

*Village
Magazine*



© B. Clough

*Issue 164 June - July 2016
Kingston Seymour*

~ Issue 164 June – July 2016 ~

A really busy month coming up in Kingston Seymour although is it ever not busy here? I hear the drop-in pub at Mendip View Farm was a great success and well supported so we will hope for a repeat of this event. Thank you to all the organisers and the Harris' for providing the venue. Good luck to all those taking exams at present and to your parents who are having to support you through this stressful time for all.

Sylvia Stokes - 834461 - ksmagazine@outlook.com

Magazine Copy Date Saturday 23rd July

Can you help here?

I am a teacher at St Andrew's Primary in Congresbury and my class are currently in the process of redeveloping our wildlife and pond areas. They are working hard to clear out and clean up these neglected outdoor spaces but with a limited budget, we are in need of some donations! We are asking people if they might have any of the following that they could donate to our cause:

- **shade loving shrubs**
- **wildlife attracting plants**
- **plants suitable for boggy areas**
- **bark chippings**
- **an old pond liner (doesn't matter if it has holes!)**

Due to the nature of our project, we ask for any plants to be native. If you feel you might be able to help us in any way, **donations can be left with Di and Hugh Edwards at Broadstone Cottage, Middle Lane, or if you email me, I will happily come and collect!**

Thank you in anticipation,
Rosie Edwards

rosie.edwards@standrewsprimary.org.uk

The Church was floodlit on 15 April to mark the fifth anniversary of Liz Daniel sad loss.

SONGS OF PRAISE

at 6 p.m.

ALL SAINTS, KINGSTON SEYMOUR

SUNDAY 12th JUNE 2016

.... everyone welcome

We look forward to seeing you!!!

Hand Bells and Cream Teas

If you come along to the June 5th Cream Teas at the Church, 2pm–5pm you will be entertained by the St Mary's All Saints Hand Bell Team. They are looking for new members so if you are interested why not go and have a listen. You could give it a try. A very satisfactory hobby and you can also enjoy a delicious cream tea. Alternatively, their leader Geoff Marchant if you are interested can be contacted on

yattonmarchants2010@hotmail.co.uk

Big Breakfast

Thank you, thank you to all of you who came to the breakfast, and to the kind people who cooked, prepared, cleared away or helped in any way at all. It was a brilliant morning. We served almost 100 breakfasts and managed to make an unexpected profit. Over £100.00 has been sent to each of the charities - The Fairtrade Foundation and Farming Community Network, charities supporting the farming community and their families in their struggle with varying issues at home and abroad. A great result and a great morning.

Sue Thomas

All Saints' Kingston Seymour

Vestry meeting at All Saints' was after Holy Communion on Palm Sunday. Bryan had decided it's time for him to step down from his role as Churchwarden. He's had two very busy years and started the ball rolling on the toilet project; our thanks and best wishes go with him and it's been good to see him in Church following his operation. Sue Thomas is returning to the Churchwarden role; Sue works faithfully and tirelessly for the Church and the village, brilliant to have her back, there's no one more suited to the job.

We were deeply moved by Congresbury Singers' inspiring performance of Stainer's 'Crucifixion' on Tuesday of Holy week. Maundy Thursday Holy Communion and vigil and Good Friday's hour at the foot of the cross were sombre and well attended before the joy of family Communion on Easter Day. It's always wonderful to have children in Church and they came back the following week for Family Service (Easter Eggs again!)

May's family service was very special with the Baptism of Sue and Steve's grandson Edward (Teddy) Thomas who took a great interest in the service. We welcome Joe and Hannah and their friends with small children, and Godmother Rebekah. The following Saturday Bob's grandson, Robert Ford, married Sadie Randall; a sunny day for a beautiful wedding. We give them our love and best wishes for the future and look forward to seeing them again at family services which daughter Milla has enjoyed.

Cream teas, raising money for general fund, are very popular again this year; Easter Sunday and Monday with plant stall, then a very busy first Sunday in May.

The Friends are very busy with fundraising events, including a brilliant Quiz night on Saturday. I understand the best team won!

We met George Chedburn our architect and his assistant, Tom, on Monday, 25th April and looked at possible options for siting and building

a toilet at the church. We've been looking forward to an updated plan reflecting the discussion we had, and it landed on our e-mails this morning! We'll get it printed and ready for discussion in the very near future.

Sue and I met Andrew Rainsford, Stewardship Advisor at the Archdeacon's visitation and look forward to seeing him soon to discuss grants available for such projects. We welcome Mark Humphries as a Kingston member of the PCC as he has invaluable building knowledge and skills as well as being keen chairman of Friends Committee.

We're looking forward to Flower Guild's celebration of music and verse in flowers on 10th, 11th, 12th June; do come and enjoy and encourage the flower arrangers. **Evening service on 12th will be a 'Songs of Praise' so do let Warren, Sue or me know your favourite hymn** and your reason for liking it; hopefully, it will be included. Other arrangements are included elsewhere in the magazine; as well as details of North Somerset's Fleece Fair on June 4th

Enjoy the Summer (with good weather we hope!) and we look forward to seeing you at these interesting events,
God bless,

Jackie Wright and Sue Thomas - Church Wardens

An Invitation to Opening the of our Solar Park

This is an invitation to any villagers who would like to attend the official opening of the Solar Array at Ham Lane Farm. The event will be held on **Saturday 16 July** starting at approx. **11.00am**. There will be a brief guided tour of the site with a chance to ask any questions and then a commemorative sign will be unveiled by Sir Ed Davey, the former Energy Minister in the Coalition Government. The whole event should be over in approx. one hour. Admission is free and there is no need to book.

I appreciate that the village sports day is on that afternoon but should anyone want to carry on with the renewable energy theme, then please note we will be returning to the Solarsense HQ at Brockley Lane,

Backwell for the opening of another installation, refreshments, speeches and a tour of the site and different renewable technologies as part of an Open Day. If you want to attend this second event, then you do need to reserve a place via [www. solarsense-uk.com](http://www.solarsense-uk.com)

Thank you for your forbearance during the construction phase at Ham Lane. The array has been generating green electricity since November and is performing to spec.

The Parish Council have also been informed about the Community Benefit Fund we have launched this year and have a representative on the grants committee.

Again many thanks,
Paul Thurston, Director, Low Carbon Gordano Ltd.

Alexander's Dilemma *This month's attempt at wit!*

The armies of Alexander the Great were greatly feared in their day, but there was one problem that they had that almost defeated them. Alexander could not get his people to staff meetings on time. He always held the meetings at 6:00PM each day after the day's battle was done, but frequently his generals either forgot or let the time slip up on them and missed the staff meeting. This angered Alexander very much, to say the least!

So he called in his research guys and set up a project to come up with a method of determining the time at 6:00PM each day. There were no clocks in those days, at least none that could be carried around. (The smallest was a giant water clock) "Find a way my staff can determine the hour of the day, or at least when it gets to be 6 o'clock!", he said, "Cost is no object."

A study was instituted and, with several brain-storming sessions, came up with the following idea. In a land some distance away, there grew a bush whose berries contained a type of dye that changed colour at 6 each evening. They found that by dyeing strips of cloth and issuing them to the generals, they could see when it was 6 by the colour

change, and could get to the meetings on time. Needless to say this pleased Alexander very much.

It was then turned over to the marketing group to come up with a name of this new invention as Alexander saw definite market potential in the strips. "It can be worn on the wrist and can be easily watched for the colour change", said one junior executive. "I therefore propose to call it the wrist watch." This name was immediately hooted down as being too bland and obvious. Another man suggested it be worn in the navel and could be observed by looking down, therefore it should be called the Navel Observatory. This idea was rejected out of hand as being too weird and too technical sounding for the general public.

Finally, the senior vice president, who up to now had been silent, spoke and rendered his decision. "We shall call it a Timeband, and in honour of the Great Alexander, it shall be known as 'Alexander's Rag Timeband!'"

Go on at least smile!

VILLAGE SHOW

SATURDAY 27th AUGUST 2016

**Children and adult classes, fruit, vegetables, flowers, cookery,
poetry, photographs and much more.**

**Entries please by Saturday 20th August
To: Gill Harris, Rose Cottage; Kate Esler, The Dairy House,
or the Village Post Office [Tuesday mornings]**

**The Committee looks forward to your usual high standard of
entries.**

Gill – 01934 832126 for additional programmes and entry forms.

North Somerset Fleece + Country Fair

Saturday 6th June 2015
At Tutshill Farm, Yeo Bank Lane,
Kingston Seymour, BS21 6XH
By kind permission of Mr and Mrs T. Harris.
Large Covered Barn for sun or rain shelter

From 2pm *onwards*

- Cream Teas
- Fleeces for sale
- Hand Spinning demonstrations
- Sheep Shearing
- Country crafts and entertainments



All welcome for an afternoon of rural enjoyment.
Adults £2, Children under 16 free of charge

Arts and Climate Change

We live in a world of strange bedfellows; the RSA hosting a public lecture in Bridgwater College's brand new McMillan Theatre on Somerset: Adapting to Climate Change for example.

Not so strange actually; RSA is the abbreviated title of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufacturers and Commerce, so more to it than meets the eye. What did surprise me was that the host for the evening was Matthew Taylor, Chief Executive of the Society and previously Campaign Coordinator & Director of Policy for the Labour Party's 1997 election campaign and later Blair's chief advisor on strategy. He is now a regular Radio 4 contributor.

It was his role to introduce the speaker, Lord John Krebs – no c.v. needed, suffice it to say he is the chair of the Climate Change Adaptation sub-committee.

An academic at heart, he concentrated on the facts: the rise of global temperature by 1°C in the last 150 years, carbon dioxide up by a third in just 50 years and a much greater frequency of extreme weather events over the past 15 years. The Met. Office is forecasting warmer, wetter winters, summer temperatures of 40°C and sea level rising 2 metres by the turn of the century. All in all, the first extreme changes in the history of H. Sapiens as an agriculturalist.

Prof. Krebs thought the risks will feature flooding, both tidal and fluvial, water shortage and poor soil fertility. "We don't treat water with respect" he commented, his committee noting that not enough is spent on flood defence [now you see why I was at the lecture!], we are still building in high risk areas, householders are not investing in personal-level property protection, the insurance FloodRe is masking the problems, and there is still a lack of SUDS (sustainable urban drainage systems) planning by local authorities.

All very general, but as applicable to Somerset as elsewhere, especially with its 20 Year Plan. Matthew Taylor made an excellent fist of a whole raft of questions from the 250-strong audience, ranging from the differences between weather (10 years) and climate (1000 years), the difficulties of long term moral leadership for politicians, and public

ignorance. Of particular interest to me was his acknowledgement that agriculture is a major contributor to carbon emissions (especially through ploughing, ruminants and fertilisers), but nevertheless, for food production, “technology is the answer”.

It was refreshing to hear the distinguished zoologist putting his scientific mind to a problem the politicians are tackling less than wholeheartedly, rather than TB and badgers.

John Harris.

Kingston Seymour Parish Council

The Council held a planning meeting on 4th April and its annual and regular bi-monthly meeting on 10th May. It has also held two additional meetings which were called largely for the purpose of taking forward the appointment of a new clerk – although a number of other things did find their way onto the agendas! Added to this there was the Annual Parish Meeting on 23rd April, so it’s been a very busy couple of months.

Elections The Annual Meeting of the Council in May is the time when the chairman and vice-chairman are elected for the coming year. Mike Sewell was re-elected chairman and Paul Cox is the new vice-chairman.

Audit This is also the time of year for the internal audit, the approval of the accounts and the submission of the Annual Return to the external auditors. I’m pleased to report that the Internal Audit was entirely satisfactory and the Council is grateful to Chris Walton for once again undertaking this task for us.

Emergency Planning You will shortly be receiving a letter from the Community Resilience Team. This contains advice as to what to do – and not to do - in the event of an emergency (such as a major flood) and lists key contacts. Please keep it somewhere safe but accessible.

Roads and footpaths We are still waiting for repairs to the far end of Ham Lane and the sections of Back Lane badly affected by subsidence and cracking.

Traffic Management The results of the speed and turning surveys were presented at a well-attended annual Parish Meeting, and it was evident that there were strong opinions as to what, if any, actions should be taken. A show of hands indicated that at least two thirds of those present would support a 30mph speed limit plus the installation of a gateway feature at the entrance to the village on Lampley Road. However, the Parish Council is still considering the next steps in more detail and will be taking further advice from officers at North Somerset Council and from the police on the whole range of traffic management options available and the likely benefits. The presentation given at the meeting, with minor modifications as subsequently recommended by NSC, will be posted on the village website shortly.

As a start, however, two decisions have already been made. One is that white gates (Option 2 at the annual Parish Meeting) will be installed on Lampley Road, in a location to be determined with NSC but probably on the downslope from the motorway bridge. The other is that a “Stop” sign will be painted on the road at the exit from Middle Lane into the Triangle. This is probably the most dangerous junction in the village and the scene of many “near misses” as well as of at least one serious collision in recent years.

West of England Devolution Agreement This is a proposal to create a new West of England Combined Authority from the four unitary authorities (NSC, B&NES, Bristol and South Glos) with a directly elected Mayor and a range of powers and functions devolved from central government. These are mainly to do with transport, strategic planning and economic investment. The four authorities already work closely together on strategic matters and the Parish Council has registered an objection to these plans, as being contrary to the Government’s commitment to make decision-making more, not less, local. If you wish to register your own views for or against this proposal you can do so online at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/devolution; you can also contact your local councillor (Jill Iles 01934 830430 or jill.iles@n-somerset.gov.uk)

Planning Applications Permission has been granted for the new agricultural worker’s dwelling on land at Tutshill Farm, and for the conversion of an agricultural barn to three holiday lets at Ham Farm.

Decisions are awaited regarding the extensions to Rectory Cottage and a proposal just considered (and supported, pending a more detailed Flood Risk Assessment) by the Parish Council to convert the former café and function rooms at Plantations Lakes into residential accommodation. The applicant's appeal into the refusal of planning permission for the conversion of an agricultural building on land opposite Helliars (New Cut Bow) into residential accommodation has yet to be determined.

Broadband The Queen's Speech given recently contained an item of good news for rural communities. Broadband of at least 10Mbps is to become a Universal Service Obligation. It will not happen overnight, and some may wish to take advantage of a more immediate scheme offered by "Connecting Devon and Somerset". Anyone without Broadband, or with speeds of 2Mbps or lower, is eligible for a new voucher scheme (effectively a grant of £500), to cover the cost of installing satellite links to affected properties. Further information is available from www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk (yes, I know that's not very helpful if you haven't got internet access; they don't publicise a phone number or postal address though they must have one!)

Flood Re Introduced in April this year, this is the new national reinsurance scheme for keeping the costs of the flood risk element of household insurance within sensible limits. It will be in place for 25 years in the first instance and is designed to support and protect those at highest risk of flooding. It only applies to residential properties (not businesses) and houses built after 2009 are excluded. If you are having any difficulty getting insurance at a reasonable rate, I suggest you look at the Flood Re briefing on the website and make sure your insurer is participating in this scheme. You could also look at the Flood Re website www.floodre.co.uk, or get further advice and information from the National Flood Forum www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk

Solar park opening The official opening of the Ham Lane Solar array will be on Saturday 16th July at 11am. It will be performed by Sir Ed Davey, former Energy Minister with the Coalition Government. Anyone is welcome to attend this event which will last for about an hour and will include a brief guided tour.

Clerk replacement I'm delighted to tell you that following the reception of seven applications and a rigorous selection process the Council has unanimously agreed on an appointment. The details are still being finalised but an announcement will be made as soon as possible. It is anticipated that the new Clerk will take up the post in mid-July, allowing for a handover period of 4 weeks before my retirement on 5th August.

Out and about this summer We all know that travelling on our motorways and major roads can be a bit of a nightmare in the summer, especially at weekends. Here are a couple of alerts:

M32 - There will be some closures on the M32 between junctions 1 and 3 from 8pm on **Friday 10 June until 6am on Monday 13 June**. The closures will allow a new bridge to be put in place over the motorway for the MetroBus bus-only junction and are required to carry out this work safely.

Great Weston Ride This is a 56-mile charity cycle ride taking place on **Sunday 17th July** from Bristol, across the Mendips, to Weston-super-Mare. There are eight route options (!). None of them appear to pass through Kingston Seymour, but many towns and villages in the area will be affected. For further information, go to www.greatwestonride.com

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 13th July at 7.45pm

Leonie Allday, Clerk Tel: 01934 876528 E-mail:
kingstonseymourpc@gmail.com; leonie@the-alldays.org.uk

A possible holiday destination.

At last autumn's Village Auction, Chris and I successfully bid for a week's stay at Nick Burd's (Doreen of Kingston Bridge's son) country farm about an hour north of Lisbon. Just back, and we had a magnificent time despite freak weather. As a thank you to them I thought I would share this holiday destination with Kingston villagers.

The Quinta is very secluded in its own valley and offers most comfortable accommodation in a complex with pool, numerous horses and many surrounding woodland walks. Hosts Nick and Vicky are most

welcoming, hospitable and knowledgeable about the local area. Lisbon is about an hour south, and closer by you have beautiful, varied countryside, a great coastline and a wide choice of historical towns and sites, including Obidos, Batalha, Fatima, Caldas da Rainha and more. You can fly direct from Bristol to either Lisbon or Porto and you will need a car. Friendly locals, tourism English pretty widely spoken. For anyone wanting to see the 'real Portugal' this is it!

Links below are to the website although this is still in development but useable and also to our photographs or look on the Village Website.
<https://picasaweb.google.com/110698777541493137763/6285747838424420977> and <http://www.quintadovaleformoso.co.uk/>

Hugh Simpson

Future Events in Kingston

You will find the list below as part of the Home Page on the Website along with a great deal of relevant information and links. Why not take a look at kingstonseymour.org.uk?

Saturday 4th June Village Market in the Village Hall 10.00am - 11.00am. Don't miss it!

Saturday 4th June Fleece Fair see website for details.

Sunday 5th June Family Service 1.00am and Cream Teas 2.30 - 5.00pm with the Chalice Handbell Ringers. For their programmes see the website

Friday 10th - Sunday 12th June Flower Festival in the Church and Activities to Celebrate

Sunday 5th June Family Service 1.00am and Cream Teas 2.30 - 5.00pm with a Variety of Crafts in the church and maybe a Scarecrow Trail to follow.

Saturday 16th July Opening of the Solar Park in Ham Lane at 11.00am.

Saturday 16th July Sports day

Sunday 17th July The Village Cricket Match

Saturday 27th August The Village Sho

They were in itThey won it

Lucky winners of the village lotto in March and April were Jeff Hance, Jackie Wright, Olive Lawrence, Judy Seward, Sylvia Stokes, Hugh Simpson, Chris Badman, Nita Stanley and Bob Ford – but it could have been you! **They each won £30 for a stake of just £1** a week, helping village causes at the same time.

Please give Olive Lawrence a call (on 01934-833186) or pop in to see her at the village Post Office on Tuesday mornings if you want to take part or to find out more.

SPORTS 2016 – Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th July

The Sports will be in Back Lane, and will begin at 2.30pm on Saturday with the judging of the Fancy Dress competition, and the afternoon of traditional races will follow. Anyone entering the "Garden on a Plate" competition needs to bring their entry between 2pm and 2.30pm.

"Hay Fever", the free evening social event, will start directly afterwards at 6pm. We've booked local band The Penguin Collective to provide music, grill food will be available from Take-A-Bite catering (Bob and Cathy Cooke), and the bar will be open until 11.30pm.

If you fancy playing in (or helping with) the cricket match on Sunday, please ring Joe Thomas asap on 07897 140484 to book your place. Olive Lawrence (833186) will be very pleased to hear from anyone who is willing to provide some sandwiches or a cake for the cricket tea.

We would be very glad of some help with putting up the marquee (contact Andy Gillam on 07707 100013 or Dave Badman on 01275 873113), and also with selling ice creams on the day (assuming the weather is hot enough!) - contact Janet Calderbank (838240) or any of the committee if you would like to help with this.

Finally, if you've got any (new or as-new) small toys that would make suitable prizes for the Children's Tombola, please give them to Olive Lawrence, Cheryl Sewell or Trudy Harris.

The Sports Committee: Dave Badman, Fiona Brooks, Janet & Roger Calderbank, Alice Cox, Kate & Andy Gillam, Mike Gorham, Trudy Harris, Olive Lawrence, Cheryl Sewell, Neil Y

VILLAGE MIDSUMMER MERRYMAKING

Friday June 10th

A Celebration of Flowers in Music & Verse

All Saints Church 10am -5pm – Refreshments in the Windsor Tea Rooms

50's Evening BBQ, Bar & Folk Band 7pm in the Village hall

50's Fancy Dress encouraged but optional!

Saturday June 11th

A Celebration of Flowers in Music & Verse

All Saints Church 10am -5pm – Refreshments in the Windsor Tea Rooms

A Concert of Music and Verse

Saturday 11th June 7.30pm

All Saints Church

Sunday June 12th

A Celebration of Flowers in Music & Verse

All Saints Church 10am -5pm

Royal Village Garden Party

Craft activities for children from 2pm, Village Hall.

Bring and Share Tea Party at 4pm followed by

Presentation of Queens Medal to all village children

Songs of Praise for All Saints Church 6pm

Calling all Musicians and Poets: Please contact Susie Humphries 07875166882

We would like you to perform in the concert please.

Scarecrow competition & trail: During the weekend there will be a Scarecrow Competition & Trail, contact Cheryl Sewell 830504 for details, and the website