KILMINGTON POSTscript Issue 234 May 2021



PALMERS BREWING IN DORSET SINCE 1794

ALMER

RSET SINCE



EDITORIAL

Amongst April's unsolicited mail was a communication from Governance Reform and Democracy in London addressed to 'Dear Somerset Resident' and inviting us to have our say on the future of local government and provision of services in Somerset. Why they would value Kilmington's opinion on the subject is a mystery. There were boxes to tick and a space for other comments, which was tempting. An old-fashioned school report might have said 'Geography- must try harder.'

Meanwhile, here in this corner of East Devon, there is a light in the tunnel which is not an oncoming train. We shall soon have a Kilmington Community Cinema. John Watts' article updates us on its progress and announces the first screening for the 9th June. Many congratulations to those concerned with all the fund-raising and hard work involved. Much depends on the re-opening of the Village Hall. Judith Chapman's article explains how this is to be achieved and it will also enable the Gardening Club to hold some meetings again. Spring in the countryside has inspired a local poet and Spring garden visits, which started with the village celebrations and open gardens weekend in April and will continue this month with three gardens opening for the NGS in aid of nursing and health charities. The church coffee shop has begun to open on Fridays (outside) and, as many have noticed, pub gardens are already accessible.

During lockdown some people have found time to reflect on past events and achievements as well as preparing for new ventures and we are grateful for the interesting articles they have kindly produced for Postscript. Much work has been done in readiness for the launch of the Bug and Forest school and Community tree nursery. Graham Harding has managed to walk as far as John o'Groats, virtually. Few of us will have seen a Buick, except perhaps in an old film, but Paul Raven recalls his passion for them which led him to seek out old wrecks and meticulously restore them to their former glory. This month the RBL reaches its national centenary and Peter Wood tells us about its history and the enormous contribution it has made and continues to make.

Wildlife is not forgotten. Stafford suggests that farmers continue to be maligned for practices which inadvertently damaged the land and adversely affected many species, but have long since been discontinued in favour of more enlightened methods. The latest Big Farmland Bird Count shows an upturn in the trend and records greater numbers of farmland birds in Kilmington. In contrast, hedgehogs have hit a bad patch. Badgers have become aware of their relative abundance here and moved in – but they are wildlife too.

Front page - Marie Gardner

Janfryd

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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 2021. 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 22 for details. Donations to the middle of March came to £66.00 All donations go towards printing costs. Thank you for your continuing support.

ADVERTISING RATES

Please see inside back cover for details.

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

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NATURE NOTES

UK'S FARMERS COMMITTING TO CONSERVATION

In recent years farmers have at times been wrongly tarnished with destroying wildlife habitats in order to increase food production. In the 60s - 80s it was true that the use of pesticides and the removal of hedges had a detrimental effect on many birds and mammals. Since the late 1990s, however, farmers, landowners and agents have been involved in various environmental schemes which have led to an increase in many species of wildlife. In order to monitor and record the effects of the environmental schemes, the 'Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust' have been conducting a 'Big Farmland Bird Count' for the past seven years. Below is an edited report from this year's count.



Farmers have shown their long-term commitment to conservation alongside productive land-use by completing this year's Big Farmland Bird Count in record numbers. Despite much of the country being blanketed in snow during

the count (5th - 21st February) participation increased by 65% and the land area covered by the count more than doubled to over a million hectares. 81% more birds have been counted this year by more than 700 additional volunteers. All of this helps to build a detailed national picture of the state of Britain's farmland birds and

ernment's Environmental Land Management scheme, and helps to chart the effects of any conservation they carry out. The scheme was launched in 2014 to highlight the positive work done by farmers and gamekeepers in helping to reverse the decline in farmland birds. It is often unappreciated that British farmers provide habitats for wildlife and additional feeding for farmland birds during the winter months. Of those who took part, 48% were in agri-environment schemes, demonstrating their long-term commitment to environmental management. 39% provided some form of extra support for birds, through growing bird seed mixes or by winter feeding.

Many of the farms in Kilmington are already included in the environmental schemes and as you walk around the village you will note areas of increased habitat adjacent to hedgerows and on the edge of fields. Most of these areas contain wildflowers and other species of flora designed to attract and feed various birds and insects. For those who enjoy the footpaths, hopefully you will have noticed a number of new bird



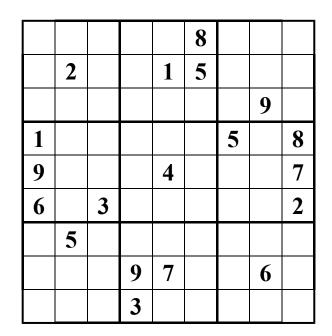
boxes placed by younger members of our society who all enjoy the countryside.

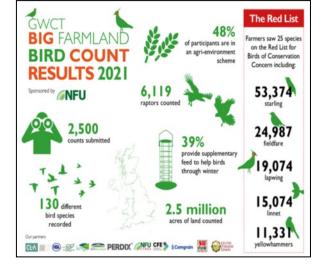
Stafford Seward

SUDOKU CHALLENGE

Level: Hard

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 14.





provides a better understanding of what is really going on in our countryside. A total of 25 species from the Red List for Birds of Conservation Concern were recorded in this year's count, with eight appearing in the 25 most frequently seen species list. Of these, starlings, fieldfare, lapwing and linnet were the four most abundant red-listed species recorded. The five most abundant birds counted were wood-pigeons, starlings, rooks, fieldfare and chaffinch. A total of 190,000 were seen, making up over 37% of the total number of birds recorded.

The GWCT Big Farmland Bird Count asks land managers to spend thirty minutes recording the bird species they see on their land. This is an increasing requirement under the gov-

KILMINGTON SKY AT NIGHT

During May look out for Vega, the fifth brightest star in our sky. You'll find the beautiful, bluish Vega easily in the north-east around mid-evening. Vega is so bright that you can still see it on a moonlit night. It's the brightest star in the constellation Lyra the Harp and is sometimes called the Harp Star. Vega will continue to shine in our evening sky throughout the summer and autumn, so it's worth finding.

Having found Vega look to its right and higher in the sky to find Arcturus - fairly high in the east and noticeable for its brightness and yellow-orange colour. On a line between the two

you'll find the constellation Corona Borealis, also known as The Northern Crown. It's an almost perfect semicircle of stars and will also be in the evening sky from now until October.

3rd The waning moon passes due south of the ringed planet **Saturn**, to stage a conjunction.

4th - 5th A little over one day after the moon-Saturn conjunction, the moon will sweep due south of the giant 'king' planet **Jupiter.**

5th - 6th Eta Aquariid meteor shower Every year, our planet Earth crosses the orbital path of Halley's comet in late April and May, so bits and pieces from this comet light up the night as Eta Aquariid meteors. This shower is said to be active from April 19th to May 20th. However the Earth ploughs most deeply into this stream of comet debris around May 5th or 6th.

12th Moon passes Venus, the brightest planet, at dusk on May 12th but you'll need an unobstructed horizon in the direction of sunset to increase your chances of catching the



exceedingly thin young moon and Venus low in the sky. The moon and Venus will follow the sun beneath the horizon before nightfall.

13th Moon passes Mercury, the solar system's innermost planet. But you'll need a telescope or binoculars to see Mercury in the early evening sky.

15th Moon passes the red planet Mars around dusk.

19th Moon passes close to the star **Regulus** in the constellation Leo, the Lion's brightest star.

22nd - 23rd Moon close to the star Spica. In the Northern Hemisphere Spica first lights up the early evening sky in late March or early April and then stays with us, only disappearing from the evening sky around the September equinox.

28th Mercury and Venus close, their closest visible conjunction until 2033. Find an unobstructed horizon in the direction of sunset and look for the pair low in the western sky as dusk turns to night. Venus, the brighter of the two will be easier to see. Then you'll need binoculars to try to see Mercury as it is nowhere near as bright, but you may be lucky.

30th to June 2nd The waning moon sweeps by the two gas giant planets, **Saturn and Jupiter.** Jupiter is much brighter than Saturn. Saturn's rings are inclined at seventeen degrees toward Earth at present, making the rings readily observable through a telescope throughout 2021.

Peter

THE DEATH OF KILMINGTON'S HEDGEHOGS

I was going to write an update on our village hedgehogs, how they are doing well, coming out of hibernation and breeding. I know there are many of you in our village who feed and help look after them.

But sadly that's not the message now after I received the news every hedgehog lover dreads to hear: we have badgers running around the village where we once had a thriving hog community.

Just this week I've been notified of six dead hogs that have been attacked and eaten right through the heart of our village and its gardens.



Badgers are the hedgehog's main predator in the UK, they are the only animal with claws strong enough to tackle an adult hog's spines. After these attacks, that is all that is left, just the spines. Having discovered an abundance of food the badgers will keep coming back for sure.

We had been releasing rescue hogs around the village after rehabilitation, but this will now have to stop. Please

keep me informed of any hedgehogs you have visiting your garden and I will try to keep you all updated on how the population is progressing.

Lesley Rew

KILMINGTON COMMUNITY CINEMA NEWS

The new Kilmington Community Cinema (KCC) has become a reality, we now have a committee of six with three additional non-committee members. An order has been placed for the cinema equipment and this is due to be installed over the first weekend in May. We have decided to move the film nights to the second Wednesday of the month which will mean those of you who enjoyed going to the History talks at Axminster Heritage can now also come to the cinema. We are also going to trial a matinee showing on the following day, the second Thursday in the month. We have received the Summer programme of films and, by the time you read this, will have placed our order for them. We are also considering trialling a children's film show during the summer holidays.

So, unless COVID prevents, we will have our first film show on Wednesday, 9th June and Thursday, 10th. COVID restrictions will apply which will limit the audience number to 25, the other five places are for the team members running the film show. For this first showing the intention is to only advertise in the Village and to members on our mailing list. For the July film hopefully, there will not be a limit on numbers. However, we are likely to restrict numbers to avoid personal restricted space and still request the wearing of masks when moving around. If the June matinee was perceived to be enjoyed and wanted, we will continue the Thursday matinees. For both months pre-booking will be necessary, this will enable controlling numbers and have the details of all who attend.

Admission will be with cash, and it would be extremely helpful if you can have the correct amount, which remains at £5, for the Box Office. This will help to avoid a long, socially distanced queue forming. We have still to work out if/how refreshments will be served and if the Raffle will be allowed.

So make sure you read the June PostScript or look online @ www.kilmingtonvillage.com/other-organisations.html for details of the films and how to book.

Stay safe.

John Watts Chair: Kilmington Community Cinema

It is 'The Secret Garden' that we are considering for August, children will have to be accompanied by a responsible adult. If you have young children and think they might enjoy this, please email me: wattsjohn307@gmail.com suggesting the likely best day(s) and time(s) and we can then see if the Hall will be free and the number interested make it viable.

GARDEN VISITING IS BACK!

Three Kilmington (Shute Road) gardens will be opening for the National Garden Scheme on **Saturday**, 22nd and **Sunday**, 23rd May (1.30 -5.00 pm). Tickets are £6 for all three gardens, children free and may be purchased in advance online at: https://ngs.org.uk/view-garden/26002 or at Spinney Two, Breach or Betty's Ground. A lovely opportunity to wander around these varied gardens and see them in their May glory! Well behaved dogs on leads are welcome at each garden. Your visit will support several nursing and health charities that are in great need of financial support due to the pandemic.

Celia Dunsford

AXMINSTER AND LYME CANCER SUPPORT

www.axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk www.facebook.com/axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk Tel: 07512 279663 Email: info@axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk

In their last newsletter the ALCS reminded their readers that the beach hut was now open and they could book it for two days a month by using the link:

www.axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk/beach-hut

They introduced a new therapist, Gemma Norris, who can also be found on Facebook and who offers remedial massages and meditation to help with physical and/or emotional healing by easing chronic pain.

Lindsay Shadrach, who has worked in health and fitness for over 20 years, offers Nordic walking instruction and opportunities and can also be found on Facebook. Nordic walking for those who already have some experience is available with Gillian who leads regular walks in the countryside. Other activities suggested to benefit mental and physical health for those under stress from suffering cancer are a singing workshop on 17th July, if enough people are interested and taster sessions of fly fishing on 3rd June or 1st July. Online there is a 'look good, feel better' workshop for men.

There is a section on fundraising to enable all these provisions to continue and a list of some of the many retailers who give a donation to ALCS every time you shop there.

The weekly drop-in sessions at 2.00 - 3.00 pm on Mondays are still on Zoom, but a real ALCS open day is scheduled for Monday, 26^{th} July and there are several more dates in late summer and autumn to be found on their website.

MOBILE LIBRARY

Tuesday, 4th May at 11.20 - 11.50 am The Street

CONFESSIONS OF A BUICK LOVER

When I was a young man of 16 in 1960, I was already hooked on American cars of the nineteen thirties. I still am today.

I noticed a 1934 Buick Victoria Coupe for sale in the Exchange & Mart (no computers or Ebay then). I had already decided to own a car by the age of 17 and had worked weekends for two years at a boatyard on the Thames and saved about £100.00, a fair sum then. I took a train from Maidenhead to view the Buick in Ashtead, Surrey. I purchased the car for £65.00 and enlisted the help of an older friend to collect and drive the car home. My parents did not drive at the time.

Before I acquired my provisional licence, I replaced the straight eight head gasket and had several valves re-built.

Having reached the age of 17, my Grandad, a terrifying man (who had been driving since the days of tiller steering), gave me driving lessons. He had me drive through London in the rush hour and would also put an empty matchbox behind a rear tyre to make sure I didn't crush it when pulling away on a hill start. I took my driving test at Henley test centre; the examiner was surprised to see a 17-year- old lad driving a large old American car! I passed at first attempt, which was good as my Grandad was waiting outside for me. That's how my love affair with Buicks started. Since then I have owned a total of nine nineteen-thirties Buicks and one Packard, but today no longer have any.



I photographed my first car, the black Buick, in a gateway to Cliveden House at the time when Christine Keeler was visiting!

I carried out full restorations on three of the Buicks but sold the three remaining, restored cars prior to moving to Kilmington from Cornwall two years ago.

Two of the cars I restored had been in a breakers yard for years and I had to purchase a 1934 Buick Hearse, in a dilapidated condition, as a donor car for the hardtop coupe. The 1934 convertible coupe was in a similar condition when purchased at a London Auction.

The 1937 convertible coupe (pictured right) was restored by a friend of mine, before I purchased it from him. A hardtop from a British car had been welded on many years before to make a saloon car. This was removed to return it to its original state as a convertible.



I owned and ran this 1934 Convertible for over 20 years.

1934 Hardtop Coupe before restoration





1934 Hardtop Coupe after restoration

1937 Buick Convertible Coupe before restoration, a hardtop from another car had been welded on





1937Buick Convertible Coupe after restoration

On reflection, I don't know how I achieved the restorations with many parts having to be purchased from the USA, which all took time. I hope this is of interest, even if just to show what can be achieved with perseverance and enthusiasm. Vacancy St Giles' Church Kilmington 01297 35433



Letter from the Churches

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

The local ministers met together each month and eventually reached the point of real trust, sharing their personal struggles.

The Methodist said, "I'm an alcoholic but my teetotal congregation would hate me if they knew."

The Baptist pastor said, "I'm a gambler, but my strict congregation would sack me if they found out." They turned to the Anglican priest who said, "I'm a gossip and I can't wait to tell everyone about today!"

We all need others to confide in, particularly this year more than others. Having come through so much and endured lockdown and isolation for so long one observer has suggested that there will be "a tsunami of Mental Health issues" on the way. I believe she may not be far off the mark.

There is something in our British culture that implies that a "stiff upper-lip" is needed at all times. We can hold back the tears at funerals, suppress the joy at weddings and get embarrassed when people start talking about their fears and inner emotions – but to do this is simply not healthy.

Jesus famously says "come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew ch11 v28).

SOUP IN LENT

A huge Thank You to everyone who was involved with the Soup in Lent scheme, the soups were superb.

Jenny Newbery, Caroline Lavender, Diana Church, Colin Stewart, Christine Mills, Tom and Jo Cook, Peter Guy, Jane Chalk and myself were responsible for the tasty and varied soups which were delivered by The Gang, which included Anna Crabbe, Gill Heighway, Jill Hitchcock and the two Dianas. To make soup for 48 people is a task not to be undertaken lightly but all the makers were incredible and all those who received the fruits of their labours were delighted and showed their appreciation by their donations.

St Giles' Church, which has had no income during the lockdowns has benefitted by the generosity of the donors to the tune of £685. Other charities who have received donations are RNIB, Riding for the Disabled, Cancer Research, Hospiscare and Save the Children.

Thank you everyone, it brought a bit of light and hope into all our lives. God bless you all for what you have all done. There is light at the end of the tunnel.

Diana Mellows

Surely he says that to those who are dragging around thoughts and fears that have not been voiced, undoubtedly he speaks to those who hold secrets that are weighing them down, definitely he is addressing the lonely and the hurting.

Our village has not just one, but two churches where you can come in confidence to find those who will listen and not judge, to whom you can unburden and know it will remain confidential. We may not offer the confessional box as some denominations do, but we do make space for those who want to confess the things that they dwell on last thing at night and pick up first thing in the morning. Then there are many others in the village who will also be those to whom you can turn.

And ultimately there is Jesus, the Son of God who issued the invitation that anyone can come to him. Anyone can come to Him in prayer, in doubt, in sorrow or in joy and just enjoy His presence. As we come, we can experience the lifting of dark clouds, the release of regrets and the fact that you are not alone... someone else now knows, understands and still loves you more than anyone else. Not even a tsunami will phase the one who stilled the storm.

Darrell Holmes

COFFEE SHOP HAS RESUMED AT ST GILES

Our regular Coffee Shop started again on April 16th.

It begins at 10.00 am and ends at 12.00 noon. It has been lovely to meet again after such a long time.

We will be meeting outside until after May 17th, when we hope to be allowed to meet inside.

Do come and join us any Friday morning.

The Church barrow is now back outside St Giles' with food items on Fridays.

Anna Crabbe



ST GILES EASTER PAINTING COMPETITION

The winners of the four categories in the St Giles Easter Painting Competition have now been announced

Under 3 years of age.



Arfie McConnell Aged 2.

"The Colours of Spring"



Ben Fudger Aged 8.

"An Easter Card"

Aged 3 - 6 years.



Danny Ostrowski

Aged 6.

" The Colours of Spring"

Aged 13 - 17.



Lily Doolin Aged 16. " My Favourite Flower"

Bowling is the ideal safe and social sport to help us get back to normal. Bowling is fun and is for everyone.

Why not come along and join us to have a go on our **Open Day** on **Sunday May 30th 2021** between 10.30 – 12.30, or 1.30-4.30. You will be able to view and join in our bowls-based fun and games and find out more about the club and its activities.

We will provide the equipment. All you need to do is to wear flat shoes/ trainers. We have Covid safeguards in place for safe bowling.

Complimentary refreshments will be provided!

We are a small but friendly club, catering for players of all ages, men and women, experienced or new to the game, playing in one of the most beautiful settings in Devon.

All our members get chances to play and develop their game. There are many opportunities for members to play in all types of matches, be they rollups/practice, club leagues and competitions. inter-club friendlies.

leagues and competitions.



So that we know you are coming, please contact John Rolph (Club Captain) on 01460 22151 or email secretary.chardstockbc@ gmail.com

Find us on Facebook: Chardstock Bowling Club or visit our website: www.chardstockbowlingclub.com

Chardstock Bowling Club Open Day 2021



FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF LOCKDOWN

The Tenor Bell in the Tower of St Giles' Church was rung on Tuesday, 23rd March 2021, the First Anniversary of Lockdown.

The bell was rung again on Saturday, 10th April marking the passing of HM The Queen's Consort, HRH Prince Philip with 99 rings by Richard Norman and Captain of the Kilmington Tower, Celia Dunsford. The bell was half muffled for this last occasion.

Thank you both of you.

Diana Mellows

Richard Norman ringing

NEW SESSIONS AT OUR COMMUNITY BUG AND FOREST SCHOOL

GreenBee Adventures Outdoor learning sessions

Now that our hedgerows and trees are greening up, bugs and birds are busy nest-building and rabbits and deer are springing into action, let's start a new adventure!

Our little woodland clearing has had its spring makeover and is ready for some fun activities, all run for the local community. Starting in May on Wednesday mornings at 10.00 - 11.30 am and Wednesday evenings at 6.30 - 8.00pm there are woodland craft workshops. In these sessions you can try whittling, carving, making items such as picture frames, painting and printing etc. It's really up to you. Hot drinks and biscuits by the fire will be available to keep creative spirits going.

On Monday mornings at 11.00 am there will be a community coffee morning in the clearing around the fire. While parents and babies are especially welcome to this, we all need to get together outside and socialise again in a safe environment.

Finally, our new tree nursery needs some helpers and advisors. Whether you want to get your hands dirty or would rather offer wisdom and guidance, you can become a Kilmington Tree Musketeer! On Thursday afternoons 1.30 – 2.30 pm and evenings 6.30 -7.30 pm we will have meetings and tree workshops aiming to establish our Kilmington Community Tree Nursery. These two sessions aim to make the project accessible to as many people as possible, you can be any age to become a Kilmington Tree Musketeer! The project aims to grow local native tree species that can be used to restock green areas in our community, and help local land owners with replanting projects that can benefit our whole community. There will be tea and biscuits around the fire to fuel efforts as usual.

Please be aware that spaces in all these sessions are limited and so booking ahead is advisable. If you can leave your car at home please do so as there is limited parking at Beechcroft and no parking outside on the road. Call Heather at GreenBee Bugs and Adventures 07859 943 768 for any more information and booking.

> Heather GreenBee Bugs and Adventures Community Interest Company

CONGRATULATIONS

We send congratulations to Angela Overton on reaching her 90th Birthday on Saturday, 1st May.



FIVE ALIVE OIL SYNDICATE

Please note that the May deadline for ordering oil falls on Tuesday 25th.

As usual I invite requests for a specific amount or if ordering a 'top up'or a full tank, then please advise me of an accurate estimate with a minimum order of 500 litres.

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

A PERSONAL CHALLENGE





ticked all the right boxes for me. It was: www.endtoend.run. It offered various virtual challenges from walking the South West Coast Path, The Pennine Way to climbing Everest. I decided to do the End to End, in other words Lands End to John O'Groats, 874 miles in total. To achieve this, it worked out at walking roughly two and half miles a day to walk it in a year.

I signed up and started on November 23rd. Every step I took counted and I gradually worked up my daily distance. When it wasn't nice enough to walk outside I purchased a treadmill and walked on that. On one of my many, many walks into Axminster I spotted two otters frolicking in the flood water which I had never seen before. Sometimes you have to slow down to appreciate what is

around you.

Every day or so I needed to input my data into the website and this was logged and a map was shown as to where I had passed through. As encouragement I received a postcard for every hundred miles accomplished. I completed the challenge after 121 days and subsequently received a t-shirt, a finishing postcard and a medal. As a memento to myself I purchased a mug and a Notch bracelet with the Lejog 874 mile charm.

Another benefit of doing the challenge is that I have lost around 20 kgs, going from XL to small in clothing.

Graham Harding

WILD DAFFODILS

At the beginning of the COVID pandemic and the first

lockdown I had to self-isolate like ninety percent of the

country. I started out doing my daily exercise by either cycling or walking the lanes around Kilmington. Over time,

I really enjoyed these outings and I was going further and

further afield. However, I felt I needed more of a purpose to

these walks and on checking the internet I found a site that



When out walking I came across some wild daffodils which are now sadly in decline. They reminded me as a child walking to Studhayes Farm, where there was a field covered with wild daffodils. You could pick a bunch and pay the farmer's wife (who the locals called daffodil Ginny) I think we paid thrupence (in old money). It was a long time ago!

Gill Perkins

SPRING POEMS

APRIL

April's like a pretty girl Posing shyly in soft unseasonable pastels, Unsuitably clad for these turncoat days -Lilting happily in warm sunshine Then suddenly vulnerable As driving rain rakes the tender leaves Or icy winds tear at the intricate lace of blossom And chasten the madcap daffodils. But those fragile looks belie her strength And when she passes all will be well.

MAY

With summer at her heels May comes, Confident and blithe and bonny, Emboldened by the strengthening sun. The golden air is sweet as honey With burgeoning of leaf and flower, While birdsong fills the lengthening days, Welcoming each sunlit hour With joyful hymns of praise.

MAD moments in the garden

Being a gardener is one of those things that develops over a lifetime. In my case I started as an infant knowing nothing except being parked in my pram under a willow tree for a nap. I progressed through and beyond teenage years absorbing a few specific plant names from my parents, an enthusiastic grandmother and an elderly aunt. So began, albeit very slowly, a spark of interest. What followed was a stage when my first, very small patch had a mass of dark

purple petunias all summer but not a lot else. They looked fabulous! Then came children and no time or money and the slightly bigger patch had a climbing frame and a few shrubs, bought and probably planted by my mother. Time marched on and I learnt from fellow allotment owners the joys of vegetable growing. My 50s were occupied with work and the children began to fly the nest. The now middle size (for central Bristol) garden became more of a focus and pleasure. Other people's gardens then became of interest and I became more curious around how gardening 'worked'. I could even 'talk' gardening. More years passed and I was lucky to move to Devon, retirement loomed and I really began to learn from a few courses, books and most of all from fellow gardeners. Suddenly I began to feel I might be growing up as a gardener and, as work became a thing of the past. gardening became a passion. I realized I was maturing well when I began to appreciate plants such as Hydrangeas and Rhododendrons. I now have a few Hydrangeas which I've mentioned before and there are also a few Rhododendrons in the garden, some of which I inherited with the garden, the others my husband bought, unable to resist their showy blooms in April and May. I have, of course, come to love them. One particularly nice one is a low creamy white evergreen version, what I assume is an Azalea, planted on the rockery. Thinking I might like another just the same, I looked unsuccessfully in local garden centres. I then had to turn to my books.



The family Rhododendron is part of the *Ericaceae* family. It consists of approximately 1,000 different species and thousands of different cultivars. According to my 'Hillier Manual of Trees and Shurbs' "they include many of the most spectacular as well as some of the most noble of flowering trees and shrubs." Praise indeed.

They were first described in the 16th century and botanists and scientists have been arguing and revising the

classification ever since. The latest revision in 1996 divided them into eight subgenera which I confess I find it difficult to grasp. Azaleas fall into two of these groups but the distinction is not simple! Having spent a considerable amount of time trying to satisfy my curiosity and distil relevant information for this article, I have concluded it is better to just enjoy the plants in all their forms. There are 128 different varieties listed as having been awarded the RHS Award of Garden Merit. If you are looking to buy this is always a good place to start. Most flower in Spring, grow in soil that is more acidic than alkaline and grow well in and around the village. The commonest is Rhododendron ponticum which, introduced by the Victorians, is now considered an invasive species. It grows wild in many woodlands, replacing the natural middle storey plants and reducing the benefits and habitats for animals and insects. Given my love of scent, one on my wish list is Rhododendron fragrantissimum, a beautiful medium-size shrub with single white trumpets sending clouds of scent on a warm late Spring day.

Thankfully I will never reach the stage of 'elderly' in my ongoing gardening journey, there is still so much to learn and enjoy.

Mary-Ann Driscoll

KILMINGTON GARDENING CLUB - UPDATE



Gardeners know we should be beginning to start sowing food plants for our Summer meals. Hardy annuals may have been planted in the hope they will give our gardens much longed for colour in the coming months. As I write this update for the May edition, my garden has a thick covering of frost for the third successive morning. I hope that my flower and vegetable seedlings have not been affected by the overnight drop in temperature.

Despite the problems of Lockdown, the Committee have been hard at work with planning, including the Village Open Gardens event, which took place in late April, together with a different style of Plant market on the 1st May. Should there be any plants remaining, they will be available to purchase from outside Combe in George Lane. On looking at the current guidelines, we are now hopeful that we may be able to hold a talk in July at the earliest. Further news will be conveyed in June.

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

Gill Gibbs (Chair) and Committee



The Royal British Legion will be celebrating its centenary on Saturday, 15th May 2021. The charity was formed in the aftermath of the First World War campaigning for fair treatment of those who had given so much for their country and providing much needed welfare support and comradeship to millions. A hundred years on they continue to respond to the needs of the Armed Forces community providing life-changing, and sometimes lifesaving, support. This article takes a brief look at the history of the Royal British Legion.

1920s On 15th May 1921 'The British Legion' was formed, bringing together four existing national organisations (The National Association of Discharged Sailors and Soldiers, The British Federation of Discharged and Demobilised Sailors and Soldiers, The Comrades of the Great War and The Officers'

Association). The amalgamation of these diverse bodies is attributed largely to Field Marshal Earl Haig and Tom Lister of The Federation of Discharged and Demobilised Sailors and Soldiers. 2,500 branches of the British Legion were established across the country and the Women's Section of The British Legion was established the same year. In September 1921 Anna Guérin, a Canadian, persuaded The British Legion to adopt the Poppy as a symbol of•Remembrance and that year the first



Poppy Appeal raised £106,000 (£5.21m in 2021). Kilmington Branch was not formed until 1925, although the village war memorial was erected in 1922, the same year that the



Legion's Poppy Factory opened in the Old Kent Road, London where 40 disabled men manufactured 1,000 poppies a week. The first 'Festival of Remembrance' held in honour of those who gave their lives in the service of their country was held at the Royal Albert Hall in 1923. The event was called 'In Memory 1914-1918 - A Cenotaph In Sound, in aid of The British Legion, Field Marshal Earl Haig's Appeal for Ex- Service Men of all Ranks'. In 1927 the event was renamed 'Remembrance Festival' and broadcast on BBC Radio.

1930s Through the 1930s the

Poppy Appeal went from strength to strength and The British Legion purchased Haig House in Ypres, Belgium to provide a base for pilgrims visiting the battlefields of the First World War. In 1937 the Remembrance Festival was renamed British Legion Festival of Remembrance. In 1938 the Poppy Appeal raised £600,000 (£40m in 2021) and is used to support those who continued to suffer as a result of service during the war. The following year the Second World

War broke out after Poland was invaded by the Nazis. 1940s After the war ended in Europe, The British Legion voted to include those affected by the conflict within its remit.

Throughout the decade The British Legion

1923 HRH The Prince of Wales with Earl Haig Headquarters, British Legion

successfully lobbied the Government on passing the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1944 and the War Pensions Act; both of which continue to benefit thousands today. The British Legion also played a key role in supporting veterans through injury and illness and supported the work of the National Spinal Injuries Unit at Stoke Mandeville where they championed sport and physiotherapy as treatment for those with spinal injuries.

1950s In 1950 the number of British Legion branches was almost 5,500. The British Legion also had four 'country' homes and four 'convalescent' homes. Five years after the end of the Second World War the Legion had provided over 4,000 loans and helped men to set up enterprises such as chimney sweeps, steeple jacks, dentists, cosmetic manufacturers and rug makers. In 1951 with troops fighting in the Korean War during a harsh winter, The British Legion and the Women's Section helped produce 1,500 woollen garments at short notice. British troops were also deployed in the Malayan and Cyprus Emergencies, as well as Egypt during the Suez Crisis. In 1953 the Festival of Remembrance was televised for the first time.

1960s In 1961 women were admitted to The British Legion National Executive for the first time. In 1963Galanos House care home was opened in Warwickshire thanks to a legacy from Christos Galanos, a Greek businessman, who much admired the British. In the same year the Aden Emergency began after a grenade attack on the British High Commissioner. In 1968 The Troubles in Northern Ireland started - a conflict that would last almost 30 years.

1970s In 1971 The British Legion marked its 50th anniversary and Her Majesty The Queen conferred the honour of 'Royal' on the British Legion. British troops remained in Northern Ireland throughout the decade as The Troubles continued. To celebrate their Jubilee year, the Royal British Legion commissioned a Solent Class Lifeboat named The Royal British Legion Jubilee.

1980s On 2nd April 1982 Argentinian forces invaded the Falkland Islands. The deployment of British Forces encouraged a new generation of support for the Armed Forces and Royal British Legion. The following year the Poppy Appeal was

Lt Col 'H' Jones, bringing home the reality of the sacrifice that war involves.

1990s The Gulf War, fought from 1990 to 1991, saw the largest use of British troops in a single deployment since the Second World War. The Royal British Legion organised parcels for each man and woman in the British Forces deployed in the Gulf War over Christmas. It was so popular that it continued the following year and was extended to serving personnel in countries such as Bosnia and Belize. In 1998 British forces led a NATO intervention in the Kosovo War.

2000s The National Memorial Arboretum, part of Royal British Legion's family of charities, was officially opened to the public in May 2001 – a space where the unique contribution of those

who have served and sacrificed is never forgotten. 2002 saw the start of Operation Herrick in Afghanistan where 456 UK troops lost their lives. 2003 the war in Iraq (Operation Telic) began with 136 military personnel killed in action. UK troops were also deployed in Sierra Leone due to the outbreak of civil war. In 2007 Her Majesty The Queen unveiled the 'Armed Forces Memorial' roll of honour at the National

KILMINGTON BRANCH

100 YEARS OF SUPPORTING THE ARMED FORCES

lost their lives on duty or as a result of an act of terrorism since the Second World War. Over 16,000 names are recorded on the helping support veterans in the local community. Memorial.

2010s In 2011 the withdrawal of the last remaining British troops in Iraq was completed. The **Royal British** Legion funded the establishment of the Royal British Legion Centre for Blast Injuries Studies at



Kilmington 2018 – The Greatest Thank You

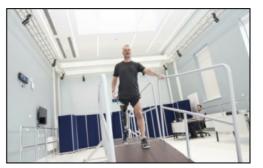
Imperial College London, using pioneering science to prevent blast injuries and care for those with blast injuries. The 'Armed Forces Covenant' (a promise by the nation ensuring those who serve or have served and their families are treated fairly and respected in the community, economy and society) was placed in legislation. In 2014 air strikes marked the start of UK military

 $2018 - 90^{th}$ anniversary of the *Great Piligrimage*

Royal British Legion Kilmington Branch is very active with 127 members and would welcome new members. Most importantly, you don't have to be, or have been a serving member of the Armed Forces to join, we welcome everyone. Come along to one of our monthly 'get togethers', details of which can be found in Postscript. Peter Wood



Action in Syria as part of Operation Shader. In 2018 the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre Stanford Hall, part funded by **Royal British** Legion, was officially opened. The state-of-the-art clinical rehabilitation facility provides



Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre, Stanford Hall, part funded by RBL

expert care and support for wounded, injured and sick Armed Forces personnel.

2020s The Armed Forces have played a vital role in supporting the NHS, constructing Nightingale Hospitals and helping administer vaccinations. They also continue their work overseas including a peacekeeping mission in Mali, an operational deployment to Estonia as part of a multi-national battle-group, UN peace-keeping in Cyprus and anti-poaching support in Zambia.

The next 100 years Royal British Legion support has evolved and adapted to meet the changing needs of the Armed Forces community. Their mission and the importance of their work today are the same as it was in 1921: Remembrance, welfare and campaigning for those who serve and sacrifice to protect our way of life. Today the Royal British Legion provides lifelong support to our Armed Forces community, providing dedicated care homes, support for carers, independent living support, recovery Memorial Arboretum - a national monument to those who have centres, crisis support, financial guidance, grants, help with disability benefits, compensation, employment support and

> With credit to the Royal British Legion for much of the detail within this article.





VILLAGE HALL

RE-OPENING OUR VILLAGE HALL

The government roadmap allows village halls to open from Monday, 17th May. Assuming the roadmap does not change we look forward to hearing from village clubs and organisations who may wish to make a booking from this date on.

The Village Hall Committee has followed the government guidance to make the hall Covid compliant, so users will be required to follow protocols, e.g. social distancing, wearing face coverings and the maximum number of people in a hall our size is 30. In order to keep everyone as safe as possible it is particularly important that all our hall users follow the measures which have been put in place.

If you wish to make a booking to hire the hall please contact Louise –

kilmingtonvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

AGM AND REGULAR USERS MEETING

Having not been able to hold the usual meetings in 2020 we propose to combine these meetings for this year only, in order to catch up with ourselves. The minutes of the last meetings of each group are on the village website. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, 26th May at 7.30 pm. We will meet in the main hall and Covid regulations current at that time will need to be observed.

Since the maximum number of individuals permitted is likely to be 30, please will you contact me if you wish to attend -

jachapman16@btinternet.com

This will mean I have a record of your contact details (email or telephone) for Track and Trace and we can ensure that we are not in the embarrassing position of needing to turn away anyone at the doors if we should reach our number limit!

The Village Hall Committee looks forward very much to seeing the hall back in use for everyone's enjoyment.

Judith Chapman Chair Village Hall Management Committee

ANSWERS TO THE VILLAGE WALKING QUIZ

1. 7	6. West	11. Green	16. Apple	21. End of Speed Limit
2. 3	7. Meadow	12. George	17. The Old Bakery	22. Acorn
3. Cherry	8. Rugs	13. 3	18. Winter Mist	23. Country Code
4. Koppers	9. Elm	14. George's	19. Sainsbury	24. Mary
5. 25	10. Westie	15. Coaches	20. Beech	25. 10

ARMFULS OF LOVE

Well, there you are, At last; Elusive to the private last, my love, Again: Hiding away with your wounds I have searched for your hurts, Sought only to help heal them, come Not to draw you open again. It is the joy in you I long for, once more; To say: there it is, Once again I know it still curls in you; voice, Will yet rise another day, Which I wait for as patiently as I can. But in all these days, know I love you, wherever you, for now, remain -

With held breath and open arms Ever available.

I am waiting, always, for my own And not one shall ever struggle alone Whilst I breathe.

Smile, my darling, though it be hard come

Just to recall its source that won't fail; Its whispers that won't abandon you,

But push you on to speak

For all those who need you to make their voice,

Desperate to hear yours too.

Jannie Coleshaw

Poem sent in by Anna Cope

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



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This month's recipes include a couple of seasonal ingredients, asparagus in the soup and peas in the puffs. The soup is quick and easy to prepare and makes good use of English asparagus which is just coming into the shops. The puffs are ideal for picnics or lunches and can be eaten hot or cold. The cake which I've included is a good way of using excess limes. We grow citrus trees and both the lemon, and the lime trees keep us in fruit nearly all year round, more than we need for our gin and

tonic! The cake is flour-free, very moist and the polenta gives it an interesting texture. It can be eaten warm or cold and is ideal served with some lightly whipped cream.

ASPARAGUS SOUP Serves 4 generously

25g/1oz butter 250g/10oz peeled and diced potato 1 medium onion, chopped 500g/20oz fresh asparagus, chopped 750ml/1½ pints of chicken or vegetable stock 75ml/3 fl oz double cream plus extra for serving (opt) Salt and pepper

Method

1. Heat the butter in a large saucepan, add the onion and potatoes and cook over a medium heat for approx. 5 minutes until the onion has become soft.

2. Add the stock to the pan, bring to the boil and simmer for 10 minutes or until the potatoes are cooked.

3. Add the chopped asparagus, cover the pan with a lid and simmer for another 10 minutes until the asparagus stems are tender. Season with salt and pepper.

4. Liquidise the soup until smooth and then add the cream.

Reheat and serve each bowl decorated with a swirl of cream.

PEA, BACON AND MINT PUFFS Makes 12

1 x 500g packet of ready-made puff pastry
150g/6oz smoked bacon lardons
150g/6oz fresh or frozen peas
100g/4oz mascarpone cheese
38g/1½ oz grated parmesan cheese
2 medium eggs
1 tsp chopped fresh mint
Extra parmesan for sprinkling on the puffs
Salt and pepper

Method

1. Gently fry the lardons until crisp.

2. Cook the peas in boiling water for 2 minutes and then drain.

3. In a bowl mix the mascarpone, 1 egg, mint, and parmesan together. Stir in the bacon and peas and season.

4. Roll out the pastry and using a 12 cm diameter cutter, cut out 12 circles.

5. Place a heaped tablespoon of filling onto the centre of each circle, brush the edge with beaten egg and fold over, seal and crimp the edges. Repeat until all the pastry and filling has been used.

6. Brush with beaten egg and sprinkle with the extra parmesan.

7. Place on baking trays and cook at 180C / Gas 6 for 25 minutes.

LIME AND POLENTA CAKE Makes 1 x 23cm / 9" cake

275g/11oz softened butter 275g/11oz caster sugar Finely grated zest and juice of 2 limes 4 eggs 275g/11oz ground almonds 125g/5oz polenta 1 tsp baking powder For the topping: Finely grated zest and juice of 1 lime 75g/3oz caster sugar 2 tbsp water Icing sugar

Method

1. Beat/whisk the butter, sugar, and lime zest together until pale and fluffy. Beat in the eggs.

2. Add the ground almonds, polenta, baking powder and lime juice and mix together until thoroughly combined.

3. Spoon into a greased and bottom-lined 23cm spring-form cake tin.

4. Bake at 140C/Gas 1 for $1\frac{1}{4}/1\frac{1}{2}$ hours until the cake is springy to the touch.

5. Once the cake is cooked, make the topping. Heat together the lime juice, zest, water, and sugar. Once the sugar has dissolved, simmer for 2-3 minutes until syrupy. Prick the surface of the cake with a skewer and spoon the hot syrup over the warm sponge. Leave to cool completely in the tin.

6. Serve warm or cold, sliced into wedges, plain or with a dollop of whipped double cream.







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KILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Coronavirus Neighbourhood Support Group

The Kilmington Village Website continues to provide links to the latest National and local information.

COVID-19 Remains a Part of Our Lives

As we move through the government's four-step roadmap which offers a route back to a more normal life, we must all remember that:

We are going to have to keep living our lives differently to keep ourselves and others safe.

Please comply with all the COVID-Secure measures that remain in place.

We must carry on with 'hands, face, and space' - Maintain social distancing.

The virus transmits really well indoors, so staying outside and keeping two metres apart is absolutely crucial to try to reduce the risk of transmission.

Get tested when needed.

Get vaccinated when offered.

If we all continue to play our part, we will be that bit closer to a future that is more familiar.



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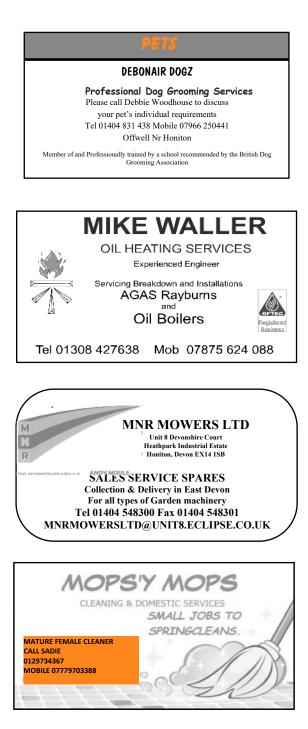
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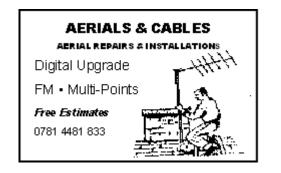
Sun	2nd	11.00 am	St Giles' Church	Holy Communion		
Mon	3rd			Bank Holiday		
Tues	4th	Early	Your House	Landfill with recycling		
Thurs	6th	7.00 am - 10.00 pm	Village Hall	Polling Day		
Sun	9th	3.00 pm	Hampton Farm	Rogation Service		
Tues	11th	Early	Your House	Garden Waste Collection		
Sun	16th	11.00 am	Stockland Church	Five Alive Holy Communion		
Sat	22nd	1.30 - 5.00 pm	Shute Road	NGS Open Gardens at Spinney Two, Breech and Bettys Ground		
Sun	23rd	1.30 - 5.00 pm	Shute Road	NGS Open Gardens at Spinney Two, Breech and Bettys Ground		
Mon	24th	Early	Your House	Landfill with recycling		
Tues	25th	Early	Your House	Garden Waste Collection		
Mon	31st			Spring Bank Holiday		

VILLAGE HALL '100+' CLUB

The winners of the draw held on 22nd March 2020

D Sayer	£30	B Lewis	£5
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A Copeland	£15	G Overton	£5

For further details, please contact Jean Falconer - 01297 33708



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

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

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

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Country Dancing - Gill Perkins - Marie Thorne	01297 32888 01297 33906	Kilmington Primary School	01297 32762	Table Tennis - Jenny Nickolls	01297 639758
Cricket - David Lavender	01297 631868	Millers Farm Shop	01297 35290	Tennis - Sue Moore Sue Wells	01297 32361 07912 272102
Footpath co-ordinator - Elaine Penzer	01297 34287	Moviola - John Watts	01297 639758	Village Hall bookings - Louise Quincey	01297 32358
Hitchcock Pavilion bookings - Peter Huscroft	01297 32243	The New Inn	01297 33376	Village 100+ Club - Jean Falconer	01297 33708
Kilmington A35 Pit Stop	01297 598060	The Old Inn	01297 32096	www.kilmingtonvillage.com - Luke & Maxine Lawson	07719 909532
Kilmington Cross Services	01297 631089	RBL - Jean Falconer - Sec	01297 33708		
		Stafford Seward - Chairman	01297 33909		
KGC - Jean Falconer, Secretary	01297 33708	Scrabble - Sylvia Newbery	01297 34326		
		MEDICAL AND	SUPPORT		
Axminster Hospital	01297 630400	'Devon Doctors on call' (Out of hours GP service)	0845 6710270	Veterinary Surgery	01297 630500
St Thomas Court Surgery	01297 32126	Dentist Helpline	03330 063300		
		SERVICES AND	FACILITIES	8	
Refuse Collection	01395 571515	Axminster Library	01297 32693	Clerk to the Parish Council	07800 826657
Vater - general - leaks	0344 346 2020 0800 230 0561	Mobile Library	01404 42818	E. Devon District Councillor - Iain Chubb	01297 35468
Electricity - emergency	0800 365 900	Ring & Ride	01404 46520	Devon County Council, Whimple and Blackdown, Iain Chubb	07932 459595
		Axminster Care Service	01297 35550		
	Police: Crit	me stoppers - 0800 555111:	Emergency - 999	: General - 101	
		CHURC	HES		
St Giles' Church		Baptist Church Office		Axminster Catholic Church	
Pastoral teams	01297 33777	Pastor Darrell Holmes	01297 631638	Parish Priest:	01297 32135
rasional icallis	01297 55777	Pastor Darren Holmes	01277 051058	Father Anthony Cockram	01297 52155
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must be paid for in advance.					
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. ,		2 J 01 222.JU 101 J IIIC		£15 for one-off or £75 for 5 months	
	high - Portrait)	$\pounds 12$ for one-off or $\pounds 50$	for 5 months	tor tor the tor tor tor the tor	months
¹ / ₄ page (90 wide x 136 mm ¹ / ₂ page (184 x 136 or 90 x	- ·	£12 for one-off or £50£20 or £90 for 5 mont		£15 for one-off or £/5 for 5 £30 for one-off	months

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

BACK COVER: *Occasionally the back cover is available for a one-off colour page advertisement. Cost: £50 Additional fee of £1 if Postscript has to edit, size or set copy.*

PAYMENT: Cheques should be made payable to: Kilmington Postscript and posted to: **Mrs V. Larcombe, Brookside, The Street, Kilmington, EX13 7RJ. BACS account name is Kilmington Postscript, sort code: 51.61.23, account no: 18159400**

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

Five Alive Mission Community Rogation Sunday Service Hampton Farm May 9th 3.00pm



Service to be led by Rev Tim Collins