jim Inchbald was a very well known (by those in the know) plant collector responsible for the introduction of many garden plants. After an hour reading about his life and wishing I could head off collecting seed in Turkey, I remember the article. He along with his wife were an intrepid pair.

Bergenias are commonly known as Elephants Ears, Pigsqueak or Large Rockfoil. They are part of the *Saxifragaceae* family which also includes *Astilbe*, *Rodgersia* and *Saxifrage* London Pride. They originate from predominantly the Himalayas and Western China. They have spreading rhizomes with tough, leathery, often glossy leaves that have short stems that are broadly oval. Leaves vary, some offering dark red leaves throughout the winter, others dark green leaves that turn red/orange as temperatures drop, providing good Autumn colour. The range of flowers, leaf size, shape and colour depends on the cultivar. Flowers are mostly pink or white and appear often above the foliage in Spring.

Trying to identify the variety I have has proved problematic.

Gardening books, seem to refer somewhat grudgingly to *Bergenia* as a tough, sometimes useful plant for difficult spots, damp praise. What a shame. In my view some cultivars are beautiful foliage plants providing good, interesting ground cover particularly in winter, with the flowers adding colour to the spring garden. They are versatile and certainly worthy of even more space in my garden.

I wonder how many different varieties there are growing in the village gardens? Take a look as you walk around the village enjoying bunting, scarecrows and doing the quiz on 24th and 25th of April.

Mary-Ann Driscoll

KILMINGTON GARDENING CLUB - UPDATE

Despite the problems of Lockdown, some of the Committee have been hard at work with planning Village Open Gardens and our Plant Market. Further details below, together with other pages in Postscript. We hope to announce when talks may resume next month.

Meanwhile our Treasurer, David has announced he wishes to resign from his role. He has been an invaluable Committee member for a number of years. If any reader would like to take on this role and join a friendly Committee, could you please contact me, Gill on 01297 33121.



KILMINGTON GARDENING CLUB PLANT MARKET - 1st MAY 2021

Kilmington Gardening Club will again be able to supply the village club members with bedding plants and some vegetable plants, despite the lock-down restrictions not allowing the usual village hall event.

As with last year's arrangements, members of KGC will receive an email which will include the list of available plants and will be able to place their orders online. For members unable to receive emails, please contact either Bev Perkins on 01297 631801 or Jane Chalk on 01297 33063.

We will then supply a copy of the list or take your order over the phone.

Orders must be in by Friday, 9th April please. A collection time from the village hall car park will be arranged. In the event that there are plants remaining, they will be available to purchase the first week of May, from outside Combe in George Lane.

Gill Gibbs(Chair) and Committe

A CONTRIBUTION TO TRIANGULATION – SHUTE HILL

March's Postscript provided some commentary on our local benchmarks which were used for surveying to reference height above sea level and a topical connection to the pandemics of the past. However, the history of precision map-making in Britain had much earlier and significant beginnings. Local geography, of course, played its own small part, a later legacy of which you may have walked past perhaps without even noticing.

It is often said that great things are born out of necessity and warfare.

It was against a backdrop of the threat of the Jacobite uprisings in the mid-eighteenth century and then of later French invasion, that the Board of Ordnance (the forerunner to the Ordnance Survey) was instructed to undertake a high-precision mapping survey of Britain, commencing with Scotland and the south coast of England where the risks were perceived as greatest. The threat of invasion, apparently, focussed powerful minds of the government; after all, fighting armies must understand the terrain they would be fighting in to gain advantage. This was an undertaking which would take decades.

And so, between perhaps 1784 and 1853, the Principal Triangulation of Great Britain was carried out. The object of this undertaking was to construct a precise and accurate network of large triangles, supported by a smaller secondary network, over the entire landscape which would form the skeleton to the detailed map-making which would follow. The process commenced by precisely and painstakingly measuring a baseline by means of continually placing glass 'rods' and iron 'chains' end-to-end over the countryside for over 5 miles! This process was repeated many times and the results corrected for inaccuracies due to temperature, changes in height and other reasons.

The intersecting angles of this web of triangles were also measured with the same level of rigour at what are known as 'triangulation points', usually sited on hilltops but also other prominent positions such as church towers and steeples. Surveyors carried and hoisted a precision instrument (the great Ramsden theodolite), sometimes to impossibly difficult and remote locations, to make these measurements; no small feat when the huge instrument weighed considerably more than the average man. These measurements were often made at night by candlelight to avoid distortions caused by the heat and light of the sun. The rest, of course, was all down to Pythagoras and trigonometry in a time well before computer-aided calculation!

Lt Col William Mudge, who led some of the early operations, recorded before 1811 that local points were at Musbury, Axminster, Widworthy and Shute Hill. The Ordnance Survey map of 1889 suggests that the original Shute Hill point existed near to the track at Sir William's Plantation at a height of 567 feet. It seems possible that this point may



*'Original Trig Point' -
Extract from 1889 OS map*



*'More Recent Trig Point' -
Extract from 1958 OS map*

even still exist, buried and protected somewhere beneath the ground.

The 'trig points' which we recognise today are much more accessible, visible and permanent, most often constructed as a concrete or stone pillar with a brass 'spider' set into the top to receive the surveyor's theodolite. These were installed following the government's much later

decision to 'retriangulate' the country for better accuracy in 1935.

This was another immense task which continued until 1962 and led to the metric Ordnance Survey National Grid reference system with which we are all familiar today. The 1958 OS maps record the existence of the replacement point, also on Shute Hill, between Ashes Road and 'The Beacon'.

No longer painted white (as often they were), it is now covered in moss and surrounded by a mature plantation, making its discovery perhaps a little unexpected despite the muddy track which passes directly alongside. Otherwise, this important legacy from our cartographic past sits alone and unloved, except perhaps by the 'trig baggers' who blog of their successes in 'collecting' as many of these 'trigs' as they can.

Our trig point, with its own benchmark (537.09ft), would once have been one of the 6500 (or so) similar points which were distributed across the country, generally on hilltops where visibility to other, long distant, vantage points could be achieved. Like an iceberg, often much more of the pillar lies buried beneath the surface than protrudes above to ensure permanence and protection against damage of other survey markers buried below.

The closest 'modern' trig point to Shute Hill is at Widworthy Hill near Wilmington; a straight line drawn between these points would have formed one side of a 'triangle'. The Shute Hill trig point is now rendered effectively obsolete by advances in digital satellite mapping if not by a curtain of trees which completely obscures it even on the clearest of days.



So, next time you are out for a walk in Shute Woods, maybe take a moment to find our own triangulation pillar (trig point) and imagine the effort to which our predecessors went to ensure that we precisely understood the lay of the land which it might be necessary to defend.

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KILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Coronavirus Neighbourhood Support Group

We hope you are keeping well despite the news that this new variant of Coronavirus is spreading more easily. It is at least heartening to learn that vaccinations are already well underway in the village. There is light at the end of the tunnel.

Following the Government announcement of the latest 'Lockdown' we are continuing to run the volunteer help system that has worked so well to date, thanks to the excellent community spirit we enjoy in the village. We will update this support as and when we need. Please follow the guidelines below. Then, if you need further help, contact one of our team.

Volunteer Helpers: If you were offering help to 'vulnerable residents' previously, we assume you will kindly continue, unless you tell us otherwise. Please make contact to those you were assisting to reassure them of your continued help. If you are now unable to provide assistance, please let Peter Ball know who you were helping and we will arrange alternative support.

Vulnerable Residents: If you were receiving help from a volunteer neighbour previously and now need help, please contact them again to ask if they can assist you during this new 'Lockdown'. If they are unable to help, please contact Peter Ball and he will arrange for another volunteer to call and assist you. If you did not need help previously but do now require some assistance, contact Peter.

Axminster Medical Practice: Residents have been collecting their own prescription medicines for some time now. However, if you are within the 'vulnerable' category and do not now wish to visit the practice, please contact Sally.

Parish Council Support for Kilmington residents is available from:

Peter Ball: pball@kilmingtonvillage.com 07747 636810

Stafford Seward: sseward@kilmingtonvillage.com
07799 612557

Sally Huscroft: shuscroft@kilmingtonvillage.com
01297 32243

As always, official information can be found at:

Kilmington Village Website has local and Parish Council information and links to National Government and Devon Council sites.

Kilmington Council Notice Boards display Parish information.

The Kilmington Now Facebook site also publishes some important updates from Kilmington Parish Council.

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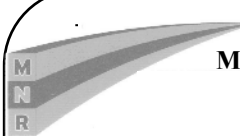
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DATES FOR APRIL 2021

Fri	2nd			Good Friday
Sun	4th	11.00 am	Stockland or Dalwood Church	Easter Sunday
Tue	6th	Early	Your House	Recycling
Sun	11th	11.00 am	St Giles' Church	Morning Worship led by Anna Crabbe
Mon	12th	Early	Your House	Landfill with recycling
Tue	13th	Early	Your House	Garden Waste Collection
Sun	18th	11.00 am	Stockland Church	Holy Communion with Archdeacon Andrew Beane
Sat	24th	1.30 - 5.00 pm	Gardens around the village	Open Gardens (<i>see page 6 for information</i>)
Sun	25th	11.00 am	Yarcombe Church	Morning Worship led by Gill Heighway
	25th	1.30 - 5.00 pm	Gardens around the village	Open Gardens (<i>see page 6 for information</i>)
Tues	27th	Early	Your House	Garden Waste Collection

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DIRECTIONS FOR FINDING Vicky Larcombe's house. Vicky is treasurer for Postscript.

From Whitford Road turn left and walk up The Street, passing Koppers, Kushi 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.

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Bridge - David & Stephanie	01297 35033	Kilminster Pre-School - Now part of primary school	01297 32762	Sunday School - Christine Thorne	07795 552675
Country Dancing - Gill Perkins - Marie Thorne	01297 32888 01297 33906	Kilminster Primary School	01297 32762	Table Tennis - Jenny Nickolls	01297 639758
Cricket - David Lavender	01297 631868	Millers Farm Shop	01297 35290	Tennis - Sue Moore Sue Wells	01297 32361 07912 272102
Footpath co-ordinator - Elaine Penzer	01297 34287	Moviola - John Watts	01297 639758	Village Hall bookings - Louise Quincey	01297 32358
Hitchcock Pavilion bookings - Peter Huscroft	01297 32243	The New Inn	01297 33376	Village 100+ Club - Jean Falconer	01297 33708
Kilminster A35 Pit Stop	01297 598060	The Old Inn	01297 32096	www.kilminstervillage.com - Luke & Maxine Lawson	07719 909532
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KGC - Jean Falconer, Secretary	01297 33708	Scrabble - Sylvia Newbery	01297 34326		

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SERVICES AND FACILITIES

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COMING AND GOING FOR A SONG: There is no charge for these entries for items valued up to £20 or less. However, donations are appreciated - these can be popped through Vicky Larcombe's door (please see directions on page 22).



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April 24th and 25th

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Organised by Kilmingington Gardening Club