

KILMINGTON

POSTscript

Issue 204 May 2018



EDITORIAL

On most mornings in term time, at around eight o'clock, teenagers emerge in ones and twos from the Kilmington lanes onto Shute Road where they assemble at the War Memorial, with its November poppy wreaths, to wait for their bus to school. Some of them are probably not so very much younger than 'the men of Kilmington who died for their king and country in the Great War,' in whose memory the memorial was erected. At the time it was thought to be the war to end all wars but only a generation later more names were added. We are told that there has been no time since then when there hasn't been a war, somewhere in the world. This year sees the centenary anniversary of the armistice in 1918 and our cover shows some of the members of the Kilmington Royal British Legion at Pozières British Cemetery on their commemorative visit to Arras and WW1 battlefield cemeteries in France in March.

This month we have reports of other expeditions too: Laurie Quincey has sent the promised account of his successful fundraising trek in Swedish Lapland; Chloe Hodder's expeditions, as part of the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, resulted in a visit to Buckingham Palace to collect her gold award; Paul Obudo is planning to spend six months as a volunteer in Thailand and Carly Dare arranged an exciting adventure for the children of the pre-school, who travelled by train to Honiton and back – explorers and voyagers of the future perhaps.

The new outreach Post Office from Colyton appears to have overcome its initial difficulties and opens at the Beacon on Tuesday mornings, coinciding happily with free coffee in the foyer and plenty of free parking space. We also have an article by Mike Axford, reminiscing about the time when he and his brother were growing up in the Kilmington Post Office and Stores, which his parents Norman and Joy had taken over in 1969.

The merry month of May, traditionally associated with weddings, maypole dancing, flowers, bees, sunshine, warmth and apple blossom, has a lot of catching up to do this year. Farmers and gardeners are complaining that the prolonged cold, wet weather has caused everything to be several weeks behind but the weeds are beginning to flourish so that has to be a good sign of sorts.

Four years ago the Invictus Games were created by Prince Harry, as an international, adaptive, multi-sport event, raising both the profile and the morale of badly injured armed services personnel and it is unlikely to have escaped anyone's notice that there is to be a royal wedding this month on May 19th in Windsor.

Janfryd

The front cover photo was taken by Stafford Seward at Pozières British Cemetery, France

The Kilmington Kanter photos were taken by Marie Gardener

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postscript@kilmingtonvillage.com

Alternatively, please give your item to any team member.

The closing date for submitting items for the June issue is 15th May 2018. All will be acknowledged. Please email or ring 01297 639115 if not acknowledged within 48 hours.

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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 23 for details. Donations to the middle of April came to £63.75. 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. In addition, earlier issues will also appear online from time to time.

KILMINGTON POST OFFICE IN THE 1970s

Norman and Joy Axford took over Kilmington Post Office and Stores from Mr and Mrs Jack Saunders in October 1969. Norman had been employed at Lebus's furniture factory in Tottenham since 1938, with a five year break as a Petty Officer/aircraft fitter in the Fleet Air Arm during the War. The furniture trade is notorious for its cyclical periods of boom and bust – none more so than Lebus's, so in 1966 at the age of 44 Norman started his new adventure/plan. Norman and Joy had brought their two boys on holiday to the Seaton area every year since the start of the 60s, and they planned to head in that direction once the boys were independent. Norman was bright and sociable, and Joy was an accomplished finance clerk with Halex, who made things like toothbrushes, carpet sweepers and table tennis balls. Norman applied to the Post Office for a position as a counter clerk, and in spite of being easily the oldest on the training course, he came top of the class. For the next three years he worked around some of the busiest and toughest Crown Offices in north east London, where armed robbery was an everyday possibility, and all sorts of fiddles and frauds were being attempted on the good folk across the counters – no armoured glass screens in those days.

Norman learnt fast – which was his plan – because their summer holiday in 1969 comprised of touring sub post offices for sale in East Devon. One of the first to come to their attention was Kilmington. The price was £9,000, plus stock at valuation. Their three bed semi in Chingford was up for sale at £6,950, and the difference seemed too great, until Jack Saunders generously offered a credit arrangement to cover what was required. On 1st October 1969 their youngest son, Michael headed off to university, and on Friday, 10th October Joy and Norman moved into Stanley House on the corner of The Street and Bim Bom Lane.

In those days of National Insurance stamps, Norman had an early brainwave. He called into Axminster Carpets and offered to manage all the stamps for their employees, thus earning a useful commission on sales. The shop was kept spotless, because it was also their home, and that's the way their home had always been kept. Saturday afternoons were early closing, but there was no rest until the wooden parquet floor of the shop had been scrubbed and the books balanced to the penny.

Nevertheless, money was tight. This was their dream – 'semi retirement' was not quite as they had hoped. On slow days, Joy and Norman would put a record on and dance gently round the kitchen behind the empty shop, just to keep their spirits up and because they were still very much in love after 26 years together. Norman's cheerful manner sometimes earned him rebukes: "How can I help you, my dear?" – "I am not your dear. I am Mrs I would like a small farmhouse loaf and half a pound of butter when you are ready".

One of their delights in taking over the building was in finding new spaces – the room above the barn/garage was huge, and had long-forgotten treasures in it, such as an enamel advert for Rowe's Bread. Norman contacted them forthwith, and established a business relationship that worked extremely well.

With the hours and thought they put into the business, and the welcoming and generous nature of the residents, turnover began to increase, which was just as well considering that

Post Office Counters Ltd became ever more miserly and demanding of measures such as expensive and daunting security. On Monday, 26th November 1973, Post Office Counters Ltd refused permission for Joy and Norman to close for the day so they could attend Michael's wedding in Birmingham. Norman therefore informed all his customers that he and Joy would unfortunately be sick that day, but they hoped to be better by the following morning!

Many customers became good friends – Roger Levett could be found in the shop most days, practising his latest ruse to overcome a lifelong stammer – reciting naughty songs was a favourite. John and Pat Martell's dog would greet them on their regular evening walks around the village, and Ann and John Morecraft would compare gardening notes at every season. The garden was a delight – it seemed to attract every variety of bird, and there were slow worms, fireflies and lizards for the patient and observant.

Joy's sister Florrie retired, also from Lebus's in 1980, and moved into Axe View Bungalow up on Bim Bom Lane. In spite of being a lifelong non-smoker, Florrie developed lung cancer and Joy nursed her for 18 months until her death. Norman by this time had developed high blood pressure himself, so they resolved to enjoy a much longer and happier retirement. They put the post office on the market at a competitive price and soon were able to move into Axe View and begin visiting their children in Wales and Yorkshire, plus trips to Scotland, Norfolk, the Lake District and anywhere except abroad. Their particular delight was visiting and revisiting every part of Devon, and most of Cornwall. When friends came to stay, they took them to all the rediscovered delights of Devon. In spare moments, they rebuilt Axe View, landscaped the extensive garden, and became involved with Kilmington in Bloom and other community efforts.

Sadly, all this activity was at odds with Doctors' advice. Norman had smoked since his youth, and in July 1984 he had a massive heart attack. He had burn scars from the resuscitation procedures. A further couple of attacks left him very weak, and it was fortunate that Joy had passed her driving test just the year before at the age of 60, because she now became the chauffeuse. They led a gentler life until Norman finally succumbed in 1989. His remains are buried in Kilmington churchyard, and Joy visits at intervals from her present home with Michael in Wales.

Joy is coming up to 95 years old now, and is still in good health for her age, although she is rather confused, and would wish to apologise to all those friends whose addresses she has mislaid over time.

When Norman and Joy first arrived in Kilmington, there were several retail businesses on the go – Hurfords grocers and butchers, Speers Garage, and the bicycle hire shop, although there was no Farm Shop or Coppers in 1969, nor the Axminster by pass. So sorry to see Hurfords stores has closed – somehow the eventual loss of the Post Office business seemed inevitable even in 1969. Of course, Norman and Joy were not impressed by being offered seats on the weekly subsidised bus outing to Tesco in Honiton, but they always loved Kilmington and the Axe Vale and one day Joy will be together with Norman again in their own little spot overlooking their own Garden of Eden.

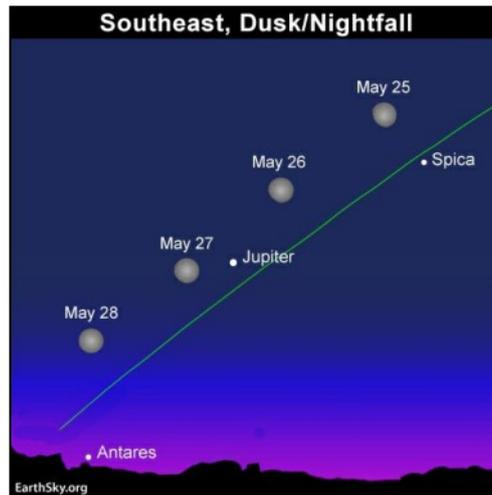
Michael Axford

KILMINGTON SKY AT NIGHT

Throughout May you have a great opportunity to see the planets Venus and Jupiter and the star Vega, the fifth brightest star in the sky. Look north eastward around mid-evening and you'll see this bright bluish star shining above that horizon. The Milky Way is not so visible this month, hiding behind the horizon at nightfall and early evening. But if you stay up until around midnight, you'll begin to see the starlit band of the Milky Way rising in the eastern sky.

1st Look for the brilliant planets **Venus and Jupiter** before the moon rises this evening. Around nightfall, Venus will be blazing low in your western sky while, opposite, Jupiter will be shining low in your eastern sky. Both these two worlds should be fairly easy to see (given an unobstructed horizon) because Venus and Jupiter rank as the third-brightest and fourth-brightest celestial objects, respectively, after the sun and moon. Venus will follow the sun beneath the western horizon a few hours after sunset. But Jupiter will climb upward followed by the moon and Antares and all three will remain in the sky for rest of the night.

4/5/6th **The Eta Aquariid meteor shower:** These next several mornings the bright waning gibbous moon puts a



damper on your chances of seeing any of the predawn meteor shower. However, the moon will somewhat make up for it by showing you Saturn's and Mars' place in the starry sky. These two brilliant worlds should be clearly visible in the morning sky, despite the lunar glare.

6th In the eastern horizon after midnight, the **moon and Mars** join up close together in the predawn sky.

8 /9th **Jupiter** reaches opposition, the point opposite the sun in our sky and shines at its brilliant best in Earth's sky.

10th **Jupiter** is at its closest point to

Earth for this year.

17th **Moon and Venus** side by side.

25th Use the moon to guide your eye to the bright blue-white star **Spica**. To the east of the moon, and much brighter, is **Jupiter**.

29th **Full Moon**

31st The **moon and Saturn** rise over the southeast horizon at about the time that the dazzling planet Venus sets in your northeast sky.

Peter

SHUTE BARTON OPENING DATES FOR 2018

Shute Barton National Trust property is a beautiful medieval manor house which is steeped in history. Our tours are led by very knowledgeable volunteers and you will be guided around the house for about 45 minutes.

If you are interested in history you will not be disappointed. Teas, coffee and light lunches will be served in the adjoining church.

We are open for just four weekends a year as follows:

19th and 20th May
16th and 17th June
20th and 21st October
17th and 18th November.

Tours start at 10.30 am and the last one goes at 3.45 pm. Tours start approximately 15 minutes apart. No booking is required.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Hilary Abrams
Volunteer Tour Guide

MUSICAL EVENING IN KILMINGTON VILLAGE HALL

The popular local group Trichord will be playing songs from the 1950s to 1990s in the Village Hall during an evening to listen, enjoy and dance if you're feeling energetic! Nibbles will be served and there is a pay wine bar and raffle. Come and join us on Saturday, May 5th from 7.30 pm. Tickets £10 (for unreserved seating) from Axminster Heritage Centre or Diana Church Tel: 32417. This local musical group play light enjoyable music and come highly recommended - should be a great and enjoyable evening.

Funds raised go to The Axminster Heritage Centre.

Peter Ball

FOR SALE

Pyramid style Rotol Compost Converter
with top opening

3 years old - in very good condition

£10.00

Contact Paul on 01297 32837

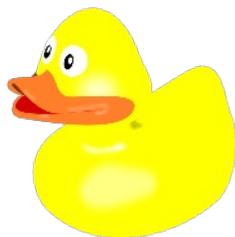
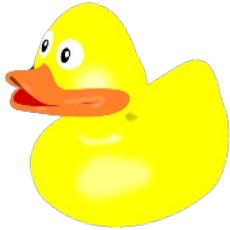
KILMINGTON GARDENING CLUB

The club's annual Plant Market takes place on Saturday, 5th May at the Village Hall from 10.30 am to noon.

Free Entry

PRE-SCHOOL ANNUAL DUCK RACE

On Wednesday, 2nd May at 11.00 am the annual Duck Race will start from Jubilee Green in aid of the Pre-school. Refreshments will be available from the Village Hall from 10.30 am. (More information on page 11).



KILMINGTON GARDENING CLUB

The Gardening Club talk this month is on Friday, May 11th, it's entitled Hellebore, Heuchera and Tiarella by Martin Young. Martin will give three short talks in one on these stunning plants, their origin, care and slug control!

7.30 pm Village Hall, non-members welcome £2.

Lesley Rew

NGS OPEN GARDENS

Three Kilmington gardens will be open as part of the NGS on Saturday, 19th and Sunday, 20th May from 1.30 - 5.00 pm.

They are Spinney Two on Shute Road; Breach and Bettys Ground.

Refreshments will be available at Breach.

MOBILE LIBRARY

Tuesday, 1st and 29th May 2018 at 11.20 - 11.50 am at the junction of The Street and The Hill.



Paddington 2 (PG)

**Kilmington Village Hall
Wednesday, 2nd May**



Returning director Paul King, in cahoots with new co-writer Simon Farnaby, proves that the crackpot inspiration that powered his first one was no fluke. Prison is exactly the place for Paddington, in the sense that his understated melancholy makes him seem even more adorable behind bars. The shadow of his outsider status returns, and there's a whole new set of characters for him to win over with his quaint, flummoxed ways.

Before long the refectory's terrifying chef (a wild-eyed Brendan Gleeson) has been tamed and befriended through the simple power of marmalade. Paddington's fellow inmates, meanwhile, stop grizzling, start skipping, and go on to exercise previously un-guessed talents in confectionery-making. Our fashion-conscious bear, for one, thinks their new pink coveralls (his fault) are actually rather fetching.

Doors open 6.45 pm when wine, soft drinks and tea/coffee are available, with the evening's entertainment starting at 7.15 pm and ending about 10.00 pm. Tickets £5.50 on the door or £5 in advance BY PHONING: 01297 32335 leave contact details and booking will be confirmed, or email: watsjohn307@gmail.com

See <http://www.kilmingtonvillage.com/moviola.html> for more information about the film.

Revd. Simon Holloway
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Letter from the Churches

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"You can be anyone you want, do anything you choose, it's all down to you!"

These motivational words are often shouted at the young people of our generation, our children and grandchildren – which would be great if only they were true. Perhaps it stems from our talent-show entertainment shows that stick a microphone in the hands of youngsters insisting they can become the next big thing. Maybe it stems from the go-getting attitude of the end of the last century where individuals created wealth and companies seemingly out of nothing. Just possibly it is a cry of desperation from adults who feel they have missed out on their dreams and want the next generation to try harder and succeed where we failed.

And before I'm accused of being too much Eeyore and not enough Tigger, let me say that I'm all for encouraging young people. Often they can do so much more than they realise and they may be held back by too negative a view on life. I encourage the children in my extended family, my church family and in society as much as I can, but with a difference. You see, I would say to them, "be all that God has called you to be, discover the gifts and talents that He has given you, and then you will shine". That's because I believe that we all have our limitations, actually God-given limitations – which are sometimes witnessed when that youngster on stage grips the microphone and screeches out a "song" that no longer deserves that title, or when a student crashes and burns attempting an exam that they were only sitting to please others.

When we realise that God has not made us all to be global stars and multi-million pound entrepreneurs, then it can be very releasing. When we not only recognise our limitations

but accept and embrace them, then we can be comfortable in our own skin and love the way we have been made. We all have value, we are all precious in God's sight, but that doesn't mean we will all win Masterchef, or that we will all play sport for our country.

With this understanding, I can console myself when as a church we are forced to suspend our Spectrum Youth Club at The Beacon because we don't have a sustainable leadership team to keep it going. I can also accept personal failure when I don't meet my own expectations. I know that I cannot do simply anything I choose, but that I have limitations gifted to me by God. It certainly stops arrogance and pride, but it also prevents hopelessness and desperation.

The bible records these words of God

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

This was not spoken to a people who are trying hard, but to a people who have failed, not to a bunch of wannabes in the world, but a bunch of has-beens. However, in the midst of their pain and failure, God was reminding them that He still had dreams for them that could be fulfilled; they just needed to understand their limitations and seek His help once again.

Let us be real and encouraging with the next generation, and let's also do the same for ourselves, knowing that God made us just the way we are (including our limitations) and yet He still loves us.

Darrell Holmes

PALM SUNDAY IN KILMINGTON

On Sunday, 25th March St.Giles' joined with the Baptist Church for a united Palm Sunday Service. While some of us met together in the Beacon singing hymns and listening to traditional readings beautifully led by

Anthony Chape, forty one of us and Ted the cockapoo met on the Common and, led by Pastor Darrell and the Revd Simon, made the annual walk of witness down through the village. At four places on the way a hymn was sung, a Bible passage read and prayers said for different parts of the Community. The walk finished at the Beacon where we joined with the rest of the congregation for a Service of praise and thanksgiving together. We were accompanied on the walk by Steve and Kim from the Donkey Sanctuary and their charge, Rupert the donkey, who was seventeen years old and had lived at the Donkey Sanctuary all his life. As



Procession to The Beacon

the first hymn was sung and much to the delight of everyone, Rupert was led round and through the congregation having only one minor 'accident', expertly dealt with! The service was a lovely united reflection of the joy expressed by that first crowd as they welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday. The singing was brilliant, the Revd Simon's sermon was spirit filled and

Pastor Darrell led the service with his usual skill, warmth and humour, encouraging the congregation in a dramatized version of the Palm Sunday story, an exercise much enjoyed by everyone. After the service there was a lovely time of fellowship over tea and coffee and we left feeling blessed and encouraged.



Rupert with his minders

Christine Mills,
Churchwarden

ST GILES CHURCH FLOWER ARRANGERS



Coral and Caroline in foreground

At a Coffee Morning at The Cider Orchard on 21st March, hosted by Caroline Lavender to arrange the Flower Roster for the forthcoming Church year, Coral Dunmow was presented with a voucher by Churchwarden Diana Mellows, on behalf of the Kilmington PCC for her dedicated work over 20 years; she had always provided magnificent arrangements and gave advice and much time to encouraging others. Caroline also presented her with a personal bouquet in appreciation of her help as joint Flower Arrangers Coordinator.

Brian Lavender, KPCC Secretary

BISHOP SIMON OLIVER OFFICIATES

Bishop Simon who retired to Seaton after serving in Madagascar for some years led the Parish Communion Service in the Kilmington Parish Church on Sunday, 8th April. Reminding the congregation that we were still in the Easter Season, he greeted them with “Christ is Risen, Alleluia” but the responses “He is Risen indeed, Alleluia” were never loud enough for him! Lessons were read by Nigel Burton and Churchwarden Diana Mellows and the Gospel reading by the Bishop himself who also gave the intercession prayers. He based his sermon on the scriptures for the day, and particularly on “doubting” Thomas to whom Jesus said “Blessed are those that have not seen, but have come to believe”.



Diana welcomes the Bishop in the Vestry

It was a service that gladdened the heart and spirit with some lovely Easter hymns led by the choir.

Brian Lavender, KPCC Secretary

PAUL'S MISSION TO THAILAND



My name's Paul Obudo and currently I am an apprentice at Exeter College studying L2 mechanics. This September, I will begin volunteering with BMS World Mission on their Action Team programme. I will spend the first month, September, training in Birmingham, the next six months in Thailand performing a range of tasks, and following our return spend two months sharing our experiences with churches around the UK, including The Baptist

Church in Kilmington.

We will spend two months in Chiang Mai assisting at Hope Home for disabled children and at an emergency shelter for vulnerable people. We will also spend four months in rural Uttaradit with the youth, teaching them English and extra-curricular activities.

In order to do that I will need to raise £4,500 between now and August as my contribution to the total expenses. I will be running fundraising activities at The Beacon in the coming months. On Friday, 11th May at 6.00 pm I will be holding a fun family Beetle Drive at The Beacon, adults £3 and children £2. Look out for posters.

Paul Obudo

SUDOKU CHALLENGE

Level: Medium

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 24.

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

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Both the Tuesday Holy Communion Service and the last Lent lunch on Maundy Thursday were well attended, and a few members went to the Passover Supper at Yarcombe that evening. Hot Cross buns, some baked personally by David Wilsdon, were served at Coffee Shop on Good Friday as the Kilmington Kanter runners streamed past in the pouring rain. Some 25 people attended the Stations of the Cross Service well designed by the Revd Simon that afternoon when readings and prayers were led in turn by those present.

Just after dawn on Easter Sunday morning, the symbolic Tomb (Shute Woods Beacon) was empty when some 20 disciples from the Kilmington and Shute Churches gathered there for a short informal Service of prayer and praise, led by Brian Lavender. Readings were given by Betsy Pengilly, Will Crawford, Marion Richardson, and Anna Crabbe. Robert Crabbe gave two long and loud blasts from a shofar to wake up those in the Axe Valley to hear the good news which everyone present proclaimed by singing that well known hymn "Jesus Christ is Risen Today". The Revd Simon Holloway gave the blessing and all those present were invited to a light breakfast afterwards at the home of John and Diana Mellows which was much appreciated.



Outside the "Tomb"



Arum Lilies at the pulpit in memory



Diana Mellows and Di Seward with Revd Barry

The Family Service later at 11.00 am, led by the Revd Barry Brewer in a beautifully decorated Church with arum lilies presented in memory of loved ones, attracted a very good congregation and the traditional Easter hymns were led by Margaret Hurford and the choir, which also performed an Anthem. Lessons were read by Churchwarden Christine Mills while Judi Brewer led the intercession prayers. In his talk, Barry covered fake news, truth and falsehood and to everyone's surprise he produced a pair

of scissors and cut off Michael Marsh's smart looking tie. However, it was April Fool's Day and Mike's surprise he finally admitted was faked. Barry reminded us that what was true is that Jesus Christ rose from the dead to save us from our sins; everyone joined in an Easter Song which Barry led on his guitar. He also took the opportunity to pay tribute to the Royal Air Force (represented in uniform by Brian Lavender) formed 100 years ago on 1st April 1918 reminding everyone of the vital role that it had played in preserving our freedom.

Prior to refreshments with Easter Eggs for the children, Churchwarden Diana Mellows read the Banns of Marriage between Ian Kerr and Alex Guy.

Brian Lavender, KPCC
Secretary

ST GILES - NOT ONLY FOR SUNDAY

The parish Church means a great deal to a lot of people in this community. Perhaps it is not generally known or realised how much St Giles' Church is used apart from Sunday Services. In the last year there have been five Baptisms, one wedding and eleven funerals and burials of Ashes. The Kilmington School holds two Assemblies in the Church each week during term time. There is a midweek Holy Communion Service on Tuesday morning, The Craft Group meet there on Tuesday lunchtime and after that, the recently formed Pop-up- Café provides a safe and warm place for parents and guardians to wait with children during After School Clubs. There is choir practice on a Thursday evening. On Friday there is a lively Coffee Shop until noon. The Flower Arrangers are in and out every week and the Brass Cleaners and Holy Dusters are busy preparing the church for Sunday. The Bell Ringers practise on a weekday evening and the bells are rung for most services except the

early ones. Apart from this there are occasional concerts and operas held as well as the five yearly Flower Festival. The church is left open during the day and there is no knowing how many other people use it as somewhere to find peace in this hectic world, both in the church and the churchyard which is also lovingly and respectfully cared for. Would it matter to the village if St Giles' Church ceased to be? Look honestly and seriously at what this could mean. Could you imagine this community without the place where people have celebrated in prayer and music for over 1,000 years, either individually or together in peace and in war time. The congregation is older and smaller than it was, whatever the reason for this, this beautiful building has been a focal point and part of Kilmington history and the lives of the people who live in the village.

Diana Mellows, Churchwarden

HOME SAFETY

Confused by the myriad of smoke alarms on offer, how many to have in your home, when the battery should be changed etc. I decided to contact the experts, Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service.

I discovered they do a free home safety check for anyone over 60, single parent families or anyone with a disability or mobility problem. An appointment was made, during which a risk assessment was carried out and in our case two new free smoke alarms were fitted. The consultation lasted nearly two hours and we were left with an extremely helpful

booklet on fire safety in the home. No longer will I be putting the dish washer on overnight or going out and leaving the washing machine on!

It was such a valuable visit, I wanted to share this with readers of Postscript and pass on relevant details. It pays to keep safe.

Home Fire Safety Check telephone: 0800 05 02 999 or email firekills@dsfire.gov.uk

Stephanie Hathaway

KILMINGTON CRICKET CLUB MAY 2018

		1 st XI					2 nd XI				
Sat	5th	Braunton	DL	1.30 pm	A	Sat	5th	Cullompton	1.30 pm	H	
Mon	7th	Lilly Research		2.00 pm	H						
Sat	12th	Ottery St Mary	DL	1.30 pm	H	Sat	12th	North Devon 3 rd XI	1.30 pm	A	
Sat	19th	Clyst Hydon	DL	1.30 pm	A	Sat	19th	Whimble	1.30 pm	H	
Sat	26th	Feniton	DL	1.30 pm	H	Sat	26th	Sampford Peverell & Tiverton	1.30 pm	A	
Thurs	31st	Southgate Compton		2.00 pm	H						

MY FIRST CAR - ALMOST !!

I was desperate to drive and so started lessons on my 17th birthday. A few months later and armed with a full licence, I badgered Mum and Dad for the loan of their car to drive to school and back – by this time I was in the 6th Form at Westcliff High for Girls in, yes, Essex! As I was one of the first in my year to drive I enjoyed being a taxi service to friends and was remarkably popular at the beginning and end of the school day.

It wasn't until I met Simon though, that I purchased my first car – well, we did, as it was a joint wedding present to ourselves. We bought a Talbot Sunbeam ti, in a lovely shade of light green, on Friday, 1st August 1980, the day before we married. As those of you who are old enough to remember would know, the new registration plate came out only once a year back then, and it was an exciting prospect for a couple so young to be able to treat themselves to a new car. We managed because it was tax free, as Simon was in the Forces, and we were due to go overseas quite soon after our marriage.



It was a great car, I loved driving it; it was sporty and quick, and I loved speed; I still do I'm afraid!

The photo of me with the car was taken a few days after our marriage as we were travelling near Fairford, Gloucestershire. We stopped when we saw this sign, as my maiden name until a few days before, had been 'Gasson' and we thought it a good photo opportunity.

This car served us faithfully until winter 1982 when I was returning from dropping Simon off for an Exercise in the early morning. On my way home, I encountered some black ice on a bend – I wasn't going fast as I knew it was icy - and spun round twice, dipped into a ditch, through a farmer's wooden fence and rolled the car two and a half times, landing driver's side down.

Amazingly, I was only stunned and managed to climb out of the passenger door and walk away! The car, however, was



beyond repair; I had written it off, or so we thought. The company who retrieved it decided to repair the car; this took almost six months and cost more than we originally paid for it, which we thought madness!

The car was returned to us in September 1982, with some Talbot Horizon additions as they couldn't find Sunbeam parts, just days before we were due to travel through Germany and France with Simon's parents, Michael and Linda Heighway!

We kept the car until November 1984; we were back in the UK by then and were in York for the RAC Rally; as spectators. We passed a garage and there was a very solid Volvo on the forecourt – we thought, why not and so we sold the Sunbeam in part exchange for the Volvo. By the end of that day we had a new car and our very young daughter, Caroline, had masses of space to herself in the back of her new car!

Gill Heighway

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION KILMINGTON BRANCH

As most of you will be aware, there has been quite a lot happening since our last update. On behalf of the RBL Kilmington Branch I would like to thank all those who helped and attended our 'Spring' coffee morning. It was a fantastic turn out and achievement; the generosity and support of our community continues to amaze us on every occasion.

Between 23rd – 26th March we partook in the Devon County RBL visit to Arras, France. Despite the 'long' march home, over 30 members thoroughly enjoyed four days of visits and social events; for Kilmington it was the first event in our calendar marking the centenary anniversary of the end of WW1. My thanks to all those who made the trip such a memorable occasion, but especially Jean Falconer, our secretary for her meticulous planning.

To the future; our annual trip this year is now confirmed. On Wednesday, 13th June we will visit the Tank Museum at Bovington. For those who have been before, apparently there are a number of new attractions worth seeing. For those who are not so interested in tanks, it will also be another social occasion that should not be missed!! A brief outline:

9.00 am Depart Kilmington Village Hall, (£5.01 - £6.44 dependent on numbers)

10.15 am Arrive Tank Museum (£12 group rate) Option - special tour and sit in WW1 Mk4 tank - £5)

1.30 pm Depart Tank Museum

1.45 pm Arrive Martyrs Inn, Tollpuddle, Lunch (Special Priced Limited Menu available if we pre order; fish and chips, ham egg chips, one veggie, etc - no meal over £10)

3.00 -3.30 pm Depart Martyrs Inn

4.00-4.30 pm Arrive Kilmington.

We have already had a good response. However, if you are interested please let either Tony Thompkins (tony.thompkins@hotmail.co.uk) or any other committee members/shepherds know as soon as possible.

The next event after our annual visit will be 'The Greatest Thank You' weekend, commencing Friday, 3rd August with the Military Wives Choir in the Beacon, followed by a children's party on Saturday, 4th August. Entertainment for all will then continue in the afternoon and evening with our Annual BBQ and then a dance, all in the area of the Village Hall. On Sunday, 5th August (weather permitting) there will be a short service on the common to dedicate an oak tree commemorating the centenary anniversary of the end of WW1 (any help from any quarter over the weekend would be greatly appreciated). There will be more detail to follow, but all are welcome to attend and we look forward to seeing

SPRING COFFEE MORNING



The weather wasn't at all that spring-like for the RBL coffee morning held on Saturday, 17th March – there was even a flurry of snow. This did not deter an excellent turnout, who were given a warm welcome in the Village Hall. Members and friends could enjoy hot drinks and delicious cake while sitting to talk together and catch up on all the local news. It was not all talking, for the five stalls, a blind auction and the raffle together raised over £1,000 for Legion funds. The morning thus proved to be a great success, not just financially, but in the happy faces around the hall.

Sandra Ingles



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10am – 6pm (5.30pm Sunday)
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- **Demonstrations** of local crafts
- **Sheep Shearing on Sunday 24th**

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www.axevaleshow.com
Charity number: 1130829

At the beginning of March we treated our children to a wonderful adventure! We thoroughly enjoyed a trip on a coach to the train station, followed by a train journey to Honiton. We had our morning snack before we got back on the train and headed for Axminster, where the bus was waiting to take us back to Pre-school. Before the trip, we talked about keeping ourselves safe, what we might see, what we might do and what we would need. The children helped to buy our train tickets from the station and watched the ticket conductor check them on board the train. We talked excitedly about the various animals and machinery we saw out of the windows and enjoyed going through the big tunnel. At the station we looked at the tracks and talked about the speed trains travel, as well as noticing that trains use 'traffic lights' too! We all enjoyed such a lovely morning trip and it was great to see the children have so much fun.



We also had the opportunity to explore a tractor. Dave Dare very kindly drove a tractor to Pre-school and let the children sit in the driver's seat to 'drive' the tractor. The children loved it!! Whilst outside the tractor, the children looked at and talked about the size of the wheel rims and tyres, and looked intriguingly at the hydraulics at the back of the tractor. The children really enjoyed this experience!

We would like to thank everyone who came and supported our Easter coffee morning. The children made some amazing Easter bonnets at home and brought them in, so they could model them beautifully for Barbara to choose the winners. Barbara chose Harry and Alana, both of whom were given a lovely hand knitted chick and chocolate egg, as well as a bag

of Easter treats. All the children sang some Easter songs on stage before hunting around the hall for Easter egg shaped cardboard, which were then exchanged for treats. The grown-ups also enjoyed hot drinks and delicious cakes whilst kindly supporting our raffle. It was a great morning and a lovely way to end the Spring Term.



Since our Easter break, we have focused our planning on 'mini beasts' and 'growing'. We have embraced spring and spent a lot of time out in our garden searching for bugs and creepy crawlies, planting seeds and watching them grow as well as looking at the life cycles of frogs and butterflies.

As always, our annual Duck Race will be at the beginning of May. On Wednesday the 2nd, we will release the 450 plastic ducks and watch them make their way down the stream to the finish line!! Please see our poster for more information.

As always, thank you for the continued support.

Carly Dare



£1 a Duck, tickets available on the day or from New Inn, Kilmingtton

Kilmingtton Pre-School
Duck race
Wednesday 2nd May 2018
Jubilee Green, Kilmingtton

1st prize PEBORAMA FAMILY TICKET
2nd prize SEATON TRAMWAY TICKETS
3rd prize AXE VALLEY ANIMAL PARK TICKETS
4th prize ABBOTSBURY FARM FAMILY TICKET
5th prize FARMER PALMERS FAMILY TICKET

Refreshments will be available from
10.30am at the village hall.

All fundraising will go toward the running and upkeep of Kilmingtton Pre-School. Thank you for your continued support.



GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

This new law, from May 25th, is designed to protect individuals (you) from any organization which collects and stores any of your personal data. It includes Postscript because we have a contacts list of about 100 names and email addresses of regular contributors, advertisers, people who have sent items to the magazine in the last few years and those volunteers who distribute it. The list is secure on a webmail site which has its own rigorous privacy policy and to which only the Postscript team have access. We only use addresses to contact individuals in connection with publishing Postscript, should the need arise. The data is never shared with any third parties, nor is it used for any kind of research, direct marketing or fundraising.

In the future, to comply with the new regulations any organization must ensure that they can provide evidence of an individual's consent to hold their address. Therefore, if we have your address in our Postscript files then we will be writing to you to ask for your written and dated consent to hold this data. We will include a copy of the Postscript privacy policy setting out the facts, including what data we have and what we do with it. This document is available to anyone on request, including the Information Commissioner's Office (and there are ominous references to 'hefty fines' for non-compliance). We are sorry for any inconvenience but would be most grateful for your cooperation.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION KILMINGTON BRANCH BATTLEFIELD TOUR TO FRANCE



battlefield from the German positions and perspective, an interesting angle. There followed calls at the Thiepval Memorial, the Pozieres cemetery and the impressive Lochnager Crater, before some welcome lunch in Albert.

The afternoon was devoted to a visit to the Devonshire Trench Cemetery at Mametz, the final resting place of 160 soldiers from the Devonshire Regiment, who gave their lives there on the opening day of the

Battle of the Somme on July 1st 1916. Here

an Act of Remembrance was led by Branch President, Roger Lovegrove and David Ingles talked about the soldier and poet Noel Hodgson, who is among those buried here, and read his moving poem "Before Action", written only days before the battle and his death. Martin then

This year's tour, organised by the Devon County team, was the fourth arranged to commemorate the men who gave their lives in WW1. Once again, members from the Kilmington Branch made up the majority of the party that set out from Kilmington Village Hall on 23rd March for Arras, which became the base for the four-day trip.



The trip was to provide opportunities to those who wished to visit and lay wreaths at the graves of relatives, some for the first time. At each such stop, the Devon county bugler sounded the 'Last Post', two RBL standards were raised (the County standard and the Kilmington standard), and the exhortation was read by Kilmington Branch Chairman, Stafford Seward.

used his local knowledge to guide the party back to Arras via many of the battlefields of the Somme.

In addition, led by our knowledgeable and enthusiastic guide, Martin Pelling, the party was to visit a number of cemeteries and memorials of more general interest. We started at the Cambrai Memorial and moved on to the newly-opened Tank Museum, where we were shown round by the local enthusiast, Phillipe, who has overseen the unearthing and restoration of "Deborah", one of over 400 British tanks that took part in the Battle of Cambrai in 1917. The afternoon was spent at Vimy Ridge, now dominated by the impressive Canadian Memorial. The second full day started at Beaumont-Hamel, where Martin showed us the

The tour was challenging and emotional at times. There was, however, plenty of opportunity to relax in the evenings and to enjoy the companionship of other members, while sampling the culinary delights of Arras. On this front, thanks are due to Jean Falconer for organising a special banquet for the Kilmington contingent.

Sandra Ingles



NATURE NOTES

When the earth is turned in spring - The worms are fat as anything.

For the past two years our house martins arrived on exactly the same day: 11th April. They haven't arrived as I write this on the 15th, so spring is definitely delayed! This was also confirmed this week by the National Farmers Union telling us Asparagus crops will not be ready until the end of April, almost three weeks late. Many potato growers have yet to plant, with the famous Jersey Royal season at least



three weeks delayed. The story is the same for many crops which should have been planted, yet to go in. Some have had to be thrown away. Spring barley and spring wheat are weeks behind sowing schedule. The wet weather and slow pasture growth has meant stock has been kept indoors for longer, meaning higher fodder prices and possible price rises for consumers. So if you haven't fully planted your veg patch yet, it looks like you can be forgiven!

Thinking of crops brings me to the very ground base of our gardens and much of the rest of nature: earthworms. They are crucial in breaking down organic matter and this decomposition helps to put the nutrients from dead plants and animals back into the soil. Worms pull leaf fall down into their burrows to shred and partially digest it using the grit in their gizzard to grind it up into a fine paste. They move by anchoring one end with bristles to the surrounding soil and contracting muscles along their segmented body to pull through. Mucus is secreted to help lubricate the motion. A single worm can produce up to around 10lbs of castes a year. When tunnelling around they mix this and the different layers of soil thereby improving its composition. In addition their burrows allow water and oxygen to penetrate into the soil and carbon dioxide to escape. As they wriggle through they act like miniature pistons, pumping air in and out of our gardens!

Research suggests that fertile farmland may have up to one and three-quarter million worms an acre. Now, the mathematicians amongst you could probably do a quick bit of mental arithmetic and tell us the potential volume of air and water being moved around each day – suffice to say it is significant! Not only that but when you next lean on a gate

and gaze at a herd of cows, just think that the weight of earthworms beneath is probably greater than the livestock above!

There are estimated to be over 3,000 species of earthworms globally and around 25 species in the UK. They can be divided roughly into four groups. The largest group (Anecic) have darker heads and lighter tails, they dig vertically dragging leaves down into their burrows. The

second group (Endogeic) tunnel mainly horizontally feeding on the soil and sometimes re-using their burrows as they move around. They are often pale in colour: grey, green or pink. The third group (Epigeic) are red or red-brown and don't usually tunnel, preferring to live on the surface in leaf litter. The fourth and last are known as Compost Worms and, as their name suggests, they like the moist and warm environment of the compost heap. They are bright red and stripy and can reproduce extremely quickly. If any of you have tried unsuccessfully to start a compost heap using regular soil worms you have dug up, you'll now understand why they probably died and it was not successful. You need the real thing – Compost Worms!

Worms are basically a digestive tube within a muscular outer body through which they breathe. They can regenerate lost segments if they lose a few at the rear. But a worm cut in half will usually die and not, as some think, survive as two. Earthworms are hermaphroditic, which means they have both male and female sexual organs. However they do not self fertilise. After mating, a mucus tube, in which fertilisation takes place, is shed from the saddle like band towards the front. This then dries and forms a cocoon in which fully formed worms emerge after two to four weeks. They take around a year to reach full size and can live for up to eight years. However garden worms usually only survive around one or two years. Moles, birds, hedgehogs, snakes and foxes all eat earthworms. In New Zealand and parts of Asia they are sometimes sold for human consumption. And we just have to make do with crisps and peanuts!

Peter

VILLAGE HALL '100' CLUB

**The winners of the draw held on
21st March 2018**

A Bailey	£25	M Hurford	£5
M Fountain	£10	M. Astbury	£5
G Burden	£10	J Giles	£5

For further details, please contact
Angus Falconer - 01297 33708

VILLAGE HALL SPRING CLEAN

The Village Hall committee would like to send a big thank you to all the volunteers who helped clean the hall on Monday, 7th May. As the saying goes, "Many hands make light work" and so it proved.

Once again thank you.

Diana Church

CONGRATULATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

CHLOE ACHIEVES GOLD

Last month, I was invited to St James's Palace to receive my Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award and meet HRH Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex.

Since only official photographers are permitted inside the palace, I didn't get to be as snap-happy as usual, however, the palace's splendour is not something I will easily forget. Those of us from the South West received our

presentation in the Entrée room, with its deep red walls and floor, ginormous oil paintings and gold everything!

We were prepped before meeting Prince Edward (no curtsying needed) and challenged to keep him talking for as long as we could. As quiet a person as I am, even I couldn't pass up the opportunity to speak up and talk to a member of the royal family. As history is a great passion of mine, it was truly an honour to do so and to see inside the palace walls. To reach the Entrée room, we walked through a number of stunning rooms, including the portrait room, and left via the armoury with its great tapestry.

All of this was made possible by Anna Crabbe, who tirelessly ran the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme in Kilmington for many years. A massive thank you to Anna for her support over the years and for making this memorable day happen!

It was wonderful to be able to attend with both of my parents - due to Steve's work as a volunteer with the scheme, he was invited to attend the presentation, as usually you are only permitted one guest!

I'm grateful to the award scheme as it helped me develop my interest in the outdoors, including helping me to get a place on the Godfrey Jackson Memorial Trust's Scottish Winter Mountaineering course. So I would definitely encourage others to get involved - as our presentation speaker Nigel Clifford, the CEO of Ordnance Survey said, it looks great on your CV.

There have been many memorable moments during my time with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and I'll leave you with one that particularly sticks out...

During one of the practise expeditions, we were thankful to make it to the last checkpoint of the day and to our campsite, only to find we'd even beaten the leaders there. There was no answer when we knocked on the cottage door, so we decided not to waste daylight and just get our tents pitched and the stove out for dinner. I was particularly enthralled to



Chloe on Pen Y Fan with Cam

find that the site even had petting animals and I wasted no time in getting the guinea pigs out. As time went on we began to find it increasingly odd that not only were we the only group at camp but also the only campers at all. This quickly turned to horror when we rechecked the map and discovered that the campsite was a few hundred metres further along the track and we were in fact camped in an entirely random garden. With the clattering of tent

poles, we raced off down the road leaving the poor homeowners none the wiser that they had ever had squatters!

Chloe Hodder

A Musical Evening

Trichord



Hit Songs from the 1950s to 1990s
Listen & Enjoy, Dancing Optional
Nibbles served; Cash Bar & Raffle

Saturday 5th May
7.30 Kilmington Village Hall

Tickets £10

From The Axminster Heritage Centre
or Diana Church 01297 32417

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MY TREKKING IN SWEDISH LAPLAND

After a flight, a night train, a bus journey, and a snow scooter ride across a frozen lake we arrived at the first mountain station, the starting point of the Trek. I met the other nine participants and after collecting our gear (for me that was skis, poles, boots, and skins) we had lunch and then set out on a trial tour in the local area surrounding the mountain station. On this first afternoon trek I saw my first bit of wildlife – a moose. I was also struck by how stunning the scenery was and the sheer quantity of untouched snow! Back at the mountain station we enjoyed dinner and that evening were treated to some spectacular northern lights. We also made the most of the facilities at the mountain station including electricity, running water and wifi as this was to be the last for the week!

The following day we had the opportunity to use our skins and practise our technique some more going further out around the immediate area. After lunch we had our second scooter transfer 20km further into the wilderness arriving at our more basic accommodation for the week which had no electricity or running water and a compost loo. We had to get water from a water hole, light a woodburner



The next day was a slightly longer trek and we climbed northwards (back towards the original starting point) up about 500 metres where we had lunch and circled back round to end up back on the scooter trail we had first arrived on and back to the cabin. That evening whilst looking out from the cabin I spotted a red fox.

That night the snow came and lasted into the next morning. We set off again but this time heading south and up towards another mountain of about the same height. At the top once again we got excellent views of the lake before we dropped back down to the cabin. That night we experienced, yet again, some even better northern lights which filled half the sky and lasted all night and into the morning.

The next morning we set off earlier than usual as today we had to ski the 20km back to the original mountain station. Luckily we were treated to great weather contrary to the norm, or so our guide told us. We eventually topped the pass, had lunch and dropped back down to the original mountain station.

The next morning, on our final day, we had a short trek round and out onto the lake before our scooters arrived to take us back to the bus stop. A journey on the bus and some goodbyes at the train station ended the week of ski touring as we all travelled back home. It was an amazing experience amongst stunning scenery, beautiful sunrises and the peace and remoteness made for an unforgettable experience.

In doing this trek I am pleased to say that, whilst I don't have a final figure, to date I



for heat, work by candlelight and cook for ourselves. During the transfer we were told of how much snow they had had and promptly got stuck and so had to push to set ourselves free. We arrived in the evening and cooked our dinner and once again were treated to a flurry of some northern lights.

The following day we set off with full packs, along and across the frozen lake next to our new cabin heading northwest through the valley and deeper into the national park. However, nearing the halfway point we saw some native sami reindeer herders and so could not progress any further so as not to disturb the reindeer. Here we had lunch and headed back to the cabin but as before we had to divert our course again due to more reindeer appearing. This detour meant that we saw some ptarmigan along the way.



have raised in excess of £800 for Hospiscare in memory of my Grandma. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who so kindly donated money for this worthwhile cause, every penny of which will go to Hospiscare. I am very grateful to you all.

Laurie Quincey

SPRING COMES TO KILMINGTON GARDENS

It is a few years since the Kilmington National Garden Scheme (NGS) gardens opened in the Spring so we look forward to welcoming you to spend a leisurely afternoon with us on Saturday, May 19th and Sunday, May 20th between 1.30 - 5.00 pm.

As well as Breach and Spinney Two we are delighted to have a glorious new garden opening (for the first time) at Bettys Ground, also in Shute Road. Come and see rhododendrons, azaleas, cornus, pieris together with spring flowers, vegetables emerging from the soil, ponds and other hidden secrets! Of course, no garden opening is complete without tea and cakes, which will be served at Breach and provided by St. Giles' Church.

Last year was the 90th Anniversary of the NGS and a record £3million nationally was raised and distributed to cancer and nursing charities, including Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Hospice UK, MS Society and several others. Your visit is greatly appreciated by these charities.

Admission is only £6 FOR ALL THREE GARDENS, children are FREE. WHEELCHAIR access to main parts of gardens; DOGS welcome on leads.

Celia Dunsford

MEMORIAL TO KILMINGTON'S MARY SEWARD

Mary's memorial tea turned out to be just that. So many people, family and friends all came together that the organisers were overwhelmed but delighted to witness the love and affection shown to someone who had played such an important part in so many different parts of the village. We celebrated her work done over years for the Village Hall but others remembered her time as a Parish Councillor, an active member of St Giles' Church / Bell Ringer / Caterer / member of, and latterly, Chairman of the Woman's Institute.



Diana addresses the audience

Fin Quincy played his keyboard beautifully throughout the duration and we were extremely grateful to him giving up time on the last day of his holiday. Following the tea the Village Hall Committee was very pleased to show Mary's family the landscaping

work to improve the front of the Hall and the bench provided in her memory.

Diana Church Chairperson of the Village Hall Committee



Stafford & Di Seward with family test the memorial bench



On behalf of Mary's family, we would like to take the opportunity to thank Diana Church and the Hall Committee, Barbara Woodsford and all those who helped to make the dedication to Mary Seward such a special event. The attendance and kind words shared, were a huge testament to a very

special lady who gave an immense amount of time supporting this very special village.

Our sincere thanks to one and all.

Stafford and Di Seward

The New Inn

At Kilmington



New Spring Menu

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KILMINGTON KITCHEN



What a lovely month, please let us have some sunshine so that our asparagus gets on its way. With that hope in mind the following two savoury dishes would go very well with asparagus.

FISH FINGERS

Serves 4

- 400 lemon sole, cod, plaice or hake fillets, skinned
- 85g cornflakes
- 40g grated parmesan
- 100g plain flour
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 4 tbsp sunflower oil

1. Cut the fish into strips. Put the cornflakes in a food processor and blitz, then pour into a bowl and mix with the parmesan. Put the flour into another bowl and season. Beat the eggs in a third bowl.
2. Heat 2 tbsp of the oil in a large frying pan. Dip each piece of fish in the flour, then the eggs, and finally the cornflake and parmesan mixture. Fry the fish for 4-5 minutes, turning regularly until cooked, then drain on kitchen paper – you will need to do this in 2 batches.
3. Add the remaining 2 tbsp of oil to the pan and cook the second batch of fish. Drain as before and serve with chips and lemon wedges. You could also use salmon if you wished.

LITTLE RHUBARB TARTS

Makes 12

- 700g rhubarb, trimmed and cut into 2cm lengths
- 200g caster sugar, plus 1 extra tsp
- 1 tsp vanilla paste
- 1kg ready-to-roll shortcrust pastry
- 100g soft brown sugar
- 200g mixed fruit
- 1 tbsp cornflour
- 2 tbsp milk



1. Turn the oven to fan 180C/conventional 200C/gas 7. Put the rhubarb into a roasting tin and sprinkle with the 200g caster sugar and vanilla paste. Stir in the 2 tbsp water, then cover with foil. Bake for 25 minutes, stirring halfway, until the rhubarb is just cooked, but still holds its shape. Remove from the oven, tip into a sieve and leave to cool over a bowl.
2. Roll the pastry out to a 1/2cm thickness, then cut out 12 circles to fit a 12 hole muffin tray. Line the tray with the pastry. Mix the rhubarb, brown sugar, dried fruit and cornflour together then pile into the tart cases. Put a baking sheet in the oven to heat.
3. Cut 12 lids from the remaining pastry and put on top of the filled tarts, pinching the edges together to seal. Brush the pastry with milk, then sprinkle with the extra 1 tsp caster sugar. Make two small slits in each lid. Put the tray on the hot baking sheet and bake for 35 minutes. Cool a little before turning out. Serve with cream, ice cream or custard.

LEMON AND PARMESAN CHICKEN

Serves 4

- 40g fresh white breadcrumbs
- Finely grated rind of 1/2 lemon
- 30g parmesan cheese. Finely grated
- Oil for spraying or brushing
- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts (about 175g each)
- 50g light soft cheese with garlic and herbs
- 2 rashers smoked back bacon (about 65g)
- Freshly ground black pepper.



1. Turn oven to fan 200C/conventional 220C/gas 7. Mix the breadcrumbs, lemon rind and parmesan together. Spray or brush a shallow ovenproof dish or baking tray with oil. Place the chicken breasts in the dish and spread evenly with the cheese. Press the breadcrumbs on top of the chicken and season with freshly ground pepper. Trim off any bacon fat and slice. Scatter over the chicken. Bake for 25 minutes, or until the topping is crisp and lightly browned and the chicken is cooked through. Serve with salad or some nice fresh asparagus and hollandaise sauce.

Margaret Astbury

LENT LUNCHESES



This year St Giles' Lent Lunches very successfully raised £1,040.70 for the South West Charity ShelterBox. The now familiar green boxes are filled with life saving supplies for a family when disaster strikes a region. We are very happy that the money raised from the six Lent Lunches (one had to be cancelled at the last minute due to heavy snow) and an excellent raffle, was able to purchase and send two boxes to an area somewhere in the world where there is a human crisis.

Our thanks to everyone who came and partook of the delicious homemade soups made by Ann Marsh, Di Seward, Jill Collier, Barbara Woodsford, Diana Church and Diana Mellows.

Well done to the Team it was an excellent result.

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MAD moments in the garden



I am writing this article earlier in the month than usual, as I am away for 2 weeks. Subsequently, the effects of the late snow, cold and wet are still around the garden. Hopefully they will be well in the past by the time you read this. One positive though, from the recent weather, is the snowdrops. They have lasted brilliantly, and they are still flowering as I write this article at the very end of March; they are looking lovely - a reminder that I must split some off the main patch and spread them around the garden. I recently saw a lovely planting of Snowdrops mixed with *Ophiopogon Nigrescens*, which is a short black evergreen grass. The two plants were planted growing into each other and looked very pretty along a path edge. The snowdrops drew your eye forwards as you walked along the path, and the dark grass provided a perfect backdrop. They were a lovely combination. You could add a few small *Alchemilla* plants to grow over the top of the grass in late spring to soften the “edging” effect for the rest of the year.

The garden has been too wet to sort out the new raised beds I talked of last month, and so they will have to wait until my return, but some of the annual flower seeds I mentioned, have emerged and been potted on. Last month I wrote about my aim being to have flowers to pick all year round and referred to March when Marigolds would be flowering. However, in spite of my usually optimistic nature, I now doubt that, even if sown in October, they would have been producing flowers in this recent weather! My tulips in pots, however, are bringing some brighter colour beside the back door - a welcome greeting on the grey days.

To return to my annual plan for the “cutting patch”, in April and May, the earlier hardy annuals that were planted in October, will ideally be getting more productive and you can sow more hardy annuals direct in the ground to produce

flowers later in the season. I love *Centaurea* or Cornflowers.

There is the usual pretty blue, pink or stunning black one. All easy to grow, last well in water and add dots of colour, texture and shape to a range of flowers in a vase. I also sow a white *Consolida ajacis* or Larkspur. A lovely ethereal flower that looks great on its own or mixed with foliage. These plants do not like to be moved as seedlings, so it is best to sow a row or block that can be thinned out once they have begun to grow.

The half-hardy annuals, which I find irresistible, always include white and bright pink *Cosmos*, a great cut and come again example. Also, this year I am including a beautiful-looking *Antirrhinum*, that is dark red, which will look great with a zesty lime green *Zinnia*. They are best planted out after the last of the frosts have passed.

What is important to remember, is that the more you pick annuals, the more flowers plants will produce for a longer period. When you pick, take out the leading stem but do leave some side branches. Then more flowers will shoot out from the buds between stem and branch. Providing support for most plants helps them grow significantly larger and stronger. I have previously successfully used pea netting stretched over the patch, attached to canes holding it around a foot above the ground.

Then of course there are Sweet Peas, and Dahlias, perennials and shrubs which are all very valuable for adding to flower arrangements, be they for your own home or your friends.

For lots more inspiration and advice see Sarah Raven’s website or her book “Grow your own cut flowers”.

Mary-Anne Driscoll

KGC Meeting 13th April - Abbotsbury Gardens, Past, Present and Future - Stephen Griffith

Tucked away in a wooded valley, close to the sea at the eastern end of Chesil beach, is a magical, exotic garden with a chequered past and a vibrant present. Abbotsbury Sub-Tropical Garden is fortunate to have Stephen Griffith as its head gardener, whose expertise and enthusiasm, has spearheaded the restoration of this oasis of rare plants. The ownership of the land has remained in hands of descendants of the Strangways family since the middle of the 17th century, including the Earls of Ilchester, who lived at Melbury House, near Yeovil. The gardens were laid out around a summer residence, built for the family in 1765, and demolished after a fire in the early 20th century. The garden became neglected, taken over by brambles, ivy and self-sown buddleia. Stephen arrived at Abbotsbury in the aftermath of the ‘great storm’ of 1990, when hundreds of trees were lost, and he set about repairing the damage and discovering the history of the garden. The family archive included letters of horticultural interest, photographs from a Country Life article of 1898, and most importantly, a catalogue of the garden dated 1895, listing 4,500 plants, which became the basis of plans for reconstruction.

The progress of the restoration was fascinatingly illustrated in photographs taken from 1990 to the present day. The task that lay ahead of the team of gardeners was enormous: in the

walled garden, for example, top of the to-do list was ‘find the walls’! The whole 40-acre site was deer-fenced, ponds cleaned, streams de-silted, paths remade and the dreaded Japanese knotweed slowly eradicated. With the clearing-up eventually behind them, Stephen and his team started to map out the future direction of the garden, maintaining its unique collection of tropical plants while aiming to widen its appeal. In 1990, an honesty box for entrance money was the only commercial feature. During the following decades, a shop and a restaurant were built, special interest areas of the garden were developed and musical events staged. One of the most memorable events at Abbotsbury is the autumn *Son et Lumière* evening walk through flood-lit, tree-lined paths. To remind us that Abbotsbury is the guardian of a collection of precious plants, Stephen concluded with a selection of photographs of rare and beautiful specimens, including, giant busy lizzies and echiums, magnolias, orchids and even examples of exotic weeds. In 2012 Abbotsbury received the Garden of the Year award, an accolade richly deserved for a remarkable 20-year achievement.

Sydie Bones

May 11th: Hellebore, Heuchera and Tiarella Martin Young

AXMINSTER HOSPITAL LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

*The new digital X-ray equipment is up and running at last. The refurbished department was officially opened by Dr Phil Taylor on April 16th thanks to the League's donation of £65,000, half the cost of the equipment, to the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust. GPs are reporting a much better and faster service.

*Outline approval has been granted for the new Summer House in the hospital's Conybeare Garden Once the unit is selected and final approval is obtained from the NHS Property Services, work can begin.

*The new ECG 24hr heart monitor has been bought for the Medical Practice. This replaces an older, much slower system and gives doctors and consultants instant computer access to results. We are grateful to the Hawkchurch Annual Fête for a £500 donation to the cost.

*Hospiscare at home for the Axe Valley – This is well on the way to becoming a reality. Thanks to Colyton Vintage Tractor Run and all your supporters for giving 50% of your proceeds from this year's run.

*The Annual General Meeting of the League of Friends of Axminster Hospital, which is open to everyone, is scheduled for Friday, 29th June at 6.30 pm in the Axminster Guildhall.

*If you would like to organize an event to raise funds towards the work we do please contact me on the email address below or by letter to the hospital.

Ann Veit, Secretary to the League of Friends of Axminster Hospital: Email - AnnVmus@aol.com

HOSPISCARE WILL FORTNIGHT

Monday, 14th May – Friday, 25th May 2018

Protect the people you love and support your local hospice.

Having a professionally written Will is the best way to ensure that you can protect the ones you love and remember causes you care about. Landmark life events are the times to consider writing or reviewing your Will. If you have recently married or divorced, become a parent or grandparent, lost a spouse or relative, retired or moved house, our Will Fortnight is an opportunity to make your Will, or update an existing one and help Hospiscare too. Our thanks go to the local solicitors who are supporting Hospiscare by giving up all their usual fee for writing a standard Will so that you can donate to Hospiscare instead.

The solicitor who is participating in this scheme in Axminster is Vicky Emmett at Beviss and Beckingsale, office telephone no. 01297 630700 and you can book an

appointment from 23rd April, but places are limited so please do it promptly. At the initial meeting you explain what you would like in your Will and your solicitor will help you to express your wishes clearly and guide you through the process. Once it is drafted, she will show it to you and arrange for you to sign it.

Will Fortnight was a big success last year and donations have helped Hospiscare nurses make a real difference to local people living with advanced, progressive or incurable diseases.

Alice Pragnell

To find out more contact Alice on 01392 688020 or A.Pragnell@hospiscare.co.uk

HEALTHWATCH DEVON

The recent press release, sent by Communications Officer Jessica Crowley, reports the key findings of Healthwatch Devon's survey on access to NHS dental care for both regular and emergency treatment. These findings concern waiting for appointments, quality of treatment, distance travelled and costs. In comparison with private dentistry, NHS patients usually had to wait longer for appointments, with the areas of greatest increase to waiting lists being Exeter and East Devon. Only 37% rated their treatment as excellent and many had a long way to travel, especially if they needed wheelchair access. However, most of them had received a written quote or personal treatment plan.

In response to these findings the Dental Commissioners of the NHS Southwest region commented that problems with recruitment and retention of dentists had significantly worsened. This left many practices understaffed and unable to fulfil their NHS contract or look after as many patients as they would if they were at full capacity. The Commissioners

were disappointed at patients' feedback about the quality of NHS treatment in Devon. In the National Survey 84.3 % of those surveyed had reported a positive experience of dental services.

Healthwatch Devon is urging NHS England, who commission dental services in Devon, to review these key findings, which are also being shared with both local commissioning groups. It will monitor steps being taken to reduce waiting lists and improve access, and will continue to report on progress.

To give feedback about your experience of Devon dentists or to get support or advice contact Healthwatch Devon on their free phone, by email or on their website or find them on Facebook: www.facebook.com/healthwatchdevon

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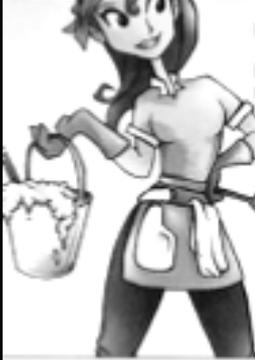
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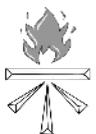
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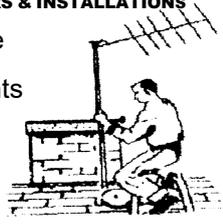


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	6.00 pm	The Beacon	The Baptist Church meet every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday in month
Monday	early	Your house	Recycling collections
Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri	9.15 am	Village Hall	Pre-school playgroup for 3+
Monday	2.00 - 4.00 pm	Village Hall	Country Dancing 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
	10.00 - noon	The Beacon	The Post Office
	1.30 - 3.30 pm	St Giles' Church	St Giles' Handicraft Group followed by 'Pop Up' Café
	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Badminton
	7.15 - 8.45 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

DATES FOR MAY 2018

Wed	2nd	11.00 am	Jubilee Green	Pre-school Annual Duck Race
	2nd	7.15 pm	Village Hall	Moviola: <i>Paddington 2</i>
Fri	4th	6.00 pm	The New Inn	Royal British Legion 'Get Together'
	4th	7.30 pm	The Guildhall, Axminster	Filling Station
Sat	5th	10.30 am - noon	Village Hall	Kilmington Gardening Club Plant Market
	5th	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Musical Evening (songs of the 50s - 90s) featuring Trichord - see page 14.
Sun	6th	3.00 pm	St Giles' Church	Joint Rogation Service
	6th	8.00 pm	The New Inn	Quiz in Aid of Children's Hospice Care SouthWest
Tues	8th	Early	Your House	Landfill with recycling
	8th	10.00 am	The Beacon	CREATE Group
Thurs	10th	10.30 am	The Beacon	Messy Sparklers
	10th	7.00 pm	Dalwood Church	Mission Community Ascension Day Holy Communion
	10th	7.30 pm	Cudmore Room	'Exploring Prayer' with Anna Crabbe
Fri	11th	6.00 pm	The Beacon	Family Beetle Drive in aid of Paul Obudo's mission to Thailand
	11th	7.30 pm	Village Hall	KGC Talk: <i>Hellebore, Heuchera and Tiarella</i> - Martin Young
Sat	12th	2.00 pm	The Beacon	Scrabble Club
Sun	13th	9.30 am	St Giles' Church	Parish Communion
Tues	15th	10.30 am	The Beacon	Cameo Coffee Morning
	15th	12.30 pm	The Beacon	Contact Lunch
	15th	7.30 pm	Pavilion	Parish Council Meeting
Thurs	17th	7.30 pm	Cudmore Room	'Exploring Prayer' with Anna Crabbe
Sat	19th	1.30 - 5.00 pm	Various Gardens in Village	NGS Open Gardens: Spinney Two, Breach and Bettys Ground
Sun	20th	11.00 am	St Giles' Church	Pentecost Morning Worship
	20th	1.30 - 5.00 pm	Various Gardens in Village	NGS Open Gardens: Spinney Two, Breach and Bettys Ground
Thurs	24th	7.30 pm	Cudmore Room	'Exploring Prayer' with Anna Crabbe
Sat	26th	8.30 am	The Beacon	Men's Breakfast Meeting
Sun	27th	8.30 am	St Giles' Church	Trinity Sunday Holy Communion
	27th	4.00 pm	St Giles' Church	Trinity Sunday Family Service
Tues	29th	Early	Your House	Landfill with recycling
Thurs	31st	7.30 pm	Cudmore Room	'Exploring Prayer' with Anna Crabbe

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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Hitchcock Pavilion bookings - Peter Huscroft	01297 32243	The New Inn	01297 33376	Village 100 Club - Angus Falconer	01297 33708
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SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Refuse Collection	01395 571515	Axminster Library	01297 32693	Clerk to the Parish Council	01297 33462
Water - general - leaks	0844 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, Whimple and Blackdown, Iain Chubb	07932 459595
		Axminster Care Service	01297 35550		

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

CHURCHES

St Giles' Church Revd Simon Holloway Diana Mellows Pastoral teams	01297 35433 01297 32334 01297 33777	Baptist Church Office Pastor Darrell Holmes	01297 631638	Axminster Catholic Church 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 Kilmington. 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.

	Black and white ads	Colour ads
Credit card (70 mm x 40 mm)	£ 5 or £22.50 for 5 months	
¼ page (90 wide x 136 mm high)	£12 for one-off or £50 for 5 months	£15 for one-off or £75 for 5 months
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

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: Kilmington Postscript and posted to: **Mrs V. Larcombe, Brookside, The Street, Kilmington, EX13 7RJ. Alternatively, post through Vicky's front door (please see directions on page 22.).**

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

KILMINGTON KANTER 2018

On Friday, 30th March lots of hardy souls arrived in Kilmington to take on the annual Kilmington Kanter Run. This year was the first wet Kanter we've had, but that didn't stop 92 runners in the Kanter, 38 in the Fun Run, and 56 the 1k.

This year's Prize Winners were:

Main Kanter:

- 1st Overall - James Green (Axe Valley Runners)
- 1st Lady – Kerri Ann Upham (Pure Endurance Triathletes)
- 1st Local – James Cope
- 1st Male (40 – 49) – Patrick Devine Wright (Axe Valley Runners)
- 1st Female (40 – 49) – Karen Eyre (Axe Valley Runners)
- 1st Male (50 – 59) – John Blackledge (Axe Valley Runners)
- 1st Female (50 – 59) – Clare Hansford (Axe Valley Runners)
- 1st Male (60+) - Howard Bidmead (Honiton RC)
- 1st Female (60+) - Eleanor Wood (Axe Valley Runners)

Fun Run:

- 1st Overall and (11 – 12 years) – William and Henry Birchall (Joint 1st) (Uplyme School)
- 1st Female (11 – 12 years) - Abigail Reed (Kilmington Primary)
- 1st Male (13 – 14 years) – Noah Remington
- 1st Female (13 – 14 years) – Edi Rouse

- 1st Male (15 – 16 years) – Louis Butt
- 1st Female (15 – 16 years) – Holly Eyre (Axe Valley Runners)

1k Run

- 1st Overall (Male) – Eli Baker Price
- 1st Female – Jemimah Obudo (Kilmington Primary)

Although the weather put a dampener on proceedings, it was a brilliant morning and well worth all the hours of effort from behind the scenes by the organisers Luke and Beverley Reed on behalf of the Kilmington PTFA. The event has raised around £980 for the School which is brilliant. Sarah Leat from the PTFA has applied to Santander for a charity grant which we are hopeful of getting to make the total up to £1,480.

There are so many people to thank - Race Sponsors: Total Renewable Solutions, Axminster Tool Centre, Ganesha Wholefoods for the prizes on the day; All the course marshalls for turning out, once again, to make the event safe for all the participants; Axe Valley Runners for the use of the course marking equipment and the loan of Phil Nayliss, Garry Perratt and Paul Johns; All the parents that helped out on the day.....

Regardless of the weather this was a fantastic event for the School and the local community, once again.

Luke Reed

