

KILMINGTON

# POST script

Issue 181 February 2016

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## A HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

A huge "thank you" to all those readers who answered our appeal in the Christmas issue of Postscript for helpers to deliver Postscript each month. We were overwhelmed by the response and are delighted to welcome several new members to the delivery team: Marie Thorne who has taken on Sid Newbery's round, Alison Dare who takes over part of Gerry Hurford's round and Julie and David Woodward who will do the rest of this round. Didn't we always know Gerry would need not two but at least three people to replace him?!!!

We are also pleased to report that there are a couple more people who kindly offered to help and are also willing to do a round occasionally when one of the regulars is on holiday. Thank you all.

In this first issue of 2016, the Postscript team decided to feature photographs taken by Julian Shaw during the years when he and Helen lived in Kilmington. As many of you will know, they moved recently. The centre pages are a mixture of photographs you may have seen before together with some new ones. We hope you enjoy them.

Some of the events about which we have reports seem a long time ago now but we must congratulate the Kilmington branch of the Royal British Legion who, in the run up to Christmas, raised an exceptional amount of money from the Poppy Appeal and a Christmas Fair and coffee morning. Not only was the coffee morning a successful fund-raiser but, judging by the packed hall, the event was enjoyed by a large number of people.

More recently, a Mexican fiesta held in the Village Hall was well attended and proved to be a colourful evening with music, dance, anecdotes and delicious food. Photos from Peter (Ball), Brian (Lavender) and Peter (Huscroft) and a short report from Brian on page 8 give a flavour of the fun.

The recently established Youth Club at The Beacon is thriving. The number of young people attending regularly each week confirm there is a need for such get-togethers. Darrell tells us that they are collecting metal to help to raise funds for additional equipment. There are details on page 19 telling us how we can help.

The panto season is almost here. Rehearsals and scenery painting and all the other tasks that go on frantically for several months before the actual show are underway. Make sure you go and buy your tickets soon as they always sell fast - details on the back cover.

Moviola returns on 3<sup>rd</sup> February with a programme of current films, starting with *Suffragette*. The popular Thursday Lent Lunches take place from 11<sup>th</sup> February - see page 9 for details.

Thank you to everyone for their contributions this month.

Judith, on behalf of the Postscript team

The photograph on the front cover is by Julian Shaw.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO POSTSCRIPT

Please remember to use the email address for Postscript:

**postscript@kilmingtonvillage.com**

*Alternatively, please give your item to any of the team or leave it at Hurfords Stores.*

***The closing date for submitting items for the March issue is 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016. All will be acknowledged. Please email or ring 01297 35159 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

The donations collected from Hurfords Stores in mid-January, together with other donations, came to a total of £16.66. These will help towards printing of this issue. Thank you all for your support.

## ADVERTISING RATES

Please see inside back cover for details.

Cost per 20-page copy of Postscript averages 50p each but coloured and larger issues cost more.  
Extra copies are available from Millers Farm Shop and Hurfords Stores, where donations may be made.

# NATURE NOTES

*Thy fate is the common fate of all,  
Into each life some rain must fall,  
Some days must be dark and dreary.*

Well, the last two months have been strange! We had some unwelcome seasonal visitors arrive on our doorstep, Desmond, Eva and Frank. I never thought I'd actually say I enjoyed standing in the garden hanging out the washing. But it was a very welcome break when the rain did stop and it actually became a real pleasure to be able to peg out the smalls in the sunshine!

Just for the record in case you missed the facts: we had the dullest December since 1989 and the mildest on record with temperatures around 4 to 6°C above the average in southern England. Average rainfall in the south west for December is around 150mm and we had 217mm, nothing compared to what they had in the north but needless to say all of this has had an impact on our local wildlife!

The mild weather has allowed insects to take to the wing and has provided a plentiful supply of food; so bird feeders have not seen as much activity as usual at this time of year. But if it does turn cold then your garden feeders will become critical for survival.

February is a good time to see birds and to learn to identify common native birdsong, the lack of foliage means it is much easier to spot them. By the month's end most of our common countryside birds are in full voice, singing to attract a mate or to protect their territories. On bright sunny days they have more time to sing than when it's cold and they have to spend around 85% of daylight feeding just to keep warm. Blackbirds, robins, sparrows, tits, greenfinches and chaffinches are the most vocal in our garden at present. Nest building will soon increase so, once again, bird boxes will be very welcome additions to most gardens. If you have some and haven't yet cleaned them out, then now's the time to do so. Use boiling water to kill parasites, and let the box dry out thoroughly before replacing the lid. Do not use insecticides or flea powders. Sadly the rain and strong winds have blown down the two house martin nests we had on the



*Bee Tongue*

soaking up the sun. If you see a bumble bee, try giving it a little drop of honey or sugar water, you can then enjoy watching their long tongues lapping it up giving them a welcome top up of energy! Flies and gnats are also active now on warm days appearing it seems from nowhere. Also ladybirds, woodlice and spiders are all out and about.

back of the house, so a rebuild will be necessary here later in spring.

On recent warm days we've had wasps and queen bumble bees starting to stir early and they settle on our south facing wall

Normally signalling the first signs of spring, we already have crocuses and snowdrops. Neither is thought to be native, but both are welcome arrivals from Central Europe and the Mediterranean. And I've also seen the pinks of cherry blossom in local trees. Cherry blossom is Japan's unofficial national flower and its arrival, signalling the end of winter, is celebrated throughout Japanese culture. Farmers started the tradition many centuries ago, but today office workers take every opportunity to celebrate Hanami (cherry blossom viewing) holding parties under the blooming trees in city parks!

The mild winter has also provided food for a more unwelcome creature, the rat, and numbers have not dropped off as much as usual. They can successfully breed as early as six weeks of age and will produce a litter of up to twenty offspring every month.

Thankfully their average lifespan is only around a year to 18 months. Digging underground burrows, their tunnels contain nest cavities, food stores and usually a bolt hole through which they can escape. Their opportunistic lifestyle and the rate of reproduction have resulted in their becoming a serious pest carrying disease and spoiling grain. Perhaps this is why a group is sometimes referred to as a 'mischief of rats'.

Despite all our negative feelings towards rats, humans have a 'love hate' relationship with them. Whilst pet rats are known as 'fancy rats', they are actually only variants of common brown rats. Over many generations their behaviour has become friendlier, so now we allow our children to play with them! As they are intelligent, they can be trained fairly easily and their keen sense of smell has given them some very useful jobs. Some have been used to sniff out explosives and land mines. As they weigh little, they are less likely to trigger a mine than a dog and they cost substantially less to keep. In Norway the African giant pouched rat has been used to diagnose tuberculosis through smell. Over many years rats have been used in experimental studies to help mankind learn much about genetic, diseases, the effects of drugs and psychological behaviour.

In many parts of the world we eat them. They have been a delicacy for Polynesians and Hawaiians and there are commercial farms in India. A little closer to home, when you're next on the Costa Brava enjoying paella, consider that rat was once one of the main ingredients for paella until it was replaced by rabbit, chicken and seafood! Bon Dia !



*Pet Rat*

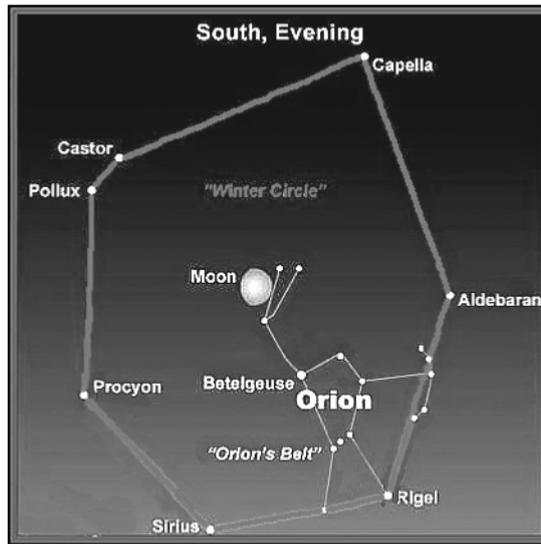
Peter

# THE KILMINGTON SKY AT NIGHT

**February** If we have clear skies, then it's a great time to stargaze! The five visible planets will adorn the February morning sky until around February 20<sup>th</sup>. From east to west, the five visible planets are Mercury (but you'll need binoculars), Venus the brightest, Saturn and, quite a long way west, Mars and Jupiter. The moon moves across amongst the planets as it rises and sets an average 50 minutes later each day whilst the backdrop stars of the Zodiac rise and set about four minutes earlier daily.

**3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturn** is close to the waning crescent moon in the predawn sky. The fainter ruddy object nearby is Antares, the brightest star in the constellation Scorpius, the Scorpion. Look east to see the very bright Venus and, a long way to the west, you see reddish Mars and bright Jupiter.

**5<sup>th</sup> Venus** is close to the moon, the third brightest and second brightest celestial bodies respectively after the sun. So it should be no problem spotting them!



**17<sup>th</sup> The Moon is in the Winter Circle or Winter Hexagon** which fills most of the eastern half of the sky at nightfall. Almost certainly you will have seen this incredibly large star configuration made of brilliant winter stars. Tonight, it's easier to see as the moon is at its centre. It is not one of the 88 recognised constellations, but an *asterism* – a pattern of stars that is fairly easy to recognize. Through the evening it will swing through the south and into the west around midnight.

**21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Moon and Jupiter** close together: look eastward as soon as darkness falls for the moon, then watch for the dazzling planet Jupiter to follow it into the eastern sky by early evening.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Full Moon** this month known as the Wolf Moon, Snow Moon or Hunger Moon.

**25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> The Moon and Spica** the brightest star in the constellation Virgo the Maiden, climb together upward and westward before daybreak; look for them both in the western sky. They will shine together on the sky's dome for only a few days of the month.

Peter

## FORTHCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### JONATHAN VEIRA

On Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016 The Beacon is hosting a concert by the singer Jonathan Veira at 7.30 pm. Tickets cost just £7 which includes refreshments during the interval.

The amazingly talented and versatile international singer Jonathan Veira is coming to The Beacon, Kilmington as part of his *Larger than Life* tour. From Billy Joel to Mozart and everything in-between – nothing seems too hard for him! Ballads, blues, rock n roll, jazz and even opera – everything sounds completely authentic and exhilarating. A mix of story telling and song will appeal to most people.

When did you last see young and old rocking with laughter together? Jonathan Veira's one-man show is distinctive because you get so much more than just 'the voice'. He is a superb comic raconteur, whose anecdotal story-telling has people of all generations laughing helplessly. A naturally funny man whose engaging and enthusiastic performance leaves a lasting impression.

It will, undoubtedly, be the best Friday evening for a long time, and also has got to be better than watching TV alone!

### TWO RIVERS BAND

On Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> March, Axminster Heritage presents an evening with the Two Rivers Band from North Devon in Axminster Guildhall from 7.00 pm.

Tickets are £12.50 per person to include a Ploughman's Supper and are available from Diana Church (01297 32417) or The Archway Book Shop.

Tables of 8 or more have a discount of 50p per person. A bar will be available.

Diana Church

### BRIDGE

A Charity Bridge Afternoon is to be held in Kilmington Village Hall on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> 2.00 -5.00 pm. £6 per person including afternoon tea. Proceeds are to be shared between St Giles' Church and The Village Hall.

Please ring Diana Church 01297 32417 to reserve a table for four.

### MOBILE LIBRARY

Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2016 at 11.20 - 11.50 am at the junction of The Street and The Hill.

**Jonathan Veira**



**larger than life**

**THE TOUR**

CDs, DVD AND BOOK WILL BE AVAILABLE TO BUY AT THE CONCERT

**The Beacon, Whitford Rd, Kilmington, EX13 7NT**  
**7.30pm Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016**  
**Tickets £7 including refreshments**  
**Tickets from 01297-631638 or events@beaconbaptist.co.uk**

BIBLE SOCIETY  COMPASSION

WWW.JONATHANVEIRA.COM



**KILMINGTON CRICKET CLUB**

The Annual General Meeting of Kilmington Cricket Club will take place on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 pm in the Pavilion.

Anybody interested in the Club is welcome to attend.

David Lavender, Secretary

**KILMINGTON GARDENING CLUB**

On Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> February, the monthly talk is on *Ponds and Pond Plants* with John Horsey in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

With a lifetime in horticulture and a passion for conservation and wildlife, John considers why ponds are so interesting, discusses different types of ponds, the ways of creating them, the plants they will support and the wildlife they will attract.

Visitors welcome at £1.00.

Lesley Rew



**Suffragette**  
 (12A)  
**Kilmington Village Hall**  
**Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February**



Sarah Gavron's film about the British women's suffrage movement technically qualifies as period drama: its story takes place in 1912 and 1913, and the sets and costumes vividly and convincingly evoke a bygone age. But it's written, shot and acted with a hot-blooded urgency that reminds you the struggle it depicts is an ongoing one – and the film shakes up this most well-behaved of genres with a surge of civil disobedience.

At first, Maud Watts (Carey Mulligan) is simply swept up in it as well – but when she realises in which direction the current's flowing, she instinctively starts to paddle. At the start of the film, Maud is a wife, a mother, and a diligent, uncomplaining worker at a Bethnal Green laundry. Her days are nasty, brutish and long. "Aren't you coming to bed?" grumbles her wet-blanket husband Sonny (Ben Whishaw) one night, while she rattles through the final chores.

It's only when she's drafted in at the last minute to put the case for women's suffrage to the then-Chancellor of the Exchequer, David Lloyd George (Adrian Schiller) and her politically active friend Violet (Anne-Marie Duff), whom she's there to silently support, arrives beaten black and blue and unable to speak, that she begins to grasp the bigger picture. When the Prime Minister, Asquith, scuppers the voting reform, she realises she can't do anything but join the cause. Review abridged by Robbie Collin, The Telegraph.

**Forthcoming Films:**

Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March - "A Walk in the Woods" (15) based on Bill Bryson's best-seller.

Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> April - "The Lady in the Van" (12A) adaptation of Alan Bennett's award-winning 1999 play

**Doors open at 6.45 pm when wine, soft drinks and tea/coffee are available. The evening's entertainment starts at 7.15 pm and ends about 10.00 pm. Tickets £5.50 on the door or £5 in advance from Hurfords Stores (village store and post office); alternatively, contact me, John Watts, on 01297 32335 or email: john@jwatts.demon.co.uk**

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## Letter from the Churches



This is my first opportunity, on behalf of the churches, to wish all the readers of Postscript a Happy and Blessed New Year! After an amazingly mild but also wet winter so far, we are shaping up for a cold snap at last. "Hurray!" say the farmers who have been worried that

calves and sheep will not survive without the frost to kill the bugs and bacteria. COLD and DARK times of the year are needed to balance the long, warm, bright, sunny (sometimes) times of the year. Some friends of ours posted photos last month - Skiing in Cyprus in November. Yes, there are four ski lifts in the Troodos mountains and a national Ski Society! If you are travelling to find some snow for skiing, maybe try Cyprus?

But cold and dark weather has come to the refugee camps also and we have just received news of a collection of Winter Clothes (good condition) for the 22 million refugees from Syria and Iraq now spread across many nations, still the majority in the Middle East. By the time you read this the convoy will be on its way. Another collection may come later (look out for news at the Lent Lunches in the Village Hall on Thursdays from 11th February).

### CHRISTINGLE



A Church decorated with the Christmas tree, Memory tree, ivy rings and lighted candles greeted worshippers including many children as they arrived for the Christingle service on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> December. The Revd Simon gave a warm welcome and well-known carols and songs were sung amongst the Bible readings and prayers. Simon described the significance of the Christingle and how the central candle represented Jesus, the light of the world.

The moment then arrived for the Church lights to be dimmed and the Christingles lit whilst the children came up to receive theirs and sing "Away in a Manger" in the candle-lit Church. It was a touching moment with the anticipation that Christmas was fairly imminent although there was still the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, the Crib Service and the Christmas Communion to look forward to before opening Christmas presents. The collection of £218 was donated to The Children's Society and prayers were said for the many young people in the Middle East, for example, who would not be enjoying Christmas this year.

Caroline Lavender

All this reminds us that the Holy Family were refugees to Egypt, probably when Jesus was around 18 months to 2 years old. A massacre of children under two took place in Bethlehem at the order of the jealous puppet king Herod. The events of the New Testament have their echoes in today's news. There is nothing new under the sun. But, at the same time, there are good news stories of amazing courage, dedication, sacrifice and compassion. God's provision of resources (from the gifts of the wise men) and clear guidance to leave immediately (by a dream to Joseph at night) were means given then but are also experienced by some today.

**Open Doors** (set up by Brother Andrew in 1955 to smuggle bibles into Eastern Europe) has just celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The need to support the persecuted church worldwide has continued and deepened but there are many answers to prayer that encourage and inspire us to keep on going. If you have never read 'God's Smuggler', do ask one of the churches for a copy. It will open your eyes and give you much hope. There is now a version for children also.

Simon Holloway

### CAROLS - MILLERS FARM SHOP



Malcolm Miller hosted carol singing organised by the Baptist and Anglican Churches in Kilmington on a busy Christmas shopping day, Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> December, attracting good participation from shoppers from around the region as well as many village residents. The Revd Simon Holloway from St Giles' Church introduced the carols which were led by musicians from the two Churches, organised by Anna Crabbe. Jemimah Obudu soloed the first verse of *Away in a Manger*. Mulled wine, hot chocolate, eats and sweets were kindly provided by Pastor Darrell Holmes and his team from the Baptist Beacon and were much appreciated. In spite of a rather dull and wet day, those present were in good voice and promoted a real Christmas spirit!

Brian Lavender, KPCC Secretary

# CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Revd Simon Holloway and a packed congregation of enthusiastic family members, friends and village residents welcomed the children of St Mary's Catholic Primary School for their Christmas Concert in St Giles' Church on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> November. The school orchestra, conducted by the talented Rachel Burrough, opened the concert with four lively pieces: *Les Bouffons*, *Mambo United*, *Hydom Hydom* and *Deck the Halls*. This was followed by a strong performance of *The Holly and The Ivy* by the school's cello students and then a magical performance of *Silent Night* by all the violin pupils led by Mrs Orr-Ewing, the school's music teacher. Polly's daughter, Poppy, played Handel's Sonata in F major and gave a superb performance which will have inspired many of the younger children onwards with their musical journey.

Following on from this, The Five Alive Mission Community choir, accompanied on the piano by Margaret Hurford (Rachel's mother), sang three songs: *The Little Road to*



*The Five Alive Mission Community Choir*

*Bethlehem* by Michael Head, *The Advent Candle* by Bob Chilcott and *Christmas Lullaby* by John Rutter. Their performance showed good dynamic contrast and musical phrasing. Iris Chapman, a year six student and violinist, performed *An Chloe* by Mozart with a beautiful tone and musical phrasing. Finally, the concert finished with St Mary's Catholic Primary School choir, again conducted by Rachel, who sang four songs: *Angel's Watchin'*, *Frosty the Snowman*, *The Lord's My Shepherd* and *That first Nowell*. Their clear tone, diction and dynamic contrast were outstanding. After the performance of That First Nowell, there wasn't a dry eye in the church which boded well for the fact that it had been chosen as the choir's entry for Radio Devon's *Star For Christmas* competition. Loud applause greeted the bouquet presentations, especially the one by Rachel to her "wonderful mother."

Brian Lavender, KPCC Secretary

## ST GILES CHURCH CHRISTMAS SERVICES

St Giles' Church was beautifully decorated for the candlelit *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> December with Christmas and Memory Trees kindly donated by Miller's Farm Shop with the manger adding to the ambience of the occasion. The Revd Simon gave a warm welcome to everyone which included many family visitors, and the Service continued without announcements. All the Readings given by village residents, the youngest being Emily Dare, were excellent and the choir, under the direction of Margaret Hurford, led the carols and performed beautiful anthems. There was a short homily by the Revd Simon, followed by mulled wine. The mincepies, the making of which was co-ordinated by Liz Stonex, were much enjoyed afterwards in a very festive atmosphere. The collection of some £340 was donated to the charity "Embrace the Middle East" which is doing such good work in support of Syrian refugees.

The Crib Service on Christmas Eve attracted many families who brought nativity figures with knitted sheep and lambs to place in the crib. The young musicians in the orchestra from St Mary's RC Primary School, conducted by Rachel Burrough, led the songs and carols very well. The *Service of Holy Communion* that evening was also well attended and nearly fifty adults and children came to the Christmas Day Communion at which the Revd Anne Mills told a delightful Christmas story about her granddaughter.

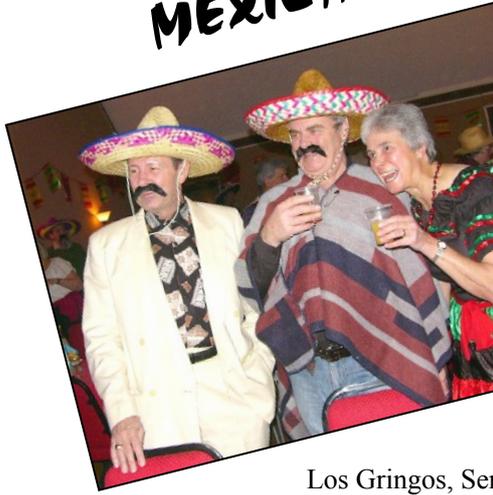


In the two week period over Christmas, 302 adults worshipped in St Giles' Church with 39 children; this excluded the pupils and staff at two school assemblies, and the adults attending Tuesday Communion Services as well as those calling in for private prayer and to hang their stars on the Memory Tree bearing the names of loved ones absent over Christmas. Dying Churches? It was obvious that St Giles' Church is not one of them!

Brian Lavender, KPCC Secretary



# MEXICAN



# EXTRAVAGANZA

Los Gringos, Senors Peter Ball, Stafford Seward, Robert Crabbe and Keith Jolley, mimed some rousing Mexican mariachi music and songs as 95 guests (mostly in ponchos and sombreros) arrived for a Fiesta in the Kilmington Village Hall on Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> January. The decorations were admired as complimentary Tequila Sunrise cocktails were enjoyed. It was a colourful and festive scene from the start. The only formal part of the proceedings was when everyone was asked to stand as a mark of respect to the Mexican Flag during the first stanza and chorus of the Mexican National Anthem, translated by compere Senor Brian Lavender. The Grace was given by Senora Revd Anne Mills in impeccable Spanish before the guests sat down to guacamole and salsa with Doritos, while they puzzled over a twenty question quiz about Mexico. The main course was chilli con carne with tortilla and side salad and was obviously much enjoyed.



Between courses, a Latin American jazz duo, Senors Richard Llewelyn and Tony Roberts, expertly performed typical music before delicious home made margarita ice cream was served. Over coffee, a raffle of Mexican goods run by Senora Mary Seward raised £138, and the Quiz was won by a foursome with twelve points after the compere announced the answers. Senor John Mellows entertained the audience with some amusing Mexican tales before the jazz duo reappeared. The finale of the evening was the performance of a Mexican dance, the macarena, by a troupe of Kilmington "Senoritas" - Gill Gibbs, Celia Dunsford, Jean Falconer, Lesley Rew, Anna Crabbe, Di Seward and Caroline Lavender to music found by Alison Vickers. Following this, practically everyone in the Hall was on their feet dancing too. Parish Councillor, Stafford Seward, congratulated Caroline and Brian Lavender for organising and running such a fabulous evening. He thanked the decorators, the chefs, the servers, musicians and the all those present who had made a big effort to don some marvellous costumes and to join in the fun wholeheartedly.



Brian



# KILMINGTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Churchwarden John Thorne chaired the KPCC Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> January, which the Revd Simon opened with prayers. Looking back to the end of 2015, the Vicar said how grateful we were for the support of so many people in the village and for attending the Christmas Services. Looking forward to the challenges in 2016 he urged support for migrants and refugees from the Middle East and Africa who were in need of winter clothing etc. Details of how and what to donate are to be found elsewhere in the magazine. He was delighted to report that there were twenty candidates to be confirmed by the Bishop of Exeter at a Service in St Giles' Church on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> February. He announced that the Clergy team were planning a Mission Community Study Course during Lent, details of which would be provided shortly. He also said that teams had been trained to participate in School Assemblies once a month on the "Open the Book" principle, the first to be an Epiphany Assembly in Church on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> January.

The Churchwardens expressed appreciation for the support they had received and were grateful for the grants and bequests that had been obtained to help with maintenance work in the Church. They advised that Michael Micklethwait had agreed to continue as Treasurer because Colin Stewart, who had offered to take over, was unable to do so at this

time due to family commitments. The Secretary gained approval for the Annual Return of Statistics for Mission which showed that on a normal Sunday forty-two adults and four children attended Services in St Giles' Church. Festivals such as Christmas, Easter etc. boosted the figures enormously. Churchwarden Diana Mellows reported on the Worship Survey conducted during October which showed that congregations were generally satisfied with the variety of Services offered each month. A number of minor issues were raised and the following recommendations from the Worship Committee were accepted:

1. A portable data projector and screen should be purchased
2. Improvements should be made to the sound system
3. The Church lighting should be upgraded
4. Sermons should be more concise.

Chairman of the Fabric Committee, Bill Kerlake, reported that the repairs to the Tower had been completed but rain had delayed the refurbishment of the Tower clock. He advised that plans to form a "Friends of St Giles' Churchyard" were progressing and he hoped for good support. Dates for 2016 showed that it was going to be a busy year in the Parish Church with a Flower Festival and Art Exhibition to look forward to in June.

Brian Lavender, KPCC Secretary

## CONFIRMATION SERVICE BY THE BISHOP OF EXETER

The Bishop of Exeter, the Rt Revd Robert Atwell, will be coming to St Giles' Church, Kilmington, on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> February to conduct a Confirmation Service for eighteen candidates from the Five Alive Mission Community and two from Offwell and Farway, a total of seven adults and thirteen young people. The Service will start at 2.30 pm and, following the Confirmation, the candidates will be invited to take their first communion accompanied by other members

of the congregation. Young musicians, conducted by Rachel Burrough, will take part in the Service and anyone not confirmed will be invited to the altar for a blessing. Support is requested to welcome the candidates, and a reception will be held in the new Baptist Chapel, The Beacon, afterwards. This will be the Bishop's first visit to Kilmington and it provides an excellent opportunity to meet him.

Brian Lavender, KPCC Secretary

## VICAR'S SURGERY IN ST GILES CHURCH

Rather like MP's, the Revd Simon has been holding "surgeries" in the parishes of the Mission Community and has completed several in Yarcombe, Stockland, Dalwood and Shute. The next will be held in St Giles' Church on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> February from 2.00 – 4.00 pm and he will welcome anyone who wishes to meet him and/or to discuss any problems or concerns. If you wish to make an appointment, please call him on 01297 35433 or email him on [simonholloway556@btinternet.com](mailto:simonholloway556@btinternet.com). He is particularly interested in meeting parents with young children to see how St Giles' Church can help them in any way.

Brian Lavender, KPCC Secretary

## KILMINGTON LENT LUNCHESES

Lent lunches in aid of *Tear Fund*, the charity which is providing such good support for Syrian refugees, will be held in the Village Hall at 12.45 pm on the following Thursdays: 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> February, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> March. **The Village hall is not available on the 18th February.**

Please come and enjoy homemade soup with cheese and a roll, coffee or tea for £5 in a very sociable atmosphere.

Brian Lavender, KPCC Secretary

## POLICE REPORT

There was just one reported crime in Kilmington for December 2015.

This was a Theft.

PSCO Andy Trott, Axminster

## KILMINGTON KANTER

The Kilmington Kanter is to take place on Good Friday again as it has in previous years. The multi-terrain 7 mile run and 2.5 mile fun run have been well attended in previous years and we're hoping for a record number of runners this year. As always, we rely a lot on people in the village to help out on the day by way of marshalling, timekeeping and turning up to run! Luke and I will be calling on our very loyal marshals again this year but



we hope very much that some new, fresh volunteers will step forward and help us out!

This event raises lots of money for our primary school. This money goes towards new books, play equipment and much more. So, please, if anyone is free on the morning of Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> March come and join us, be it to run, support friends and family

or for the tea and cake! We'd love to see you. Many thanks  
Beverley and Luke Reed

**If you can help please contact:**

Bev on 07971782806 or Luke on 07809 505499



## KILMINGTON PRE-SCHOOL

The lead-up to Christmas at Kilmington Pre-school was full of excitement. When we are putting up our Christmas trees at home, some of us would rather like the decorations on the tree to be 'just so' and untouched by little hands.

Our pre-schoolers got the chance most days to decorate and even re-decorate 'their' tree at pre-school!! They loved the chance to choose the coloured tinsel and baubles. They also decorated gingerbread men (as pictured).

Our Christmas show was titled *Whoopsie Daisy Angel*, a delightful story about a clumsy but loveable angel who is chosen to show the way to Bethlehem. With a stage full of angels and a couple of Kings, we were treated to wonderful singing and dancing by our 3 and 4 year olds.

This term we have seen some new starters, taking our numbers up to a healthy 16.

The committee are working on essential fund-raising events to help us run the village pre-school. Ideas so far are: Easter/Mother's Day Crazy Crafts at the end of March in the Village Hall (date to tbc) and the annual Duck Race in the first week in May.

Emma Styles



## MESSY SPARKLERS



Frogs and lizards in lime-flavoured jelly, a treasure basket of natural objects, a tray filled with water, sea creatures and rubber ducks and Happy Land people and animals were among the activities available at this month's Messy Sparklers. The theme for January's Messy Sparklers was Creation. Each of the activities reflected a different day of Creation as told to us in the Bible, even our snack - gingerbread men and grape caterpillars.

This month we were almost filled to capacity, with 27 adults and 31 children under 5 years. We now use part of the Worship Area in addition to the Hall as the weather is not suitable for holding any of the activities outside.

Next month, our sensory playgroup for children from birth to school age, Messy Sparklers, will be held on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> March at The Beacon, home of The Baptist Church, Kilmington. We meet from 10.30 am, beginning with coffee and snacks until 12.30 pm, after a story, songs and finger food lunch. A contribution of £2 for the first child and £1 for additional children covers all the activities plus lunch for both children and their parents/carers.



Julietta Obudo

# KILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

# I'M TIRED

## Welcome Packs

The Parish Council 'Welcome Pack' will need to be updated now that a new year has started. During the last two years there have been new residents who have moved in to Kilmington and the welcome packs have been well received and the information has been very useful.

Any clubs or organisations wishing to have information promoting their activities or updating existing information please contact Sally Huscroft on 01297 32243

## Neighbourhood Plan

The Parish Council is about to embark on a Neighbourhood Plan for Kilmington. This is a plan to incorporate and recommendations for the future of Kilmington. For example, what changes residents would like to see? Are there any improvements to be made? Should the village get bigger or stay as it is? The Neighbourhood Plan is necessary and will be recognised by E.D.D.C.

We are looking for volunteers to assist with this project. If anyone would like to join a committee to help produce the plan please contact myself or the Parish Clerk.

## St Giles' Church Clock

At our last meeting we were able to donate £400 towards the cost of repainting the clock face. We hope this work will be done as soon as the weather permits.

Michael Collier, Chairman

## Next Meeting:

Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Pavilion.

Yes, I'm tired. For several years I've been blaming it on middle age, poor blood, lack of vitamins, air pollution, saccharin, obesity, dieting, under arm odour, yellow wax build up and another dozen maladies that make you wonder if life is really worth living.

But I found out it ain't that.

The population of this country is 51 million,

21 million are retired

That leaves 30 million to do the work.

There are 19 million in school,

That leaves 11 million to do the work.

2 million are unemployed and 4 million are employed by the government,

That leaves 5 million to do the work.

1 million are in the Armed Forces

That leaves 4 million to do the work.

3 million are employed by County and Borough Councils

That leaves 1 million to do the work.

There are 620,000 people in hospital and 379,000 in prison,

That leaves 2 people to do the work - you and me.

And you are sitting on your arse reading this

NO WONDER I'M .....TIRED.

Note: We are not sure where the above small tirade originated but thought it might strike a chord with some of our readers and, perhaps, raise a smile.

# 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 25.

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

# FIVE ALIVE OIL

The January 4<sup>th</sup> oil order of 16,150 litres attracted a winning bid of 23.4p per litre plus 5% VAT. This is, I understand, the lowest price for a decade.

I am now taking orders for the 25<sup>th</sup> February deadline and would appreciate it if members would either request a specific amount or, if ordering a top up, will submit an estimate of the amount required with a minimum order of 500 litres.

Colin Stewart  
cogstewart@aol.com  
01297 792538

# VILLAGE HALL '100' CLUB

The winners of the draw held on  
18<sup>th</sup> December 2015

R Lovegrove	£25	C Siggery	£5
A Heasman	£10	J Mellows	£5
N Pollard	£10	M Rogers	£5

The winners of the Christmas draw

J Pollard	£5	R Hiatt	£5
M Brown	£5	H Dalman	£5
L Rew	£5		

For further details, please contact  
Angus Falconer - 01297 33708

## Down the garden path



How times change! Although aware of fashions that come and go in and out of gardens, I was surprised to read an article written in 1951 by Vita Sackville-West in which she says 'I cannot imagine why people do not grow both varieties of hellebore more freely'. I would have thought that hellebores, like roses, have always been a feature of English gardens. White flowers of the Christmas rose, named the black hellebore because of the colour of its roots, are already lighting up corners under deciduous trees and it won't be long before they are joined by the pink to purple or yellow ones of the Lenten hellebores. Cutting off the leaves of the latter is a tedious January task but has two benefits: the flowers are given room to develop and old leaves often harbour fungal diseases and need to be removed. Mine are inter-planted with snowdrops – a living magic carpet.

Having enjoyed the mildest December and early January since records began, when daffodils and magnolias were hoodwinked into flowering, the old saying that when the days lengthen the frosts strengthen is proving correct. We could do with some cold spells as January is the month when

slugs and snails emerge to feast on emerging shoots, and a cold snap will send them back into hiding. At this time of year, most of the interest is at ground level. Primulas and pulmonarias are lifting up their leaves, winter aconites are in flower, and the points of grape hyacinths and erythroniums are poking up among the leaf litter. I am always in two minds as to whether it is better to remove all leaf debris from flower beds to prevent giving shelter to pests, or to leave it to give tender new growth protection from overnight frosts. This year I intend to remove the rotting leaves but not leave any time before adding a mulch of compost. Good intentions, however, have a dubious reputation.

**Plant of the month:** *Iris stylosa (unguicularis)* the Algerian iris. A winter flowering iris, hardy in this area, and easy to grow. Rather untidy but has lovely lavender blue flowers from January to March. Choose a sunny spot at the foot of a wall.

Acantha

## KGC Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> January: January Gardens – An Audience with Anne Swithinbank

As the Club's Secretary said in her welcome, Anne Swithinbank needs no introduction. Her name as broadcaster, journalist and writer is well known to members and guests who packed the Village Hall, anxious to pick up words of gardening wisdom. They were not disappointed: Anne charmed and enlightened them in equal measure. She had chosen as her topic the garden in January, ranging from weather to work and plants to pests. First of all, the weather which this year is 4°C warmer than average, encouraging spring flowers to emerge early, ready to be flattened by the frosts to come. Be prepared, she advised; make sure that plants in pots are all in the right place for protection. When the soil is neither too wet nor frosty, this is the time to move perennials and shrubs that could do better somewhere else in the garden. Anne talked about problems she has in her own garden in Colyford: for example, roses like to be in open beds – exactly where the deer like to graze. There were sympathetic murmurs from the audience, many of whom share this experience. Dramatic shapes are important in the winter garden and Anne recommended some exotics for this part of the country, waving aloft specimens she had brought with her, among them a tall, evergreen frond of *Rhodocoma capensis*, a delicate red-stemmed eucalyptus (*gregsoniana*) which grows only to about three metres and a striking *Phormium* 'Alice Blackman'.

Having written a weekly column for Amateur Gardening for the past 17 years, Anne is well aware that fashions in gardening change. As January looks forward, what trends are we to expect in the year ahead? Anne predicted that



Anne Swithinbank with Lesley Rew and Jean Falconer

individual plants would perhaps take precedence over horticultural styles; even houseplants could make a come-back. Small gardens will surely feature as gardens shrink in size; containers, pots and bottle gardens are likely to be popular – a whole new trend could change the way we look at individual plants. She shared her expertise with us – on mixing composts, new 'air pots' for trees to prevent roots curling round in circles, tools she prizes and how to encourage nature to rid the roses of pests instead of using chemicals.

As a finale, Anne showed slides of plants which are at their best in January, emphasising that most are fragrant and all are desirable. They included flowering shrubs – daphnes, rhododendrons, viburnums, winter honeysuckle, witch hazel, camellias, *Stachyurus* and a stunning yellow *Edgeworthia*; hips on roses; evergreen ferns and, of course, snowdrops. The scope inside the greenhouse is even more exotic, including mimosas and peaches, orchids and aeoniums. She did, however, leave us with a winter work list: prune summer flowering clematis, cut out old wood on blackcurrants, plant or move roses when the soil is not soggy, and for those with green fingers – try your hand at propagating mistletoe. We had been treated to a delightful evening of expertise and personal experience – what a great way to start the gardening year.

Sydie Bones

**Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> February: Ponds and Pond Plants – John Horsey**

## AXMINSTER MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENTS PARTICIPATION GROUP

As we start 2016 major changes are taking place at the practice to provide benefits to both patients and staff.

Work has begun on the extension to provide several additional consulting rooms which will allow more medical staff to work simultaneously. This work will take several months and, inevitably, there will be some disruption. Porta Cabins have been set up in the Rest Harrow car park next to the surgery and some of the nurses and doctors are now working from these. Patients should still register their arrival at reception before going to the waiting room at the back of the Rest Harrow premises where the medical practitioner will collect them for their appointment. Please be patient with us during this period. It will be worthwhile when the work is completed.

Another change obvious to patients is the installation of a new telephone system. This allows callers to select which service they require and allows their call to go directly to the most appropriate receptionist. An example is the ability to go straight to appointment bookings where dedicated staff

are available to make necessary appointments. There are also options for collecting test results, speaking to dispensary staff and speaking to administrators. This can save a lot of time compared with in the past when lines were continually engaged when you simply want to make an appointment.

The above improvements, plus the increasing number of patients ordering medication and making appointments online, should make life a lot easier for patients and staff alike, allowing much more time for the real purpose of the practice in continuing to provide excellent medical care. Should you wish to use the online system, please contact reception for security details (01297 32126) and the availability of training if you should want this.

Through the kind offices of the parish magazines, we will endeavour to keep you informed of progress.

Ann Veit ([AnnVmus@aol.com](mailto:AnnVmus@aol.com)) AMPPPG  
Shelaagh Fearnley ([bsfearnley@icloud.com](mailto:bsfearnley@icloud.com)) AMPPPG

## PANTO REHEARSALS ARE IN FULL SWING

Tickets available from 1<sup>st</sup> February at Hurford's Stores



## W.I. REPORT

At our December meeting Mollie Bond came to talk to us about less well known facts about the Titanic disaster which proved very interesting, including the fact that there were not enough lifeboats on board but there were 3,500 life jackets.

Kathy told us we had made about £400 at our Soup and Sweet lunch in November.

Our January meeting opened with apologies from Ann Chapple and then the minutes were read. Joy then recalled our splendid Christmas lunch at the New Inn at which Phyllis was presented with the Year award for competitions and Joy for flowers.

The Group Meeting was discussed and suggestions made. Joy will go to a meeting to finalise. Jenny showed us the crochet work she had learned at the Food Craft and Skills group to which Louise and Margaret also went.

We had supper provided by members which was varied and delicious. The competition was won by Christine who also won the flower competition.

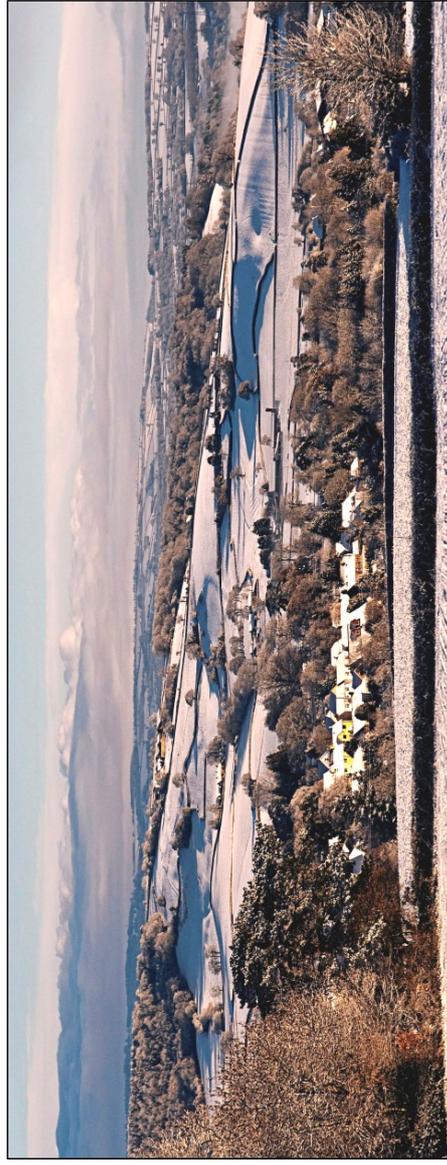
Next month on February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall. Mina Fountain will demonstrate Indian cookery and we look forward to that.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

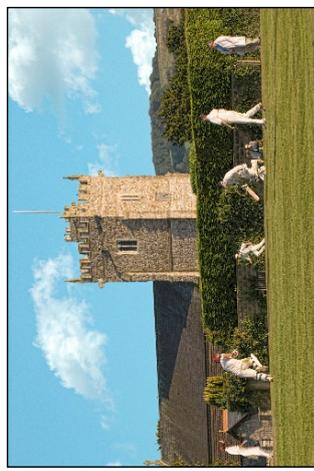
Margaret Andrews



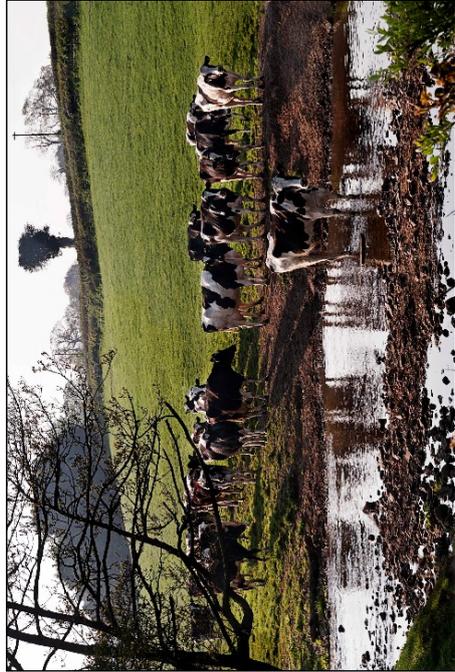
*The Green*



*The village in the snow, looking north-east from Betty's Ground.*



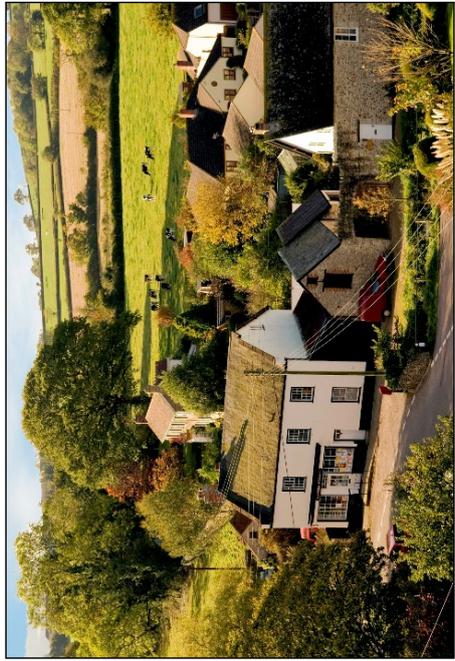
*A summer's day*



*Cows near Corry Brook*



*Down in the Axe Valley*



*Looking down to Hutford's Stores from the tower of St Giles' Church*

## ***Au revoir and all good wishes to Helen and Julian Shaw***

As many readers will know Helen and Julian moved from Kilmington just before Christmas. Helen was a former editor of Postscript and a member of the PS team for many years, and also played a central rôle in setting up the first art, craft and photography exhibition in the village around four years ago. Julian, amongst other things, is a highly talented photographer, renowned for his beautiful photographs of our village and its surroundings.

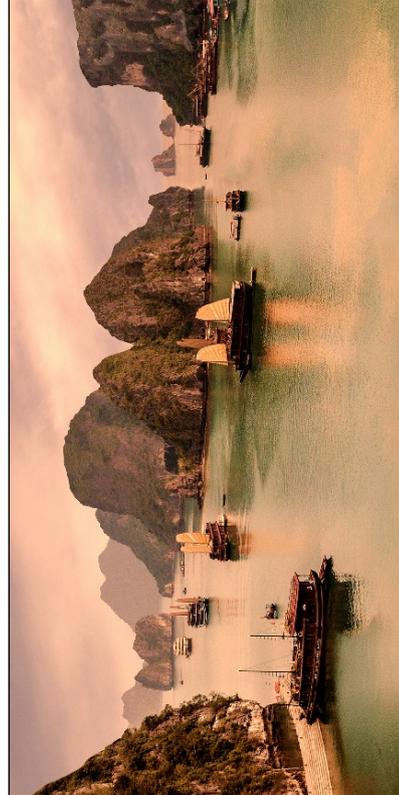
It occurred to us that it would be fitting to include a selection of Julian's photos in the magazine as a tribute to both of them. Julian has chosen some of his favourite local shots and also a small selection of their recent holiday photographs. We are sure you would wish to join us in sending best wishes from Kilmington as they settle in to their new home - Editor.



*Hoi An man*



*A trip to market*



*Halong Bay*

## COTLEY HARRIERS AT THE OLD INN

The Cotley Harriers are still going strong and they started out from The Old Inn on the 9<sup>th</sup> January despite the very wet conditions. Their first records go back over two hundred years to 1797, although there was a small pack of hounds prior to that date. They are known as Harriers because they originally hunted hare, which were a major pest back then. Therefore green jackets are the dress code, rather than scarlet (known as pinks) as worn by a fox hunt. Apparently, in the 1800s there were very few foxes in this part of Devon. The hounds are also somewhat unusual: white and lemon West Country Harriers and bred to be a little larger when fox hunting replaced hares. Each pack has a registered area in which to hunt and Cotley has a large area from Axminster along the railway past Kilmington to Honiton, north to Yarcombe, Chard and south to Lyme Regis.



Peter

## KILMINGTON COUNTRY DANCING GROUP

The idea of a Country Dance Group based in Kilmington came from the Women's Institute in the 1980s and originated with Jean White and friends. Around 2000, Monica Winsor, the then leader of the group, retired through ill health and handed the organization over to Imogen and Ken Wilcox. From that time named members took turns in leading the dancing each week and others were involved in the tea or chairs rota. There was also a review of subscriptions. The range of dances expanded and several demonstrations took place, notably at the Village Show, then held on the first Saturday in August. Since the tragic death of Imogen in August 2009, Ken has continued as nominal leader but has been ably supported by all members of the group with everyone taking an active part in the organization of activities.



Membership changes as years go by and as older members find dancing more and more challenging, they are always welcome for a cup of tea at 3.00 pm and to watch. New members come along, and numbers have held steady between an average attendance of between 14 and 24 from September to April. This has always been a group predominantly of women but it is rare for men not to be represented on any Monday between 2.00 and 4.00 pm when the group meet each week.

The group has links with other local country dance groups, holds an annual dance with a band every last Friday in November, and an annual dinner each January.



It is at present in a healthy vibrant state with many competent, keen and enthusiastic dancers whom you will find dancing at local Hoedowns and Shindigs as well as with the group.

New members are always welcome, as are previous ones who wish to return. Sessions include basic dances suitable for beginners as well as more difficult ones for the experienced. Recently the group's repertoire has expanded to the point where old and forgotten favourites have to be revisited. It is a tribute to its founders that approximately 30 years later the group is as strong now as ever it was.

Ken Wilcox



## POSTSCRIPT SPOKE WITH DUNCAN AND LEIGH AFTER THEY DEPARTED THE OLD INN IN DECEMBER

Yes it's been a busy and emotional few weeks," said Duncan "and in the end it all happened very quickly, so the first thing to say is "thanks" to all of our customers and suppliers whom we didn't get a chance to speak to before we left. We've just spent our first whole week off at Christmas with the family since entering the catering and hospitality business 30 years ago! As we're in Axminster, we've already bumped into several people around the town. When we've got the place straight and had a good holiday, we'll be back to the village for a drink or two for sure.

When we moved to Kilminster in 2002, I was managing a group of hotels and was based in Weymouth. All of the travel was becoming tiresome and I didn't get to see our girls Stephanie and Lauren much. Leigh and I had discussed 'what next' and had plans to take on a pub. We'd come very close already with one in a nearby village but it didn't come together in the end - I'm a great believer in fate and, if things are meant to happen, they will. Then, as if to prove the point, we arrived home one day to find a note on the mat offering us the opportunity to discuss *The Old Inn*. We had already shown an interest in it as it was on our doorstep; we knew it well, felt it was right for us and had plenty of potential.

That all happened quickly too; we sold the cottage in Salisbury Terrace, took over in May 2007 and didn't look back - actually there wasn't time to! Anyone who has managed a pub will tell you: it's not a new job but more a new lifestyle! However we knew what we were taking on and we both thoroughly enjoyed the challenge and building up the business. And, we'd like to think we became a key part of the local community too. It certainly felt like it with quizzes, the cricket club, six skittle teams, the Cotley Hunt, the village school staff nights, the village fayre, beer festivals, Guy Fawkes night, weddings, christenings, anniversaries and wakes: never ending and a privilege to look after some really nice people. The special themed



*Duncan, Stephanie and Leigh*

nights were always great fun too, with fantastic support from the village. Even when we recreated the Berni Steakhouse night, our regulars turned up in 1970s flower power fancy dress! Aside from all our regulars, I really enjoy meeting people anyway, so to be able to talk to 200 different people a day can give you a real insight, and sometimes an interesting perspective too, on the world!

Of course Leigh's perspective from the kitchen was a little

different and I'm sure at times I just added to her stress! When we started, our objective was to provide consistent, reliable good food and the service to go with it. Then our customers could return in confidence. As it all quickly started to come together, it was really satisfying for us both. Meanwhile, our daughters were growing up and helping out too. I'm sure being part of it all gave them valuable experience and additional confidence they wouldn't have gained elsewhere.

The eight and half years have just flown by and last year we decided it was about time for another change. We have nothing planned, are considering various options, but are looking forward to taking some time out and a good holiday, which we haven't had for a long while. As I said, I'm a great believer in fate and something will turn up which takes our fancy.

*The Old Inn* is more than 400 years old and landlords have come and gone. While we were caretakers for just a relatively short time, we'd like to think our little contribution was a positive one. Thanks to everyone who helped us along the way. We enjoyed it and we hope you did too. It's certainly been quite emotional handing over 'our baby' to someone new! And we wish Steve every success in taking her forward.

Duncan Colvin in conversation with Peter Ball

### **FLAMINGO POOL QUIZ**

Kilminster Village Hall

Friday 5th February, 7.00 for 7.30 pm

Tickets £8.50 in advance or £9.50 on the night to include a 2-course meal, licensed bar  
Teams of 4-6

**Tickets available from:**

Flamingo Pool 01297 35800  
Axminster Tourist Information 01297 34386

### **Seasoned Logs for Sale**

Any size load available - Ring anytime on

07979 646110 or 07815 755608

# ONE OF THE NEW LEASEHOLDERS OF THE OLD INN, STEVE LITTLELY TALKS TO POSTSCRIPT ABOUT THEIR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE PUB

“I moved to Kilmington seven years ago and, to me, *The Old Inn* has always epitomised THE village pub: not only its picture postcard looks but its whole character and what it provides to the local community. I never imagined there would be an opportunity for us to take up the management of the pub. Duncan and Leigh built up an excellent reputation and a great place for villagers to socialise. From a business perspective and with all we have built up at Cranberries, it's an opportunity that just has a natural fit. In fact, a lot of our clients already use and like *The Old Inn* and its restaurant. In other words we want to keep all that character of THE village pub.

Many people will already know Jason and Sammy who will continue to ‘front’ the pub from behind the bar. In addition, we are adding six more staff and we're running with two chefs in the kitchen. In this way we can extend our hours and open a full seven days a week. Breakfast, morning coffee and afternoon cream teas will all be added to the snacks, lunches and evening meals we already serve.

Our new chef, Claudiu Turdeanu, is creating a new and exciting menu adding some international flair to locally sourced ingredients. Fish, pasta, vegetarian and gluten-free dishes will all be included. And as we move forward, we



*Sammy and Jason*

will also offer a takeaway service for those who wish to eat or are entertaining at home.

We'll aim to provide a good and varied range of beers, including guest ales. In fact, we'd welcome any suggestions on which guest ales our customers would like to see.

We also hope to cater for more local groups, clubs and societies who are looking for a friendly venue in which to meet. In addition to serving our local customers, clearly we also want to attract more passing trade along what is a very busy holiday route.

In the summer the beer festival with local bands will continue, as will the very popular Guy Fawkes fireworks evening. Skittlers will continue to be welcomed for the league matches and we'll also provide skittle evenings for those who are not regular players and want to bring along a group of friends for a more relaxing social evening.

So, I personally want to keep the character of the pub and its friendly atmosphere and my team and I will work hard to achieve just this. I hope we can serve all your Postscript readers!”

In conversation with Peter Ball

## SNOW ON THE (HIGH)WAY?

Will we get any snow this year? You wouldn't have thought so, given the very mild weather over Christmas but, at the time of writing, it's suddenly got a lot colder so it's impossible to know what will happen. To be on the safe side, some minor preparations have been made – just in case!

About 25 people (households) around the village have volunteered under the Snow Warden scheme initiated by Devon County Council a few years ago. I am pleased to say that several new volunteers have come forward this year – many thanks to them – their willingness to help is much appreciated.

As you may remember, this scheme was designed to encourage and enable villages to take a positive rôle in dealing with snow and ice on their roads – as DCC are unable to deal with every road in the county – especially in the event of severe snow and ice. The main benefits of the scheme are that:

- i) we received (a few years ago) 5 tons of road salt/grit, and
- ii) those taking part in the “volunteer scheme” are covered by third party insurance.

It is very unlikely that we (the volunteers) will be able to deal with all of the village roads so the plan is that we will

seek to keep a clear/passable route through the village – from Whitford Road up The Street and along The Hill to the A35. In addition, hopefully the area around Silver Street will be covered also as a result of the strong level of volunteering from that area. Depending on the severity of any snow and ice, and on how we manage, we might be able to grit other roads. (Whitford Road from the A35 to Hurfords will be gritted by DCC and the A35, as it is a trunk road, will be gritted by Highways England).

All of DCCs grit bins in the village are full, and the four Parish Council bins are half full (they're bigger bins!). The Parish grit bins are padlocked to try to prevent people from outside the village “stealing” the grit – as has happened in the past. The volunteers, who all have their own small supply of grit, have the combination number to the padlocks so they can either replenish their supply or use the grit directly from the bins onto the roads. Each Parish Councillor also has the combination number. If you want to gain access to the Parish Council grit bins please contact me so that I can register you as a volunteer under the scheme etc.

David Vickers - Snow Warden 01297 631275  
[davidvickers@kilmingtonvillage.com](mailto:davidvickers@kilmingtonvillage.com)

# WIND!



Who would have thought that Kilmington's severe wind in the recent storms would have upturned the cricket hut and blown it several metres across the Playing Field?

We are pleased to report that it is relatively undamaged and back in its usual location. Good work chaps!

## NEW INN SEEKING HISTORY

Carey and Mandy are interested to hear from anyone with old photographs or any historical information about The New Inn. Just pop round!



## METAL COLLECTION

The Spectrum Youth Club is now attracting around 50 young people from the local Secondary Schools each term-time Tuesday at 6.45 pm. To continue providing equipment and an exciting programme of events they continue their fundraising efforts.

Consequently they are collecting metal (particularly aluminium cans and copper, but gold will not be refused!) during the months of February and March 2016. If you have any metal contributions, please bring them to The Beacon where there are containers to collect this material. It will then be sold to the Scrap Metal Merchant simultaneously raising money and recycling unwanted waste.

The young people would like to thank the village in advance for their generous response and support.

Darrell Holmes

## Hurford Stores and Kilmington Post Office

Telephone: 01297 33203



- ☰ Postal Services
- £ FREE cash withdrawal
- 😊 General Store
- 😊 Fresh local bread - daily
- 😊 Local Meats
- 😊 Local Cakes and Biscuits
- 😊 Local Cheese supplier

Just a little...  
"Thank you!"

We are one of the few remaining independent village stores in Devon, the existence of which is dependent on regular custom, and we thank our regular customers.

Could you become one, changing habit and visiting **Hurfords** to purchase a **few** items regularly, before making your trip to the supermarket? Your support could make **the** difference. Thank you.

**Rob Perry Garden Machinery & Power Equipment**

HONDA  
AUTHORISED DEALER  
SALES SERVICE EXPERTISE

SALES SERVICE EXPERTISE

Caring for your garden machinery

The Boating Centre  
Raymonds Hill  
Axminster, Devon EX13 5ST

01297 631314  
gm@robperrymarine.co.uk

# ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - KILMINGTON BRANCH

## AWARDS FOR RBL POPPY APPEAL COLLECTORS

At a Festive Coffee Morning organised by the Kilmington Branch of the Royal British Legion on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> November, awards were presented to eight long serving Poppy Appeal Collectors. Bill Barker (ex Royal Artillery) received a certificate for collecting over 25 years and a Merit Badge, Gerry Hurford (ex Royal Army Service Corps) and his wife Pearl earned 15 year certificates and badges, Simon Heighway (ex RAF) and his wife Gill, as well as Margaret Andrews, were awarded 10 year certificates and Jennie Giles with Louise Quincey earned 5 year certificates. In the two weeks of the Poppy Appeal ending on Remembrance Sunday this year, £2,783 was raised in Kilmington, a remarkable total for a small village. The Branch Chairman, Commander Stafford Seward OBE RN (Ret'd), thanked the



*Margaret Andrews, Bill Barker, Jennie Giles, Pearl and Gerry Hurford with Stafford*

collectors and the Poppy Appeal Coordinators, Caroline and Brian Lavender.

The Village Hall was beautifully decorated to give both a Christmas spirit and a British Legion one and was almost filled to capacity as members and visitors flocked around the stalls, most finding something to buy for Christmas while enjoying refreshments which included mulled wine and mince pies. Commander Seward thanked everyone for the wonderful support for this occasion which had been organised so well by

Committee members, in particular, Lesley Rew whose daughter is married to a Serving Royal Marine who is a member of the Branch. The proceeds of the morning raised just over £1,300 which will be added to the total donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Stafford Seward

## KILMINGTON KITCHEN

... and a *Happy New Year* everybody. This month, we have included a tea loaf which, hopefully, will be useful for all our diabetic friends, but first of all the meatball and carrot bake will give you a nice cosy supper.

### MEATBALL & CARROT BAKE WITH CRISPY FETA CRUMBS

Serves 4

500g pork mince  
100g fresh breadcrumbs  
½ tsp caraway seeds  
1 egg  
1 tsp ground cumin  
400g carrots, peeled and halved lengthways  
1 large jar (at least 500g) of your favourite pasta sauce  
100g feta, crumbled  
Good handful chopped coriander

1. Turn oven to fan 200C/conventional 220C/gas 7. Mix the pork, 25g of the breadcrumbs, the caraway seeds, egg, cumin, and half of the chopped coriander with 1tsp of salt and lots of pepper. Roll into meatballs and put into a large non-stick roasting tin along with the carrots gently toss to coat. Roast for 30-40 mins turning half-way until golden and cooked through.
2. Put the meatballs and carrots into an ovenproof dish and top with tomato sauce of your choice. Mix the remaining breadcrumbs and coriander with the feta and seasoning, sprinkle over the top. Reduce oven to 180Cfan/con 200C/gas 6 and bake for 20 mins until golden and piping hot.

### DIABETIC-FRIENDLY LOW-FAT GINGER TEA BREAD

140g/5oz mixed dried fruit  
325ml/11fl oz hot lemon and ginger tea (made with 2 tea bags)  
225g/8oz wholemeal flour  
2 tsp baking powder  
100g/4oz fructose sugar  
1 large egg beaten

1. Put the dried fruit in a large bowl, pour over the tea and leave to soak for at least 2 hrs (preferably overnight) stirring occasionally.
2. Heat oven to 160C/140C fan/gas 3. Line the bottom and sides of a 900g loaf tin with baking parchment. Put the flour, baking powder, fructose and egg in a food processor or blender and process for a few mins. Add the dried fruit and tea and blitz again until well mixed or, if you prefer, stir the fruit in so it remains whole.
3. Spoon the mixture into the tin. Bake for 50 mins – 1 hr until the cake feels springy in the centre and a skewer comes out clean. Cover it with foil half-way if it is browning too quickly. Allow to cool in the tin for 5 mins, then carefully turn out onto a wire rack.

Margaret Astbury





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

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

Sunday	10.30 am	The Beacon	The Baptist Church morning service
	6.00 pm	The Beacon	The Baptist Church meet every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday in month
Monday	early	Your house	Recycling collections
Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri	9.15 am	Village Hall	Pre-school playgroup for 3+
Monday	2.00 - 4.00 pm	Village Hall	Country Dancing for all ages
Monday alternate	2.00 - 4.30 pm	Pavilion, dates circulated	Bridge Club
Tuesday	9.30 am	St Giles' Church	Holy Communion followed by coffee
	10.00 - noon	Village Hall	Table Tennis
	10.00 - noon	Village Hall Foyer	Coffee and get-together
	1.30 - 3.30 pm	St Giles' Church	Craft Club - <i>Crafty Knit and Natter</i>
	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Badminton
	7.00 - 8.30 pm	The Beacon	Spectrum Youth Club
	7.30 - 9.00 pm	St Giles' Tower	Bell-ringing practice
Wednesday	9.15 am	The Beacon	Toddlers and Tinies
	2.00 - 4.00 pm	Village Hall	Short mat bowls
Thursday	2.00 - 4.00 pm	Village Hall	Badminton
Friday	10.00 - noon	St Giles' Church	Coffee and a warm welcome
	10.00 - 3.00 pm	Pavilion	Art Group

### DATES FOR FEBRUARY 2016

Mon	1st	Early	Hurford's Stores	Tickets for Pantomime are now on sale
	1st	Early	Your House	Landfill with recycling
Wed	3rd	7.00 pm	United Reformed Church, Ax	Axminster Churches Together
	3rd	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Moviola: <i>The Suffragette</i>
Fri	5th	2.00 - 4.00 pm	St Giles' Church	Vicar's Surgery
	5th	6.00 pm	The Old Inn	Royal British Legion 'Get Together'
	5th		Village Hall	Quiz in aid of the Flamingo Pool
	5th	7.30 pm	Pavilion	Kilmington Cricket Club AGM
	5th	7.30 pm	The Guildhall, Axminster	Filling Station
Sun	7th	2.30 pm	St Giles' Church	Confirmation by the Bishop of Exeter
	7th	4.00 pm	The Beacon	Confirmation Reception
	7th	8.00 pm	The New Inn	Quiz: Guide Dogs for the Blind
Mon	8th	10.00 am	The New Inn	Royal British Legion Committee Meeting
Tues	9th	10.00 am	The Beacon	CREATE Group
	9th	10.30 am	The Beacon	Messy Sparklers
Wed	10th	9.30 am	Dalwood Church	Mission Community Ash Wednesday Communion
Thurs	11th	12.45 pm	Village Hall	Lent Lunches
	11th	7.00 pm	Village Hall	WI: Demonstration of Indian cooking - details on page 13
	11th	7.45 pm	Cudmore Room	Lent Course
Fri	12th	7.30 pm	Village Hall	KGC: <i>Ponds and Pond Plants - John Horsey</i>
Sat	13th	2.00 pm	The Beacon	Scrabble Club
Sun	14th	9.30 am	St Giles' Church	Parish Communion
Mon	15th	Early	Your House	Landfill with recycling
Tues	16th	12.30 pm	The Beacon	Contact Lunch
Wed-Sat	17th - 20th	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Kilmington Players: <i>Babes in the Wood</i>
Sun	21st	11.00 am	Dalwood Church	Mission Community Holy Communion
Thur	25th	12.45 pm	Village Hall	Lent Lunches
	25th	7.45 pm	Cudmore Room	Lent Course
Sun	28th	8.30 am	St Giles' Church	Holy Communion
	28th	11.00 am	St Giles' Church	Family Service
	28th	6.00 pm	The Beacon	L.I.F.E. Film Evening

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<b>Police -</b>		Village Hall bookings (Caroline Lavender)	01297 34922	Short Mat Bowls (Ron Foster)	01297 35529
Crime stoppers	0800 555111	Village 100 Club (Angus Falconer)	01297 33708	Sunday School (Christine Thorne)	07795 552675
Emergency	999	Hitchcock Pavilion bookings (Michael O'Flaherty)	01297 35873	Table Tennis (Jenny Nickolls)	01297 32335
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		KGC - Jean Falconer, Secretary	01297 33708	Art group - Barbara Whiteley	01297 32258

### CHURCHES

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*Kilmington Players*

*present*

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7.30pm**

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