

KILMINGTON

# POSTscript

Issue 242 April 2022

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## EDITORIAL

Simon Armitage, poet laureate, recently published 'Resistance', prompted by the continuous and instant news coverage we are all seeing, 'platforms and trains, toddlers passed over heads and shoulders, lifetimes stowed in luggage racks', as devastation and disruption displace a huge section of Ukraine's population. The effects of such displacement are long lasting. In 1959, years after the 1945 westward trek from Eastern Europe with millions fleeing from Russian occupation, I remember seeing public notice boards in (West) Germany, covered in small handwritten cards and scraps of paper with details and photographs of relatives who had disappeared amid the chaos and the crowds. In the faint hope that they might one day be reunited, their families were still asking whether anybody knew or had seen them. The people of Poland and its neighbours remember that trek too and have responded with immediate generosity to these new refugees. There is a strong urge to help in Europe and the UK, with contributions to charities' emergency efforts and thousands of offers of hospitality.

While everything is overshadowed by constant awareness of the progress of war in Ukraine, here in Kilmington life continues to pick up after two years of pandemic. The RBL is preparing to commemorate the unveiling of the War Memorial and the programme of events has appeared for the four-day holiday celebrating the Royal Platinum Jubilee in June. This month's Postscript shows a fairly 'normal' mixture of items: a report of a litter pick, reminders about the KGC plant market in May and the Cricket Club's arrangements for coaching their young 'Dynamos', inviting new members to join them. The April film for the Community Cinema is 'West Side Story' (with limited seating and Covid precautions at the matinee). We print the annual Financial Statement with thanks to our treasurer. The bell tower is explored. Our March cover pictured the work in progress on the Common and Judith Simpson has sent an update on what has been achieved. We are also alerted to the presence and needs of the hedgehog population, as well as many other small mammals at this time of year. If you were wondering about the Openreach personnel in hi-vis jackets lifting covers and inspecting manholes, you can read what they were doing here. A little further afield, Peter Guy plans to take part in the Great North Run in September and is seeking sponsors. Much further afield, 'MAD Moments in the Garden' this month comes from Australia.

In 1940 Roy Allen was uprooted from home and family in London, evacuated like many other children to be safe from the bombing, and adapting to living in Kilmington. You can read about him in 'One Evacuee's Experience'.

Janfryd

Front Page - Marie Gardner

Centre Pages - Barry Wood and Marie Gardner

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO POSTSCRIPT

Please remember to use the email address for Postscript:

**postscript@kilmingtonvillage.com**

*Alternatively, please give your item to any team member.*

***The closing date for submitting items for the May issue is 15<sup>th</sup> April 2022. All 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 Kilmington. 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 March came to £24.80. 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.kilmingtonvillage.com](http://www.kilmingtonvillage.com). In addition, earlier issues will also appear online from time to time.

# NATURE NOTES

## THE RETURN OF THE MAMMALS

We're all aware of the call for re-introductions of former UK animals to the countryside. The beaver is particularly a local animal to East Devon and appears present in the Upper Catchment of the Axe/Yarty, not far away to the North of Kilminster, as well as of course, thriving on the Otter to the West. Some residents remember seeing otters along the brook a few years back. Today people are slightly edgy that badgers are out and about on the streets of the village at night and our struggling hedgehogs will be at risk. Interestingly, a book that details the demise of various mammals in the UK from past persecution shows figures from Parish records in Kilminster over a period of some 300 years from 1550-1850. Only three animals were killed for bounty - one badger, one polecat and one bird, the bullfinch. (The policy of virtual extermination of such animals as the polecat and the wildcat, carried out on big shooting estates in the 1800s, obviously didn't happen here.)

We have moles, field voles and the common shrew on our allotment and, surprisingly, house mice. The mice and the voles do the most damage – enjoying potatoes, particularly when there's not much surface water about, and our strawberries – that's if we let them!

In our garden at the crossroads, the hedgehog, like ourselves, leads a precarious life, especially when crossing 'the road'. Their presence is only apparent when squished by a 30 ton

lorry moving at 50 miles an hour along the A35.

In our house this winter it's the turn of wood mice to come in for shelter and the hope of food, entering through small gaps between walls. We are prejudiced - they are so much more beautiful than house mice. On our land at Farway we have night videos of them leaping three feet in the air from a stationary position! (And in our former home in Wiltshire we had the very large, and even more stunning, yellow-necked wood-mice. One used to climb on our feeders for photographs to get at the peanuts!)

Now is a good time to see small mammals, or the evidence of them whilst food is scarce after winter. Whether you like them or not they will always be a presence and we are at a time when ones we are less familiar with will start to return.

I'm keen to know what mammals, small or large, you may be aware of close to where you live or walk?

(Later in the year we may have a better understanding of the different bats that are present in the village and the countryside around. Surprisingly, many bats are present on warm nights crossing the A35 late in the evening, flying above the Old Inn.)

David Simpson

01297 32694

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## KILMINGTON'S HEDGEHOGS

Hedgehogs will now be very active in your garden, although not many hibernated this year due to the mild winter.

The Hedgehog Hut Rescue has had one of its busiest winters with over 40 hogs being nursed and cared for by our group of helpers. The majority are now healthy and have been released.

The female hogs are now looking for nesting sites and you can help by either putting in a hedgehog box somewhere quiet and behind a bush in the garden or you can leave an area to grow over, also adding a few logs and leaves; this will enable them to make their own nest.

If you leave out a bowl of dry cat food and fresh water (not mealy worms as this causes bone disease) you may be lucky enough to see a visiting hog any time after dusk. As we have a large population in the village it won't take long for them to find the food.

Can I ask two favours: please when you need to trim could you check the area thoroughly first, hedgehogs will not move away from the noise, instead they will ball up and this can lead to some horrendous strimmer injuries and often death. Also, please can you not use slug pellets. I know as a gardener how frustrating it is to have your plants and vegetables eaten. I use a combination of beer traps and picking up the slugs and putting them into the green bin. Hogs will often eat the poisoned slugs, in adults it causes serious illness, but it kills the young hogs as their system can't fight the poison.

As the longer spring and summer evenings approach, I for one can't wait for when I can sit quietly in my garden and watch the comings and goings of our little spiky friends.

Lesley



*Photo taken by Graham Harding*





## KILMINGTON COMMUNITY CINEMA

### WEST SIDE STORY (12A) 2021

**Kilminster Village Hall**

**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> April  
& Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> Matinee**



Steven Spielberg's West Side Story 2.0 is an ecstatic act of ancestor-worship: a vividly dreamed, cunningly modified and visually staggering revival. No one but Spielberg could have brought it off, creating a movie in which Leonard Bernstein's score and Stephen Sondheim's lyrics blaze out with fierce new clarity. Spielberg retains Maria's narcissistic I Feel Pretty, transplanted from the bridal workshop to a fancy department store where she's working as a cleaner. This was the number whose Cowardian skittishness Sondheim himself had second thoughts about. But its confection is entirely palatable.

Spielberg has worked with screenwriter Tony Kushner to change the original book by Arthur Laurents, tilting the emphases and giving new stretches of un-subtitled Spanish dialogue and keeping much of the visual idiom of Jerome Robbins's stylised choreography

Wednesday Doors open at 6.45 pm with the evening's entertainment starting at 7.15 pm and ending about 9.30 pm.

The Thursday matinee will have limited seating and does require pre-booking. For these performances we ask that masks are worn until you are seated, and refreshments will be brought to you. We hope this will encourage those who need to take extra health care to feel confident that they can come along and enjoy a film and have a cream tea/ice creams/tea/coffee, during the interval. The cream tea must be booked when booking the seat at a cost of £3. The doors open at 2.00 pm, the film commences 2.15 pm and ends about 4.30 pm.

Please state Wednesday or Thursday when booking. Tickets pre-booked £5 or £5.50 on door.

Children under 12 accompanied by an adult £3.

To book please contact: Alun Evans on 01297 553585, leave contact details and booking will be confirmed, or email: [alun.evans49@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alun.evans49@yahoo.co.uk)

See <http://www.kilminstervillage.com/moviola.html> for more information.

## KILMINGTON PLAYERS QUIZ EVENING

Twelve teams put their thinking caps firmly on at our recent hotly contested quiz evening! Questions to test the grey matter included teasing anagrams, the world of entertainment, music clips and, just to keep everyone on their toes, our quick fire rounds. These proved very popular, with a chance to grab extra team points and some chocolate in exchange for the quickest answer!

We had also planned to bring a surprise stage performance during the interval which a group of players had rehearsed during January/February. Sadly Covid put paid to those plans by laying two of our group low just at the wrong



time, (thankfully both are well again now). Watch this space as we do plan to bring this short performance to a future village event! As someone once said... "it is oven-ready!"

In the light of recent events in Ukraine, Kilminster Players decided that any money we raised at the evening would be donated to help the Ukrainian people. We are delighted to announce that we were able to donate £474.00 to the DEC.

Our thanks go to each and every one of you for your generosity and to all our players, helpers and supporters for generously donating everything for the evening. Thank you.

Louise Quincey

# WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

## KILMINGTON SKY AT NIGHT

There's plenty to see this month but much is in the early hours, or just before dawn. Mars and Venus are visible all month. In early April Saturn starts to appear in the east just before dawn. Jupiter joins the dawn show in the east late in the month. There are also Lyrid meteors mid-month to enjoy, but wrap up warm.

**April 4<sup>th</sup> Pleiades star cluster and Hyades star cluster.** Use the waxing crescent moon to find the Pleiades Seven Sisters to the right and 'V' shape Hyades to the left. An interesting group together.

**5<sup>th</sup> Saturn and Mars** appear close together in the south-east sky this morning before dawn. Note the colour contrast between yellow-white Saturn and orangish Mars.

**16<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> The Lyrids Meteor shower** occurs at the same time each year. These meteors travel at approximately 107,000 mph and explode about 55 miles above the Earth's atmosphere. At peak you can usually see up to 18 meteors per hour. Nicknamed 'Lyrid fireballs', they cast shadows for a split second before leaving smoky debris trails that can linger behind for minutes. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight.

**22<sup>nd</sup> / 23<sup>rd</sup> The Lyrids peak activity**, the shower is likely to produce its best displays after midnight until shortly



before dawn, when its radiant point is highest.

**24<sup>th</sup> Saturn and the moon** appear close together; the pair will be visible rising in the dawn sky above the south-eastern horizon before fading from view as dawn breaks around 05:38.

**25<sup>th</sup> Mars and the moon** appear close together in the dawn sky just above the south-eastern horizon before fading from view as dawn breaks around 05:36. But as they are very low they may be difficult to see,

**27<sup>th</sup> Moon, Venus and Jupiter** appear together in the dawn twilight in the east south-east. The three brightest objects in the night time sky will be visible as a waning crescent moon slides below Jupiter and Venus.

**30<sup>th</sup> Venus and Jupiter** appear close above the east south-east horizon; Jupiter is on the left, Venus on the right.

**30<sup>th</sup> A Black Moon.** A second new moon in the month is called a Black Moon. There are several different definitions of a Black Moon, but two new moons within the month is the most common, they occur about once every 29 months.

Peter

## KILMINGTON VILLAGE HALL



The Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 pm. Members of the village community are invited to join Representatives of Regular User Groups and the Hall Management Committee in the Village Hall.

Judith Chapman

## KILMINGTON GARDENING CLUB

April's Gardening Club talk is on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm and is titled 'Water, Water Everywhere' by Becca Flintham.

A passionate environmentalist who has worked with Wildwood Escot, Wildlife Trust and RSPB, Becca will make clear the importance of water in your garden, whether a pond or bog, and how to be water wise. All welcome. Non-members £3.

Lesley Rew

## FIVE ALIVE OIL SYNDICATE

The April order deadline date is Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> April at 12.00 noon.

As usual I invite orders of either specific amounts or if ordering a top up or a full tank, then please furnish me with a pretty accurate estimate (nearest 100 litres) of the quantity that you require with a minimum order of 500 litres.

Colin Stewart  
01297 792538

cogstewartcs@gmail.com  
cogstewart@aol.com

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Parish Council meeting is on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

## MOBILE LIBRARY

Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 11.20 - 11.50 am The Street

## MOLES DIG IN BROADBAND CABLES

Moles are mainly known for their destructive reputation of wrecking lawns with their exceptional tunnelling abilities. Recently however, trained moles are now being more constructive, helping to build the infrastructure for our future high-tech communications network.

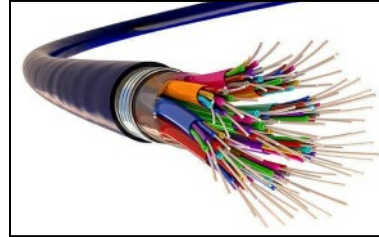
With the need to run fibre optic cables underground, their talents have been harnessed – literally. As the moles dig their tunnels the sturdy little mammals use a body harness to pull through a lightweight nylon fishing line. When they emerge from the ground, technicians use this nylon line to draw a stronger heavier line through. Finally, the optical fibre cable can then be attached and easily pulled through, providing a very cost effective routing solution with minimal mess and disruption. There is also no danger of disturbing or breaking previously installed underground electrical, water or sewage pipes, which sometimes happens when using mechanical diggers. Direct optical cables will provide greater capacity and faster download speeds, but it does mean tunnelling under the garden. Hopefully, using moles will mean the flower beds and shrubs are not disturbed.



*A Fully Trained Tunnel Mole*



*Straight Direct Tunnels*



*Fibre-Optic-Cable*

Moles have very poor eyesight but acute senses of hearing and touch. They are trained from birth to search through the soil for high frequency vibrations with a reward of food - earthworms. A vibrating metal probe is pushed down about a metre into the ground at the end point to act as the target. A small hole of similar depth is dug at the start point and the mole is then released into it, attached to the nylon. They can be left to dig unsupervised and usually head off in pretty much a straight line. They surface when they reach the probe searching out the tasty worms.

“In today’s technology driven world it is really heartening to be able to provide such an environmentally friendly

solution direct from Mother Nature. And as moles can live up to six years, the investment in training is well worthwhile” said Head of Commercial Excavation at Burrow-in-Furness University, Professor Diggins. “We are planning on starting fully commercial operations at the very beginning of April this year”.

Peter

## SILVER JUBILEE COINS FOR KILMINGTON CHILDREN

Kilmington Parish Council will present each child in the parish with a Royal Mint Brilliant Uncirculated £5 Coin celebrating the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty The Queen. The coin and commemorative certificate will form part of the Village Jubilee celebrations in June. To qualify children must be under 18 years old on June 4<sup>th</sup> 2022 and be resident in the village.

If you would like your child/children to receive a coin, please register by email at: [jubilee@kilmingtonvillage.com](mailto:jubilee@kilmingtonvillage.com) and include the following details:

Parent/guardian name and telephone number

Child/children’s Christian name and surname

The child’s date of birth

The child’s residential address in Kilmington Parish.

This information will be stored securely by Kilmington Parish Council, will not be passed on and will be deleted after the Jubilee Celebrations.





Rev Julie Lomas  
St Giles' Church  
Kilminster  
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revjulielomas@gmail.com



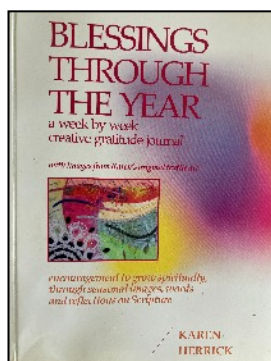
Pastor Mike Hudson  
KBC Church Office  
Kilminster  
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mike@beaconbaptist.co.uk

## Letter from the Churches

For Christmas (remember that?) I was given a book called "Blessings through the year – a week by week creative gratitude journal." I was delighted, especially when I realised it had been written and published by a very dear friend. I was very excited to see her work in print. I had every intention of faithfully filling it in each week as a record of the blessings of 2022.

Sadly, my good intentions did not come to anything, but I have kept the book in a prominent place so that I am reminded on a regular basis of the blessings in my life, and to create an attitude of gratitude.

Given everything that is happening in the world at the moment, remaining grateful for the small things can be a challenge. At all sorts of levels, the world seems to be going mad – environmentally, politically, socially, financially. The evidence that is on our TV screens is that things are in a bad way and are going to get worse. Against this backdrop, it can be hard to lift up our heads and be thankful, yet this is the



message of the Christian faith especially as we approach the major festival of Easter.

Jesus, the story goes, completed his mission to bring the love of God to every man, woman and child, and to the very earth we call home. People were deeply grateful for the way he brought healing and wholeness to so many, and for his teachings which are still relevant and prominent today, but all of these blessings were not enough. That his mission included being betrayed, abandoned, humiliated, tortured and then executed by death on a cross is hardly anything to be grateful for, and yet this is the message of Good Friday. In our anticipation of Easter Sunday, the day of resurrection and all things made new, we are reminded each year to take time on Good Friday to say thank you to God for his saving act in the person of Jesus, who died, was buried and rose again so that we might be free from sin and the fear of death, and enjoy the blessing of life made new for ever and ever.

May the blessings of hope and joy be yours this Easter.

Rev Julie Lomas

## ST GILES' CHURCH ECO SECTION

Two Bird Boxes have now been installed on Church Grounds – thank-you Steve for your help in putting them in place and thank-you John Thorne for your kind donation of these boxes. Let's pray that it is not too long before they become a home for our feathered friends. Bat Boxes, Bug Houses and Hedgehog Houses will follow in time.

It has been decided, with the help of FROGS (Friends of St Giles' Church) that part of the Church Grounds is to be put aside for the growing of Wildflowers. This may take time (possibly some years) to successfully happen. We will keep you informed of our progress. We understand that it is not as easy as just distributing wild seed.

Christopher Thorne

## EASTER JOY

Poem by Joanna Fuchs

Jesus came to earth,  
To show us how to live,  
How to put others first,  
How to love and how to give.

Then He set about His work,  
That God sent Him to do;  
He took our punishment on Himself;  
He made us clean and new.

He could have saved Himself,  
Calling angels from above,  
But He chose to pay our price for sin;  
He paid it out of love.

Our Lord died on Good Friday,  
But the cross did not destroy  
His resurrection on Easter morn  
That fills our hearts with joy.

Now we know our earthly death,  
Like His, is just a rest.  
We'll be forever with Him  
In heaven, where life is best.

So we live our lives for Jesus,  
Think of Him in all we do.  
Thank you Saviour; Thank you Lord.  
Help us love like you!

## ST. GILES' CHURCH LENT LUNCHESES

For at least twenty-two years St Giles' Church has provided Lent Lunches. During the period of Lent a simple meal of soup, bread and cheese has been available to enable people to get together and to raise money for a good cause. Over the years many charities have benefited from this. In 2016 it



only been possible by the generous work of many volunteers.

If you haven't joined in yet – there is still time! You can come for lunch on Thursdays, until 14<sup>th</sup> April, at noon in the cricket pavilion or order soup and a roll to be delivered. The pavilion meal costs £5 and all



was decided to have homemade soup and many delicious soups have followed. During the pandemic when gatherings were not allowed, volunteers distributed soup and a roll, providing a welcome contact for all stuck at home, especially for the housebound. This has continued this year, along with Lent Lunches in the cricket pavilion. All this has



proceeds this year are for Shelter Box, who have responded immediately in sending aid to Ukraine, and Refugee Relief in that war torn region. St Giles'

has already sent £500 to Shelter Box for this purpose.

Many, many thanks to all those working so hard this year.

Ann Marsh

### Celebrate Together at Eastertide



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY

Saturday  
9<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
St Giles' Church  
Kilmington  
EX13 7RF  
At 3.00 pm

### Theme "Easter Praise"

Invites you to a special Service for all, especially for people with learning difficulties, their support workers, families and friends, with Tea after!

Please note that there is ample parking and level access.

For further information ring  
Diana Mellows 01297 32334

## Easter Sunrise Service

At Shute Beacon

@ 6:45 AM

Easter Day

He is risen!

Followed by breakfast  
at the Vicarage  
RSVP: Rev Julie on 01297 35004



# GOING GREENER

## From April to April: A Year of Small Steps

Walking . . . a journey of small steps to become more environmental in our daily lives

Welcoming . . . seeking new ways of living out our faith through everyday choices

Growing . . . growing our awareness of God's creation and how we can take steps to protect it.

### Small Steps

The ecological crisis is growing. The climate emergency is an opportunity to demonstrate courageous advocacy and to show our love for our neighbours in the global south who are already suffering the effects of climate change. It is an opportunity to show our care for God's creation, to reach out and connect with others in society and to show that change is possible, working together, little by little. Each month we will publish the ideas for actions you can take, focusing on a

different aspect of the environment, with one suggested lifestyle change to consider each week. It begins in April, the month of hope!

### April – Reduce Waste

Week 1 Put a reusable shopping bag or 'bag for life' in the inner pocket of every handbag/rucksack/coat/jacket that you use, so that you're never caught out without one.

Week 2 Buy loose fruit and vegetables (take your own bags) instead of pre-packaged.

Week 3 Invest in a reusable coffee cup or water bottle and make a habit of carrying it everywhere you go.

Week 4 Visit a market or 'zero waste' shop and take your own packaging.

## KILMINGTON POSTSCRIPT

Income and Expenditure Account  
Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

	£ 2021	£ 2020
<b>Receipts</b>		
Post Boxes	45	40
Individuals	250	271
Council Contribution	250	250
Interest	0	1
Advertising	2936	3291
<b>Total</b>	<b>3481</b>	<b>3853</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Printing	3490	2820
Stationery and Sundries		
Sundry Expenses		0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3490</b>	<b>2820</b>
Excess Expenditure over income	-9	1033
Bank Balance 1 January 2021	3244	2211
Increase/Decrease in Year	-9	1033
Bank Balance 31 December 2021	<b>3235</b>	<b>3244</b>
Bank Balances 31 December 2021		
Current Account	2187	2196
Reserve Account	1048	1048
	<b>3235</b>	<b>3244</b>

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

07 March 2022

Mrs V Larcombe, Treasurer

## SUDOKU CHALLENGE

Level: Easy

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 22.

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

## RBL SPRING COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY, 2<sup>nd</sup> APRIL CENTENARY RE-DEDICATION OF KILMINGTON WAR MEMORIAL SUNDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> MAY.

We hope this finds you all well and emerging from the 'winter blues'. In this edition we would like to remind you all of our forthcoming events, but especially our Spring Coffee Morning at 10.00 am on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April at Kilmington Village Hall. As normal, there will be much to encourage you to spend your hard-earned money, not least, cakes, sweets, raffle, books and much more. Entrance includes tea or coffee and provides the ideal time to catch up with friends and family; we look forward to seeing you all, so look out for the posters! In addition, we would also like to remind you about our Centennial event. At 3.00 pm on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> May there will be a short service of remembrance, including an act of re-dedication at the War Memorial, marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the unveiling of the War Memorial. On completion everyone is invited to join us in the Village Hall for refreshments, where there will be a display highlighting the involvement of Kilmington residents in both Wars and an opportunity to obtain Dr David Ingles' latest book including the events of WW2, which has been sponsored by Kilmington RBL.

Since our last update we have held our second 'face to face' committee meeting and are pleased to announce and welcome Peter Squire as our newest committee member. Preparations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee continue and when confirmed will be issued separately. Please see below for an overview of our forthcoming events:

Sat	2 <sup>nd</sup>	April	Spring Coffee Morning
Sun	8 <sup>th</sup>	May	100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the unveiling of Kilmington War Memorial
Thu	2 <sup>nd</sup>	- 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Queen's Platinum Jubilee
Tue	14 <sup>th</sup>	June	40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the Falklands War
Sat	2 <sup>nd</sup>	July	Annual Family Barbecue
Thur	27 <sup>th</sup>	October	Commence Poppy Appeal
Fri	11 <sup>th</sup>	November	Armistice Day
Sun	13 <sup>th</sup>	November	Remembrance Sunday
Sat	3 <sup>rd</sup>	December	Christmas Extravaganza

No blurb about joining us this month, simply:



Please take great care and stay safe.

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



**Kilmington Royal British Legion**

*Spring  
Coffee Morning*

Plants, Cards & Gifts, Books  
Cakes & Raffle

**Saturday 2nd April**  
**Kilmington Village Hall**  
**10.00am to 12.00pm**  
Entrance & Tea/Coffee £1.50







# ONE EVACUEE'S EXPERIENCE OF KILMINGTON

## 'A Chilly Night in 1940'

Readers of *Postscript* might recall that a few years ago the editor made a request for anecdotes and stories from readers about experiences of World War Two evacuees in Kilmington.

Well, it's obviously not my own story, but I did stumble across this account in the archived local newspapers. Fortunately, it also comes with a happy ending and I'm sure readers will find it interesting. A point of particular interest is perhaps how readers of today, more than eighty years later, might judge the event - through today's eyes.

In 1940, The *Western Morning News* published an article with the headline 'Lost in Black-Out'.

The article reported that wartime evacuee, Roy Allen (formerly of London), had been billeted at Stanley Bakery (now Stanley House) on The Street and had been missing in the 'blackout' for eleven hours. Those of us living in Kilmington today know just how dark it can be at night without streetlights, but in 'blackout' conditions visibility must have been very difficult indeed.

At the time, Stanley Bakery was also home to bakers Mr and Mrs George Rowe. When Roy failed to return home one evening after playing outside, the anxious Mrs Rowe contacted friends, villagers and then the police to form search parties to look for him. Twenty men and women searched the village in vain until one o'clock in the morning at which point the search was called off.

As I said, this story has a happy ending and little Roy was eventually found safe and well, but not until after three o'clock in the morning when Mr Rowe finished his shift at the bakery and decided to conduct a further search by himself. Roy was found fast asleep on a seat near to the Old Forge at the bottom of Shute Road. The boy was apparently not at all perturbed by his experience and had planned to walk home in the morning when it became light. He was obviously made of stern stuff!

The newspaper publications also reported, in their various accounts and without a hint of irony, surprise or admonishment, that when Roy disappeared, he was just six-years old. He had returned from school shortly after four o'clock in the afternoon and asked if he could go outside to

play. However, it was not until after ten-thirty that night that Mrs Rowe became anxious enough about the boy's whereabouts to call a search for him.

Perhaps even more surprising was that his adventure took place on the night of 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> January 1940. It is just possible that some of our most senior readers may remember how bitterly cold January 1940 was. Weather records confirm that it was the coldest month since the great freeze of 1895 and the second coldest for the entire 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Thames had frozen over for an eight mile stretch and just a few days earlier Wales recorded temperatures of minus twenty-three degrees centigrade. By 27<sup>th</sup> January, much of England was already blanketed in deep snow and a terrible glazed frost then began to cover the south. The ice was so thick that it caused telegraph poles to collapse. It was famously known as the '1940 ice storm'. Whilst it seems perhaps understandable that little Roy might have wanted to go out and play, it remains quite unclear why Mrs Rowe allowed him to do so!

I do hope he wore his hat, coat, and scarf. If he had them.

Notably, the newspapers made no mention whatsoever of the extraordinary weather events in the articles. It seems most probable that the wartime newspapers had been prevented from commenting upon the severe weather for fear of providing strategic information to the Germans. The information was considered 'top secret' by the government, although in this case the terrible icy conditions also persisted across Europe and much of the northern hemisphere. It was not until the following week that the newspapers announced that the censorship on the weather reporting for January had been lifted.

It is perhaps also indicative of the times that Mr Rowe felt it necessary to finish his shift baking bread for the village before he felt able to assist in the search for his charge. Perhaps it was just as well that he did. I also find it surprising, by today's standards, that the organised search was also called off after just two hours or so. Roy was after all only six years old and it was a very cold night!

Alan Clarkson

## VILLAGE HALL '100+' CLUB

### The winners of the draw held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022

C Thorne	£30	J Wood	£5
A Marsh	£15	M Dare	£5
J Mellows	£15	G Gibbs	£5

For further details, please contact  
Jean Falconer - 01297 33708

## THE GREAT NORTH RUN 2022

I am running the Great North Run in Newcastle on 11<sup>th</sup> September (13.1 miles). You may have seen me huffing and puffing around the village in training. This will be the third time I have done this particular run (the last time was in 2000)!!

I will be running for the charity 'Children with Cancer' and all donations would be very welcome. I have set up an online page to donate:

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Peter-Guy2](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Peter-Guy2)

Thank you very much in advance.

Peter Guy

## VILLAGE OPEN GARDENS

It's time again, let's open the gates, pull up a few weeds and share our beautiful gardens as part of the Jubilee weekend festivities.

**Dates: Saturday and Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> June from 2.00 – 5.00 pm**

It would be lovely to have all sorts of different gardens for people to enjoy. Some might have red white and blue

themes, others not, some will be tidy, others more on the wild side. Anything goes, it's just a chance to chat and see how others use their space.

Please email: either Mary-Anne (madriscoll10@gmail.com) or Jane Chalk (chalky12@googlemail.com)

## GARDEN SHARING – YOU SUPPLY THE LAND, OTHERS GROW THE VEG!

The demand for allotments is still greater than supply; so we have a number of keen gardeners looking for space to grow some veg. If you have a garden that you're struggling to manage, or you have some spare unused area, let us know.

Perhaps we can bring the two of you together to do a deal to benefit you both. Around the country there are now many successful garden share schemes operating. Perhaps we can do the same in Kilmington.

Kilmington Parish Council

## KILMINGTON LITTER PICK

On Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am, our first Litter Pick took place, starting and finishing at St Giles' Church.

On a very wet and windy day we were surprised and very pleased to see in excess of twenty turn up with a number of youngsters included, all helping us to keep Kilmington neat and tidy.

This was a good test for the recyclable bags which were used as an experiment, they seemed to hold up well, but with the blustery conditions there was always the worry that they could split and the litter that had been picked could be lost. One of the finds of the day was a large sand dumper bag (as used by Builders' Merchants to deliver large amounts of sand). This was found in a ditch at the top of the village. It was put to good use, as back at St Giles' it was used to hold the rubbish which had been collected by the Pickers. We successfully managed to



fill this bag which in turn filled the two church black wheelie bins.

Following our trek around the village we all met back at St Giles' where an abundance of food and drink was made available for all to enjoy. Grateful thanks to Christine Thorne for laying on such a glorious spread and for supporting us with this first event of many.

We currently plan to hold perhaps two Litter Picks per year starting and finishing at St Giles'. Spring and Autumn seem ideal times of the year to hold these events as hopefully the weather would be kinder. With better

conditions additional people may feel inclined to join us and more of the village can then be covered.

Our thanks to every person who took part – you should all feel very proud of yourselves and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

Christopher Thorne

## HIGH SPEED FIBRE BROADBAND

You may have recently seen technicians in yellow high visibility jackets wandering around the village. The Exeter based company Jurassic Fibre is surveying the area with a plan to run fibre cables straight to your door from the exchange. This would deliver higher broadband download speeds and faster connections.

They are expanding their network across the South West. The plan is to run the cables underground so we don't have any more unsightly cables strung up on poles around the village. We will endeavour to keep you informed in Postscript of any information and news of progress we receive from Jurassic Fibre.

Peter



# Cookery Corner

Two of this month's recipes are suitable for Easter teatime treats. I have tried numerous Blondie recipes, but this is a firm favourite, and it works every time. The cookies make a nice alternative to traditional Hot Cross buns. The recipes also use similar ingredients which is a bonus when shopping and avoiding waste. The Asparagus tarts are light and tasty and use asparagus which is coming into season.

## EASTER BLONDIES

Makes 12

200g/8oz unsalted butter  
300g/12oz light brown muscovado sugar  
2 eggs  
1 tsp vanilla essence  
250g/10oz plain flour  
1 tsp baking powder  
½ tsp salt  
225g/9oz white chocolate chips or chunks

To decorate: melted white chocolate and chocolate mini eggs

### Method

1. Melt the butter and then whisk together with the sugar for approx 2 minutes.
2. Once the mixture has cooled, stir in the egg and vanilla essence.
3. Next, stir in the flour, salt, baking powder and chocolate chips.
4. Spoon into a base lined and greased 23cms deep square baking tray.
5. Bake at 180C fan/200C/gas 6 for roughly 30 minutes or until the surface is golden and the middle is still just soft.
6. Allow to cool in the tin before decorating with some melted white chocolate and chocolate mini eggs.
7. Cut into 12 pieces. The Blondies are quite rich, so a small piece goes a long way.



## HOT CROSS BUN COOKIES

Makes 18

200g/8oz softened unsalted butter  
100g/4oz light muscovado sugar  
1 egg  
250g/10oz plain flour  
1 tsp ground cinnamon  
2 tsp baking powder  
100g/4oz sultanas  
50g/2oz white chocolate chips/chunks  
50g/2oz marzipan, cubed to a similar size to the chocolate chips

To decorate: white icing

### Method

1. In a large bowl beat together the butter, sugar and egg until smooth.
2. Stir in the flour, baking powder, cinnamon, sultanas, chocolate chips and marzipan pieces and mix to form a dough.
3. Divide into 18 golf ball sized pieces, place on greased baking trays and flatten slightly.
4. Bake at 160C fan for 20 mins. Allow to cool on a wire rack.
5. Decorate the top of each cookie by piping a white icing cross on the top.



## ASPARAGUS, HAM AND CHIVE FILO TARTLETS

Makes 8

### Ingredients

3 large eggs  
150ml/6 fl oz double cream  
3 large filo pastry sheets  
50g/2oz butter, melted  
100g/4oz fine asparagus cut into 2cm sized pieces  
50-75g shredded ham hock or ham of choice  
1 tbsp chopped chives  
Salt and pepper



### Method

1. Whisk together the eggs and the cream and season with salt and pepper.
2. Brush each sheet of pastry with the melted butter, cut each sheet into 8 squares. Layer 3 squares of pastry into 8 holes in a muffin tin.
3. Divide the asparagus, ham and chives evenly among the tart cases
4. Pour the egg mixture over the asparagus and ham.
5. Bake at 170C/190C/gas 5 for 20-25 minutes until the pastry is golden and the egg mixture is just set.
6. Serves 1 as a starter or 2 with salad and new potatoes as a main meal.

Diane Overton



# ST GILES' CHURCH - BELLS, HAND-BELLS AND CHIMING SYSTEM



The tower of St Giles' is the oldest part of the church dating from the 15th Century. It is about 50 feet in height with a great view from the top.

There are three floors, rooms or 'chambers; the first floor room is the ringing chamber and is accessed by wooden stairs from the ground; here are the bell ropes, with 'sallies' (the coloured woolly bits). They can be seen through its eastern 'window' wall from the 'nave' of the church.

The other two floors and the roof are accessed via an external right hand spiral stone staircase. The second floor chamber houses a flat-bed 'tower' or 'turret clock' made and installed by Smith of Derby in 1909; they are still in business today. The third floor, the bell chamber, houses the bells, hung in a well designed oak frame made by Harry Stokes in 1895.

A bell, usually the tenor with the deepest note, is tolled, 'half muffled', to announce a death and at the funeral; you will know that the tenor bell in the Curfew Tower of Windsor Castle was tolled at the funeral of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, as was our Tenor.

St Giles' has six bells, the Treble or number one with the highest note (E), and number 6, the Tenor and heaviest bell, the lowest note (G).

There were bells listed in the record of the Reformation Royal Commission in 1534 and the 1553 inventory mentions four; however little detail seems to be known about the bells; it is likely that they were cast in the church yard. It is almost certain that the original four bells had been in place for more than a century.



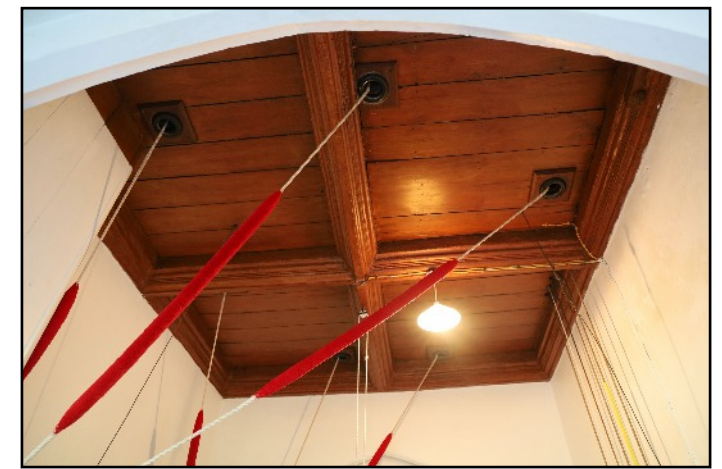
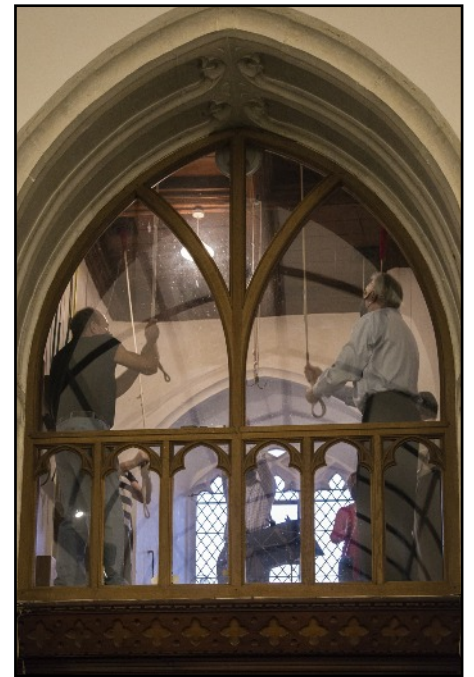
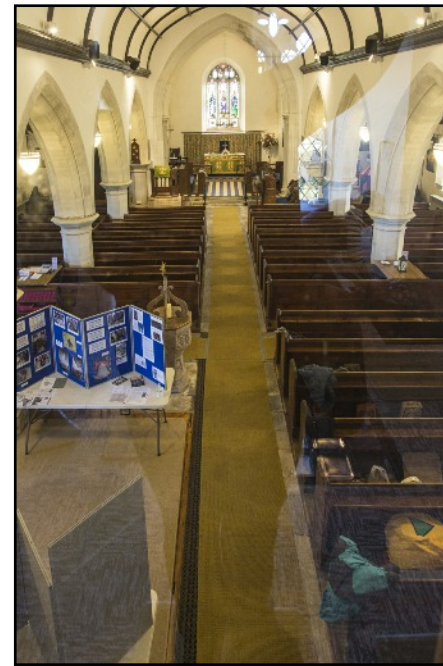
Bells that are cracked, badly cast and those that are of such poor shape that tonal improvement through tuning is impossible, can be re-cast. Recasting means that the usable portion of the metal of the old bell will be used in making a new bell of like size.

Almost certainly in 1672 Thomas Pennington III of Exeter 're-cast' the 6<sup>th</sup> bell, the Tenor, using the metal of the original fourth bell; at the same time, he re-cast the current 4<sup>th</sup> bell (the original 2<sup>nd</sup> of the four). However, only 5 years later, in 1677, it was re-cast again by Thomas Purdue. The Purdue family cast many bells in Devon; Thomas, working between 1664 and 1693, also cast the 8 and 12 bells in Exeter Cathedral.

The weight of the bells is important if only because the cost of the raw materials, copper and tin – bell metal or bronze, makes them extremely expensive, and thus for the recasting in 1677 the Church Wardens had a weighing 'beam' specially made *'laid out to Robert Hooper and Robert Damat for making a bame (beam) and wites (weights) to wite (weigh) the beles'*. It is likely that the bell was weighed before it left for Exeter and then again on its return!

The fourth was re-cast again in 1955 by John Taylor of Loughborough and the second bell was likely to have been cast as new, by Thomas Bayley of Bridgewater in Somerset in 1759 and added as the 'treble' bell augmenting the 'ring' to five. He also re-cast the third bell in the same year. In 1766 the 5<sup>th</sup> (originally 3) was re-cast by Thomas Bilbie of Cullompton.

Finally, in 1895, after the building of the current body of the church, the Victorians added a new bell the current treble (number 1). This was cast by John Warner & Sons of London at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry which has only recently closed down.



The history of the Ellacombe apparatus is almost as interesting as the history of the bell ringing; in 1821 the Revd Henry Thomas Ellacombe was Curate of St Mary's, Bitton; the bell ringers of his area and time were reported to be less 'respectful' of the church than he (and other clergy) felt was right; a band with six ringers was required to ring the bells in a tower, like ours! He therefore, devised a machine that enabled all six bells to be 'rung', in fact chimed, by one person, to ensure that the church was given its due respect.

The Ellacombe chiming system, which was so useful during the lockdowns when we couldn't ring the bells, as one person can operate all six bells! If there are insufficient ringers available for a service the chiming system is used.

In the Ringing Chamber we have a set of six hand-bells made by J. Shaw & Sons of Bradford and we believe these were given to the church at the time of the 1895 tower renovations and bell augmentation. We don't use these very often as several octaves are needed for handbell ringing to sound their best, but our handbells are helpful as a training tool when learners have progressed beyond Rounds to help them to practice finding their correct place in the sequence for call changes or method ringing.

**Did you learn to ring church bells as a child or later but haven't done so for a while? Perhaps you would like to give it a go again? Please contact Celia on 01297 33563 if you would like to try the St Giles's bells or indeed if you are interested in learning this ancient skill.**





## MAD moments in the (Australian) garden

This month's column comes from Australia where I am visiting my son, his partner and their eight month old, four and six year old girls. It's 6.00 am and I am writing from my cosy bed in their camper van parked in the garden. The dawn chorus has just started with a rooster, followed by a group of very noisy kookaburras and some form of magpie with a whistling warble. All very different from home.

The family moved two weeks ago to a house north of Melbourne in the Yarra Valley. The house is relatively modern and sits on the side of the valley facing mountains pretty much surrounded by bush. Previous owners have carved out and created a small garden around the house. Beyond that we look out into ten acres of tea tree scrub broken up by a forest of different species of *Eucalyptus*.

I had little knowledge of *Eucalyptus* beyond the one grown for floristry, always feeling they looked out of place in an English garden. Here they are magnificent. *Eucalyptus regnans* is the tallest known flowering plant on earth, I was surprised to learn. I am not sure if there are any of that variety here or how many of the over 700 species there are, but hopefully I might get to recognize some over time.

Given that their leaves are all pretty similar, the bark seems to be the key. All *eucalyptus* grow a new layer of bark every year and in about 50% of varieties the bark flakes or peels off in ribbons, or sheets in some cases. These are known as smooth barks. The remaining species retain the dead bark where it builds up and in some becomes intertwined. These are known as 'stringy' or 'peppercorn' varieties. The 'ironbark' varieties have rough bark that is infused with gum resin, the girls love to pick this off and collect it as treasure.

It seems the last owners who lived here for six years were not really interested in gardening. The ones before that however, I think certainly knew what they were doing. It's lovely to be able to recognize many plants, if not the species or variety. I can be pretty sure about *Rhododendron*, *Magnolias* and *Camellia* however overgrown and out of shape they are. Others are not so easy, but I asked a neighbour to come and talk me through what were the weeds at least. Some, it transpires, have grown into large shrubs and even trees! There is a *Protea* that apparently is very difficult to grow to the size it has reached here, so it will be worth clearing around to give it more space and light. So, with the little local knowledge I am setting about clearing and reshaping where I can. Thankfully, a shiny new pair of Felco secateurs and good loppers were waiting for my arrival!

There is, of course, no time in reality for much gardening with the small children, but their previous home was a community farm, so they are all used to working outside helping with chickens and, with a bit of luck and tons of compost, a veggie patch.

We are off to buy a tractor and chainsaw in the next few days to help clear and maintain some paths through the forest down to the somewhat romantically called creek, which in all honesty is only a trickle of water currently!

This is a certainly a challenge in gardening terms and a long term project that will be wonderful to see evolve and to be part of its development over the coming years.

Mary-Anne Driscoll

## ONLY A MONTH AWAY! PLANT MARKET AND COFFEE MORNING

This is your April reminder of the Kilmington Gardening Club's annual Plant Market, which is to be held on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> May from 10.00 am – 12.00 noon in the Village Hall.

We are inviting members and non-members to provide any perennials, rooted cuttings or plants from seed, as well as coming along to buy plants. Our usual bedding plants will be available, predominantly in red, white and blue, in anticipation of some lovely displays in your gardens for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations on the first weekend of June.

At this year's Plant Market, we shall also be running a 'Seed Swap'. Having encouraged club members to bring along excess seeds (flowers and vegetables) to meetings in

February, March and April, we hope to have surplus for our Plant Market, for anyone to have and/or swap with any seed they have left over (whether it be own saved seed or commercial packeted seed).

NEW! At this year's Plant Market, we will also be holding a Plant ID service, kindly provided by Mary Benger and Sydnie Bones from 10.30-11.30 am. If you have any plants in your garden that you would like to have identified, then bring a picture or piece of the plant along on the day.

Please come along. Refreshments will also be provided. Entry is free.

Jane Chalk



Why? Where? and How? were the first questions to be tackled by Adam Wallis, from Brimsmore Gardens, when he came to talk to the Club on the subject of 'Grow your Own' on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> March. Why do we grow our own fruit and vegetables? There is a great sense of achievement in growing something from seed and the taste is usually superior to anything bought in the supermarket. Something which people are increasingly aware of is the provenance of food and knowing it has travelled no distance enhances the enjoyment – just pick and eat! Growing in a poly-tunnel helps to grow unusual varieties of vegetables, but it also enables plants to be grown out of season. There is a possible cost benefit in that surplus produce can be frozen. Of course, sowing seeds is something that you can share with children to encourage them to become gardeners of the future.

If you have the space to have a vegetable plot in your garden or allotment, it should be in a sheltered and sunny spot, with fertile and well-drained soil and a good water supply to hand. Raised beds are preferable as drainage is much better, the soil temperature is increased and it is easier to adjust the soil pH. However, if space is at a premium, another way is to grow vegetables in containers. There are bush varieties of runner beans, raspberries, blueberries and tomatoes which are all ideally suited to growing in pots. How about planting a herb seed in a tea-bag?

Before planting anything you need to improve the fertility of the soil and control the weeds. He also stressed the importance of crop rotation which helps to reduce the build-

up of pests, for example, Legumes/Alliums/Solanacea/ Brassicas/roots and tubers. Then leave the soil fallow one year. Improve the soil by laying on compost, mulch or manure. Having improved your soil and planted your seeds, it is important to provide protection from pests, cold and sun. Tunnels, cloches, cold frames and fleece bags protect against the frost. There is an anti-insect mesh which helps to protect your plants from pests. Adam recommended gently feeding your plants using a seaweed extract such as Rootgrow in the early stages. If weed control is necessary, Adam recommends a new product which is chemical-free: Neudorff.

And then there are the pests! 'SlugStop' is wildlife friendly and biodegradable but it needs to be refreshed regularly. 'Grazers' is effective against rabbits, deer, pigeons and geese. 'Bug Clear' is a contact killer for use against aphids and other insects. Companion planting is the practice of growing different plants together for mutual benefit, e.g. herbs will enjoy the shade provided by peas, marigolds with tomatoes, chives deter blackfly on your roses.

What to plant at the moment? Potatoes, onion sets, garlic, brassicas and cauliflowers.

In the space of an hour, we were brought up to speed with the latest equipment and new products which will help us to tackle growing our own enthusiastically and confidently.

Jean Falconer



## THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

**Planning continues for Kilmingtong's family celebrations in June.**

**The latest programme looks like this:**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Evening, Platinum Beacon Party:** A family BBQ party with a bar and music. At around 9:15pm we'll join more than 1500 other communities across the UK as we light a special Jubilee Beacon on St Giles's tower.

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Afternoon Village Treasure Hunt, Open Gardens and Cream Teas** Take a family summer stroll around the village, visit some gardens and answer some brain teasers on the way. Starting and finishing at the Village Hall. Refreshments and cream teas served.

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Afternoon Village Treasure Hunt, Open Gardens and Cream Teas, Evening, Celebration Disco,** Classic Disco Hits to get you all moving, even 'Dad Dancing' - BBQ and Bar.

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Morning Church Service**  
**The Big Jubilee Lunch:** Family Picnic, Children's Fancy Dress, Adults' Fancy Dress, Family Sports, tea, coffee and squash, with ice-creams for children.

**Red, White & Blue:** Join in to transform our village, using flowers, flags and coloured bunting on houses, fences, trees and hedges. Order some now, or start making your own. Kilmingtong Garden Club will have a selection of red, white and blue flowering plants at their annual plant sale in May. You might want to sow some of your own seeds too.

**Garden Scarecrows: Our theme is 'Royalty's Many Faces'** Get creative and plan your royal figurines now. In May we'll be holding a papier-mâché morning to model heads around balloons. A great way to cover you and the kids in sticky goo to produce something that would probably be more useful at Halloween!

**Get the Dates in Your Diaries Now**



## KILMINGTON CRICKET CLUB



### Dynamos Cricket sessions for 8-11 year olds at Kilmington Playing Field 2022

Thank you for those who have signed up for Dynamos for the 2022 season. The following is the information for those parents and any new Dynamos for this season.

Sessions begin on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> May and run for 8 weeks from 5.00-6.00 pm.

The format will be similar to last year with batting, bowling and fielding skills all culminating in playing games and having fun.

Registration is open to everyone at:  
[www.dynamoscricket.co.uk](http://www.dynamoscricket.co.uk). Look for the link to Kilmington CC.

If you have friends who would like to join please pass on the information. They will be most welcome.

For those who have reached the age of 12, Kilmington CC will be holding youth nets on Thursday evenings. More information on this will follow.

Please contact coach Eddie Clarke by e-mail:  
[edandjoc@btinternet.com](mailto:edandjoc@btinternet.com) or by mobile 07474682941 if you require further information.

Eddie Clarke  
ECB Level 2 Coach. Dynamos Lead Activator

## KILMINGTON COMMON



The final work party to complete this first phase in restoring the common took place on 26<sup>th</sup> February. As with all the previous sessions it was a success and eight of us continued with the slow task of removing bramble along with its roots from the cut areas of grassland. We also pruned back some of the heather to encourage flowering.

Since beginning this work, at the end of last year, there have been 80 hours of volunteer time spent. We have achieved a lot and everyone who has been kind enough to give of their time has done so generously and with great enthusiasm, it has been fun!

There are still many more brambles to remove, there will be more grass to cut, and there will more Heath Lobelia to plant. Several keen growers are currently nurturing September's batch of Heath Lobelia, a tiny seeded plant that looks uncannily like Forget-me-not when young.

For now though, we will not be disturbing the areas we've been working on, but instead will, along with all of you who

are interested, watch, wait and see what plants emerge and note the insects, bees, butterflies, beetles and other creatures that visit the Common.

It is important to remember that Kilmington Common is an area of Lowland Heath Grassland and that, as a habitat, it is increasingly rare in Southern England. Heath Lobelia occurs in only six sites in the whole of the country. We are indeed very lucky to have such a treasure literally on our doorstep.

Later on in the summer we are hoping to hold a 'Bioblitz' on the Common. It could include some plant identification, a bug hunt, a bat walk and a mothing evening. The activities will be great for children and adults alike. So keep reading Postscript and watching out on Kilmington Now for dates and details of what's happening.

Judith Simpson  
[simpsonjudith71@gmail.com](mailto:simpsonjudith71@gmail.com)

*Calligraphy*

### COLIN STEWART – 'AN ASSET TO THE COMMUNITY.'

Do you write in calligraphy fonts?

Kilmington Parish Council is looking for a volunteer to write names onto some presentation certificates. These will accompany a Jubilee Gift given to the children of the village in June.

If you can help, please let Peter know on 07747 636810 or drop a line to [jubilee@kilmingtonvillage.com](mailto:jubilee@kilmingtonvillage.com)

A reader who feels that he represents many in the 5 Alive Community Oil Syndicate, writes that Colin should be 'mentioned in dispatches' (in Postscript) to express thanks from them all for the exceptional job he does. They especially appreciate his efficiency in dealing with their orders, in supplying them with information as the price fluctuates, in responding to urgent requests and, above all, for his personal response.





# THANKS A BRUNCH JENNY!



On Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009 the doors of the Village Hall were opened and a team of eager but slightly nervous ladies launched the first Kilmington Big Breakfast. Jenny Nickolls had taken the initiative and brought together a small group of volunteers and local sponsors to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. The event has gone from strength to strength and thirteen years later it is even more popular, firmly established as one of the highlights in Kilmington's social calendar. But even more importantly, over the years they have together raised over £24,000.

In February each year Jenny has called together her team for the annual briefing to ensure everything runs smoothly. In trying to pull together an article with some humorous anecdotes of behind the scenes chaos, we could find none;

evidence that her management skills have created a seamless team that just naturally work well as a group and have fun along the way too. Either that or they are very skilful at hiding any disasters that do occur! What is clear is that the breakfasts hit the spot and keep the hungry residents coming back for more to support Cancer Research.

Jenny has now decided to hand over her spatula and is stepping aside. She leaves behind her well established team, who plainly know what they're doing and will continue to support this very worthy charity, offering us tasty breakfasts into the future. The Postscript Team, on behalf of village residents, would like to pay special tribute to Jenny and thank her for her years of service establishing and running Kilmington Big Breakfast.



The Big Breakfast was back in the Kilmington Village Hall on Saturday morning, 12<sup>th</sup> March, after a sojourn due to the Pandemic – it was great to be back. People from the village and the local environs munched their way through over 130 full English breakfasts, cereal and toast. Fruit juice, tea and coffee were consumed in large quantities too! Those who couldn't manage the full fare had a lighter breakfast or coffee, tea and cake. A good time was had by all!

The waitresses, me included, had their work cut out to serve the food and drink briskly and efficiently – no accidents were reported so I think we did okay. Huge thanks must go

to those in the kitchen as it's no mean feat to keep up with cooking so many breakfasts and keeping them piping hot.

It was a bitter-sweet occasion, as we said goodbye to the founder and organiser of The Big Breakfast after 17 years of hard work and fundraising for Cancer Research, Jenny Nickolls. She was presented with some lovely flowers, a meal voucher and some money. She will continue helping in the background I'm sure and her whole team thank her so much for all that she's done to bring about these fun fundraising mornings. Here's to The Big Breakfast 2023!

Gill Heighway

# 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**

In Newsletter no. 42 ALCS gratefully acknowledge the donations they have received and also look forward to the fundraising skydiving event on 14<sup>th</sup> May (which is still open for applications!) As their recommended website this month they suggest the Francis Crick Institute and online London Exhibition, with 'trailblazing scientists who are helping to turn the tide on one of the world's biggest killers'.

There will be a drop-in session on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> April in the Scott Rowe Room at Axminster Hospital for anybody about to start treatment, currently going through treatment, or whose treatment finished in the last six months. Other events for April include Men's Only Pie and Pint at 6.30pm on April 12<sup>th</sup>, Blokes' Brunch on April 30<sup>th</sup>, both with location to be confirmed, Bereavement Group 12.30 – 1.30 pm on April 25<sup>th</sup> at the Axminster Hospital Scott Rowe Room and a

Fermented Food Workshop from 11.30 am – 1.30 pm on May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Lyme Regis Football Club.

If you are interested in discovering the benefits of acupuncture in alleviating many symptoms, ALCS is offering a weekly clinic, free of charge, and can provide further information on request. There is also a Tripudio Movement class at the Axminster Health and Wellbeing centre which runs until 27<sup>th</sup> April and involves gentle movement, sitting or standing, especially helpful to those with lymphoedema.

Finally, they are again taking bookings for use of their beach hut at Lyme Regis this year. If you would like to receive the newsletter with all this information and more, by post or online, or have any queries for ALCS, please use one of the addresses above to contact them.



## Have you noticed the plethora of wipes there are now on sale?

Wipes for surfaces, floors, make-up removal, faces, babies, personal hygiene, computer monitors, leather, even for dogs' teeth ... do we really need some or any of these, unless we are in the medical/care sector or have medical needs? When they are out of sight and out of mind, what happens to them? Wet wipes contain tiny plastic fibres, taking years to break down and then only into micro-plastics. The majority are not flushable, in fact the only ones that can be flushed are clearly marked with the Water UK 'Fine to Flush' logo and have passed rigorous tests. 93% of sewer blockages are caused by wipes and these cost millions of pounds per year to deal with ... which means that we, the consumers, will end up footing the bill with increased charges! The ingredients in wet wipes have been found to have chemicals, including sodium

benzoate (used as a preservative and also in certain fireworks) which can react with other ingredients, causing skin irritation.

So how can we ditch the wipes? Could you try a soft muslin face cloth, a flannel or washable face pads made from bamboo or cotton; there are lots on the market? What about making some of your own from an old cotton t-shirt? Maybe use different coloured cloths for different surfaces and then pop them in the washing machine. For an alternative to baby wipes, take a look at those offered by a company called Cheeky Wipes. It is said to take sixty days to form a habit. It's a bit like working towards giving up sugar in your tea, a gradual process until it is firmly embedded in to your lifestyle.

**Give it a try and help "turn off the plastic tap."**







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\*subject to eligibility



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- ❖ **Catering for all occasions, please enquire for a personalised menu**

**Email:** [mina@khushi.kitchen](mailto:mina@khushi.kitchen)

**Web:** <http://khushi.kitchen>

**Addr:** The Old Barn, The Street, Kilminster EX13 7RJ



khushi kitchen-axminster devon & dorset

Check the website regularly for §Khushi's future events and pop-up kitchens.

**Mina x**



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SEP14/SEP15 (29/02)





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### WEEK TO VIEW (Events that happen the same time every week)

Sunday	10.30 am	The Beacon	Service
Monday	early	Your house	Recycling collections
	2.00 - 4.00 pm	Village Hall	Country Dancing
Tuesday	10.00 - noon	The Beacon	The Post Office
Wednesday	9.30 am	The Beacon	Toddlers and Tinies (Term time only)
	10.00 - noon	St Giles' Church	Mums and Babies Support Group
	2.00 - 3.30 pm	Village Hall	Short Mat Bowls
Thursday	7.00 pm	The Beacon	Alpha Course
Friday	10.00 - noon	St Giles' Church	Coffee and a warm welcome

### DATES FOR APRIL 2022

Sat	2nd	10.00 am	Village Hall	RBL Spring Coffee Morning
Sun	3rd	11.00 am	Dalwood Church	Mission Community Holy Communion
	3rd	6.30 pm	The Beacon	Open Prayer Meeting - all welcome
Mon	4th	Early	Your House	Landfill with recycling
Tues	5th	9.30 am	St Giles' Church	Said Communion
	5th	10.30 am	The Beacon	Messy Sparklers
Thur	7th	12.00 noon	Pavilion	Lent Lunch
Fri	8th	7.30 pm	Village Hall	KGC Talk: <i>Water, Water Everywhere</i> - Becca Flintham
Sat	9th	8.00 am	The Beacon	Men's Breakfast
	9th	1.30 - 5.00 pm	Breach and Betty's Ground	Open Gardens in aid of Hospiscare
	9th	3.00 pm	St Giles' Church	Let's Celebrate Service
Sun	10th	10.15 am	The Common	Palm Sunday Procession to St Giles' Church
	10th	11.00 am	St Giles' Church	Joint Service with the Beacon
	10th	1.30 - 5.00 pm	Breach and Betty's Ground	Open Gardens in aid of Hospiscare
Mon	11th	10.00 am	The Beacon	Reflections
	11th	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Parish Council Meeting
Tues	12th	Early	Your House	Garden Waste Collection
Wed	13th	7.15 pm	Village Hall	Kilminster Community Cinema - <i>West Side Story</i>
Thur	14th	12.00 noon	Pavilion	Lent Lunch
	14th	2.15 pm	Village Hall	Kilminster Community Cinema - <i>West Side Story</i>
	14th	7.15 pm	St Giles' Church	Mission Community Last Supper
Fri	15th	10.00 am	St Giles' Church	Coffee Shop with Hot Cross Buns
Sun	17th	6.45 am	Shute Beacon	Sunrise Service
	17th	9.00 am	St Giles' Church	Easter Sunday Holy Communion
Tues	19th	Early	Your House	Recycling only
	19th	9.30 am	St Giles' Church	Said Communion
	19th	12.30 pm	The Beacon	Community Contact Lunch - all welcome
Wed	20th	7.30 pm	Village Hall	AGM of the Village Hall
Sun	24th	9.30 am	St Giles' Church	Service of the Word
	24th	2.00 pm	Chardstock	Chardstock Bowling Club Open Day
Mon	25th	Early	Your House	Landfill with recycling
	25th	10.00 am	The Beacon	Reflections
Tues	26th	Early	Your House	Garden Waste Collection

### DONATIONS, PAYMENT FOR ADVERTISING SPACE AND ARTICLES/NOTICES FOR POSTSCRIPT (i.e. THOSE NOT SENT BY EMAIL)

**It has been necessary to set up alternative arrangements following the closure of the village shop.**

**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.

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.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### VILLAGE NUMBERS

Bell-ringing - Celia Dunsford	01297 33563	KGC - 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's Little Helpers - Sally Huscroft	01297 32243	Table Tennis - Jenny Nickolls	01297 639758
Cricket - David Lavender	01297 631868	Kilminster Pre-School - Now part of primary school	01297 32762	Telephone Box Library - Karen Hodder	01297 35162
Footpath co-ordinator - Elaine Penzer	01297 34287	Kilminster Primary School	01297 32762	Tennis - Sue Moore Sue Wells	01297 32361 07912 272102
Hitchcock Pavilion bookings - Peter Huscroft	01297 32243	Millers Farm Shop	01297 35290	Village Hall bookings - Louise Quincey	01297 32358
Kilminster A35 Pit Stop	01297 598060	The New Inn	01297 33376	Village Hall 100+ Club - Jean Falconer	01297 33708
Kilminster Cross Services	01297 631089	The Old Inn	01297 441855	www.kilminstervillage.com - Luke & Maxine Lawson	07719 909532

### MEDICAL AND SUPPORT

Axminster Hospital	01297 630400	'Devon Doctors on call' (Out of hours GP service)	0845 6710270	Veterinary Surgery	01297 630500
St Thomas Court Surgery	01297 32126	Dentist Helpline	03330 063300		

### SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Refuse Collection	01395 571515	Axminster Library	01297 32693	Clerk to the Parish Council	07800 826657
Water - general - leaks	0344 346 2020 0800 230 0561	Mobile Library	01404 42818	E. Devon District Councillor - Iain Chubb	01297 35468
Electricity - emergency	0800 365 900	Ring & Ride	01404 46520	Devon County Council, Whimble and Blackdown, Iain Chubb	07932 459595
		Axminster Care Service	01297 35550		

**Police:** Crime stoppers - 0800 555111; Emergency - 999; General - 101

### CHURCHES

<b>St Giles' Church</b> Rev Julie Lomas	01297 35004	<b>Baptist Church Office</b> Pastor Mike Hudson	01297 631638	<b>Axminster Catholic Church</b> Parish Priest: Father Anthony Cockram	01297 32135
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### ADVERTISING IN POSTSCRIPT

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.

	<b>Black and white ads</b>	<b>Colour ads</b>
Credit card (70 mm x 40 mm)	£ 5 or £22.50 for 5 months	
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½ page (184 x 136 or 90 x 276 mm)	£20 or £90 for 5 months	£30 for one-off
Full page (184 x 276 mm)	£30 or £130 for 5 months	£40 for one-off

If the advertisement could be sent as a jpeg it is a great help when sizing for publication.

**BACK COVER:** *Occasionally the back cover is available for a one-off colour page advertisement. Cost: £50*

*Additional fee of £1 if Postscript has to edit, size or set copy.*

**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 up to £20 or less. However, donations are appreciated - these can be popped through Vicky Larcombe's door (please see directions on page 22).



**Open  
Gardens**

Beautiful Devon gardens  
open for charity

# Axminster Open Gardens

**Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 April**

**1.30pm - 5pm**

**Admission - by donation**

**Betty's Ground, Haddon Corner,  
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Just over an acre of mixed planting achieving year-round interest. New orchard planted 2019, 20 trees - plums, apples and pears. Spring, summer and autumn colour from bulbs, grasses and perennials.

Mature trees, shrubs and evergreens for structure. Interesting architectural features acting as focal points.

**Breach, Shute Road, Kilminster  
EX13 7ST**

3 acres with majestic trees under planted with rhododendrons, camellia and hydrangeas. There are natural springs and the bog garden with its pond. Additional planting for bees, butterflies etc. and a flower meadow on the old tennis court.

**PLANT STALL AT  
BOTH GARDENS**

**TEA & HOMEMADE  
CAKE AT BETTY'S  
GROUND**

**Dogs on short leads welcome  
Wheelchair access limited in both gardens**

**CONTACT 01392 688020**

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Registered charity no. 297798



**Hospiscare**

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