

*Village  
Magazine*



*Issue 166 Oct - Nov 2016*

*Kingston Seymour*

## ~ Issue 166 October - November ~

What a great summer it has been and now we are all back to normal. There are some events coming up in the Autumn in Kingston Seymour including a Murder Mystery evening organized by the Friends. Now we have The Kingston Seymour Village News Facebook page details of this and other events can be bought to you so much more quickly. Of course the poster in the Triangle will still be there but do consider joining Facebook just for this information.

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### **Magazine Copy Date 20<sup>th</sup> November**

### **Christmas Is Coming, Ho Ho Ho!**

Frightening isn't it; no sooner do all the kids go back to school and we have to start thinking about Christmas – and, by the time you read this issue of the magazine, there will less than three months to go!

We can't make too much of the planning and hard work easier for you but, as has become another of those lovely Kingston Seymour traditions over many years now, we can help with delivery of the cards you're sending to other folk in the village. Simply bring them along to the Village Hall in the morning of Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December (by 11:00am at latest please) and Santa's little helpers – with Judy and Robin Seward at the helm – will deliver them for you.

The cost of this fabulous service is just 10p a card (but you can add a little more if you wish!) and this year the money received will be split between Parkinson's UK and helping ensure the village magazine you're reading now can continue in production without the need to ask everyone for a subscription.

As usual, there will be FREE mulled wine and mince pies on offer on the day – but don't be too late or they'll all have gone!

Watch out for more details in the next issue of the magazine and posters nearer the date but do put it in your diary now.

Graham Daniel

## **A FUN AND FESTIVE WINE-TASTING!**

**A tasting of 8 wines, bread and cheese and mince pies**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 7.30 pm, Village Hall**

*"I really enjoy wine and I wish I knew more about it"*

*"I don't know much about it but I know what I like"*

*"I never know which wines go best with which foods. Does it matter?"*

***If this is you, help is at hand ....***

In the run up to Christmas many of us will be giving a bit more thought than usual to the wines that we buy – and drink! This evening will include:

- How to taste wine – just the basics!
- Wines for a party
- Wines to go with a traditional Christmas lunch or dinner – some classic and not-so-classic pairings for smoked salmon, turkey, beef, duck, Christmas pudding, mince pies, stilton....

***The details ....***

- Tickets – to be bought in advance - £20.
- Maximum number of places 20
- Any profits to the Friends of All Saints

Leonie Allday Certified Tutor, Wine & Spirits Education Trust

01934 876528 / leonie@the-alldays.org.uk

## **The Village Show**

Another year, another great show with plenty of exciting entries.

2016 was again a show of great competition among the younger and older members of our village, even though many villagers were on holiday there was a good number of entries. In the children's section Freddie Braine pipped James Sewell to the win the Boys Cup. Alicia Sewell proudly took the girls cup, in second place was Lily Cole. Chris Morton won the John Vanderplank Men's Cookery Cup with his fruity flapjack. Kate Esler won the Paul & Alice Cox Cup for best overall cookery with her tasty carrot cake. Val Harley exhibited the Overall Best Photograph in Show winning the Philip and Jude Simmons cup and the David Hamilton Poetry Cup. Mike Hedger's talented entry won him the David and Sarah Harris Any Other Craft Cup. In the fruit and vegetable section Paul Nichols proudly took the Rodney and Angela Veale Cup for most points and then went on to secure the Ken and Freda Stuckey Cup after gaining the most points in the adults section, with Sylvia Stokes second, hotly pursued by first time entrant Roland Griffin in third place. Once again the judges were very complementary about the high standard of entries and the creativity.

Members of the Village Show Committee would like to thank all the entrants for their time and support and the visitors who marvel at all the magnificent entries. A huge thank you to Olive Lawrence for providing tea and coffee, and her lovely cakes. Thank you to Mike Sewell for presenting the cups.

Good luck all for next year, we look forward to seeing you again.

## **More Lucky Winners!**

Well, you know what they say; you make your own luck and Luke Cox, Carol Chappell, Jane Lumkin, Doreen Burd, Graham Daniel, Sue Saunders (twice), Jude Simmons and Sue Hyde did just that in July and August by taking part in the village lotto.

Every week, one lucky person wins £32 for just a £1 stake, helping village causes at the same time – particularly helping keep the village hall spick-and-span, with a substantial contribution having been made to the cost of the recent kitchen refit.

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.

And remember ... you've got to be in it to win it!

**Jon Clare & The Fabulous Doughboys**

Saturday 12th November

Kingston Seymour Village Hall

7.00 till late

Bread & cheese supper

Tickets £12.50

For tickets please contact Helen Harris 01275 876552,  
Jane Briscoe 835186 or The Post Office

**An Exciting Vacancy Arises!**

Many of you will know that Tuesday mornings in the village hall is where nearly everything happens. There's the Post Office, a thriving mother and toddler group, the mobile library (every other week), vegetables and dairy produce for sale and the opportunity for lots of people to get together with their friends for a cup of tea

or coffee, a biscuit or two, perhaps even a piece of cake and undoubtedly a few titbits of local gossip!

Community spirit really does thrive here in Kingston Seymour but, right now, there are too few people sharing some of the load and we need some more willing pairs of hands to help out in the kitchen with making those teas and coffees. It's only for a couple of hours, you won't be asked to do it every week (once a month would be typical with just two more volunteers) but you really will be welcomed and you'll get a wonderful warm feeling of putting something back into the village community – as well as free tea or coffee when you're on duty!

If you think you can help, just call Olive Lawrence (on 833186) or pop along to the village hall on a Tuesday morning, have a cup of tea or coffee and talk to her there. You won't regret it.

## **All Saints Flower Guild**

### **Bishop's Palace, Wells – 10<sup>th</sup> September**

Thanks to Sue Lang for organising a visit by 15 members and friends of the Flower Guild to a NAFAS (National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies) display at the Bishop's Palace in Wells. Various themes including autumn, serenity and miniatures. All had been professionally judged and time was spent agreeing or disagreeing with their judgements! Thoroughly enjoyable.

### **Harvest Festival – 11<sup>th</sup> September.**

Lead by Cheryl Sewell, Jenny Campbell and Caroline Harris, members decorated the church with a very autumnal theme using sunflowers, and vegetables as containers. Thanks to everyone who made it a welcoming display.

***Beginners' Workshop and Social Evening–  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 7.30p.m. in the Church***

A number of villagers and non-villagers visiting the recent Celebration in Flowers of Music and Verse expressed a keen interest in flower arranging, but felt daunted by what they had seen!

The Guild would like to invite you to join us on 3<sup>rd</sup> November to a beginners' workshop. No experience required. We will guide you through the basics and there will be wine and nibbles on hand. The arrangements will be left in Church for the Patronal Festival. Do come along; we love our flower arranging but do not take it too seriously and always have fun.

### **Christmas**

***Willow Weaving with a Christmas theme: (date to be confirmed)***

Claire Kinsella to demonstrate.

### ***Christmas Guild Outing***

Details to be announced in the next Village Magazine. Gill Harris

## **140<sup>th</sup> Mother's Union Anniversary Coffee Morning**

**Please come for Coffee and the chance to greet friends.**

**On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

**At 10.30am in Orchard House, Ham Lane**

By kind permission of Margaret Laishley  
In aid of Mother's Union Projects.

### **Church Notes**

There was a large gathering at Yew Tree Farm at the end of July. A special service, held at Richard and Anita's, for the people in the 5 villages of the Yatton Moor Team, marked the ancient festival of Lammass, celebrating the first grains of harvest. The children played games whilst the adults gathered in the barn. Hymns and songs were sung to guitar backing and the smell of

cooking sausages wafted across from the barbeque. It was a fabulous morning of a different kind of 'church', all finishing with food and drink for those who wanted to stay.

In the middle of September we celebrated Harvest Festival. In our rural parishes it remains an important time in the calendar. This year, at the time of thanksgiving, almost all has been safely gathered in with just the remaining fields of maize still to be harvested. Harvest Lunch followed the morning service during which the symbolic grain, flowers, vegetables and fruit were offered in thanksgiving, and gifts were collected as food parcels for those relying on food banks. The profit from the lunch, almost £200, has been given to the Gemini Project, a charitable organisation supporting mainly women and children seeking refuge from abusive relationships. The church decorations had a real wow factor. With fresh ideas this year there was an innovative use of vegetables! The results were beautiful and the many comments on Facebook rightly joined the praises of all who enjoyed the finished effect over the weekend. Congratulations to the young team of leaders!

Sunday Saints meets on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays in the month. Anita, Sylvia and Diana have plenty of fun things up their sleeves. Contact Anita (838864) for all the details.

We've held our last Cream Teas for this summer. Huge thanks to everyone who has helped in any way at all, either by making, serving, partaking, entertaining or simply being with us in spirit. We have raised an amazing £1450 over the year.

On Wednesday 28th September a Bristol Packet boat has been booked to take us from Bristol Watershed to Hanham for a Pub lunch. It's a kind of 'thank you' but also an open invitation to *anyone* who would like to join in. Please contact Sue (833593) for full details, you will be very welcome.

The consultation period for the set of plans regarding the toilet facility is coming to an end. Many comments have already been received which has been enormously helpful. Plans can still be viewed in the church porch so please do have a look, if you haven't already had the opportunity. The Open Consultation Meeting is on Thursday 29th September, 7.30pm in church.

Sue Thomas and Jackie Wright

### **Open Consultation Meeting**

**Thursday 29th September 7.30pm in Church**

To feed-back from comments and suggestions and plan the next steps

## **Kingston Seymour Village News Facebook Group**

So far about 70 of you know all about this and how useful it has been in

- ❖ Highlighting Village events with links to information on the website
- ❖ Cancellation of events at short notice
- ❖ Information about road works e.g. Back Lane recently.
- ❖ Parish council notices, agendas, minutes and meeting dates, with again links to the website page
- ❖ Links to the Village Magazine via the Website
- ❖ Links to the programme and an entry form for the Village show
- ❖ Information a couple of times about traffic jams through Yatton due to the closure of the motorway.
- ❖ A link to the History Society autumn programme
- ❖ And so much more

Now if you are not on Facebook you could say that you could find most of that on the Website anyway but the difference is that people who are members of the Kingston Village News Facebook group get an email notification of all the posts so they know about the information immediately. Anyone in the group can also pass on information straight away and everyone will know about it.

I do know many people are very against any of these social media sites but it is possible to join Facebook putting in the minimum of information, not agree to make any friends and simply then ask to join “**The Kingston Seymour Village News**” group. It is a closed group so only Villagers are allowed to join except in special circumstances.

Sylvia Stokes

## Kingston Seymour Parish Council

I would like to start this edition by thanking Leonie for the fabulous handover training she gave me in the late part of July and which has given me a fantastic start to my “Clerking” role. I’d also like to thank the Chairman, the Councillors and all of the residents that I have met at the Tuesday Post Office and Village Show for the warm welcome I have received in the village. Finally, I would also like to thank John Harris for the tour of the new flood defences and some of the back lanes! My first month in post has flown by with two meetings now “under my belt” and a large number of emails through the inbox!

We had a special Council meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August when we discussed and agreed a planning application for a property in Rookery Close. This application was subsequently agreed by North Somerset. We also agreed to alter the Council’s Bank Mandate so that I can get account information as required and we agreed our contractual payments to my predecessor.

At the regular meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> September we continued to progress the actions we have started on road safety in the village and on the other items below.

**Lamley Road** We have asked North Somerset Council to proceed with the installation of white gates on the verges on the downslope of the motorway bridge. These will be supplemented by white “hash” lines on the road, to create the impression of a narrowed carriageway. Research has shown that these measures together will signal to drivers that they are entering a populated area and cause them to slow down.

**Middle Lane** North Somerset Council will also install a Give Way sign and paint a warning triangle on the road in Middle Lane on the approach

to the Triangle. They will also refresh all of the lining around the Triangle.

We hope that both of these changes will get underway before the end of the year and, as we have already said, we intend to take an incremental approach to these safety improvements so we intend to wait for the results of these changes to be measured before we take any further steps.

**Road Maintenance** You might have read in my “North Somerset Nuggets” piece that the planned resurfacing of Back Lane has been withdrawn from this financial year’s plans by North Somerset due to lack of available funds. The Parish Council is very concerned about the state of some sections of Back Lane where there appears to have been some subsidence under the road surface as well as major issues at the far end of Ham Lane, so we have asked North Somerset to tell us what repair work they will do for us .... and when. We await their response so in the meantime, please will everyone be very careful when driving or riding along this stretch.

**Coastal Footpath** I contacted Natural England about progress on this project and was told that they are talking to landowners and hope to bring forward some formal proposals around the turn of the year. The proposals will come to the Parish Council so that we can provide our formal comments on behalf of our parishioners.

**Police Report** Our local PC – Adam Clarke – attended the meeting and told us that across his “patch”, which includes Kenn, Claverham and Yatton. In the last two months in Kingston Seymour there had been a theft of a wallet from an insecure vehicle, three reports of suspicious vehicles and two other domestic incidents. We’re fortunate to live in a low crime area but Adam stressed that if residents were suspicious of any activity they should report it via the Non-Emergency Number – 101 or, if the circumstances warranted – the Emergency Number – 999.

Residents are requested to be particularly vigilant about “door knockers” offering services such as roofing or trying to sell products. Always check their credentials carefully and if there is cause for any suspicion, phone the Police on the appropriate number. Please consider the

impact of these people on your neighbours – particularly if those residents are vulnerable – because if you turn them away, they will probably try somewhere else.

**The Rural Economy when we leave the EU** Leonie mentioned last time that we had written to Government with our concerns for the rural economy when we leave the European Union. We have now received replies from our MP Dr. Liam Fox, our MEP Ashley Fox and from Andrea Leadsom, the Secretary of State now responsible. All have reassured that agriculture and the rural economy are very much being looked after in EU exit negotiations and that the Chancellor had announced on the 13th August that beneficiaries of “agri-environment” schemes would continue to receive their payments.

**Green Waste Changes in March 2017** You may have read in the local press that the contract for waste and recycling in North Somerset has been awarded to Biffa from next March. Probably the most significant change will be the introduction of bins to replace the green bag system we enjoy now. Residents will be able to register up to two bins to their property and I believe the cost will be £20 per bin. More details and the process to acquire the bins will emerge over the coming months.

**The Website and Facebook Page** A Village Facebook page was launched last month and this is already proving useful and popular with the 70 villagers who are already enrolled. Many residents have been using the links in Facebook to “jump” over to the village Website and whichever way you get there, the main village website is the home of an increasing amount of information – and not only about Parish Council matters, it’s about everything that goes on in the Village.

The website has been going for about five years now and we’re keen to see it develop and remain relevant in these changing times so a small team will be looking at ways we can move it forward.

Steve Dixon 07902 798162  
[kingstonseymourpc@gmail.com](mailto:kingstonseymourpc@gmail.com)

*Article from the Times 12th September 2016 – Thank you to the villager who spotted it. A more sophisticated funny this time.*

## **Vote Leaf**

The traditional scourge of rail delays due to autumn discards maybe at an end thanks to plans for trains to be fitted with microwave blasters. Just in case that doesn't work, however, the Times has put together a panel of experts to suggest alternative solutions.

**Liam Fox** Clearly the problem's here that British leavers have grown fat and lazy during our four decades in the single market.

**Nigel Farage** Actually I completely disagree. No let me finish. Do you any idea how many more leaves there are in Britain than there used to be? These leaves have to leave.

**The Prince of Wales** Perhaps we can just speak nicely to the trees.

**Donald Trump** I'm a nice guy. Famously. But what I tell them is this: you Brits need to build a wall separating trees and train tracks and get the trees to pay for it.

**Jeremy Clarkson** Hahahaha Trains? Trains? What is this? Communist Russia?

**HS2 Ltd** Obviously we have thought about this problem in depth. Our Plan is to replace every tree between London and Birmingham with non-shedding substitutes at a cost of £8 billion.

**Apple** Our technology solution is quite different. We aim to comprehensibly redesign trees from ground up doing away with trees altogether. These days trees don't need leaves because of blue tooth. Although we will be selling compatible ileafs at £59.99 each.

**Ken Livingstone.** I'll tell you who managed to get trains to run on time without worrying about leaves. Wait! Come back!

**Jeremy Corbyn** The important thing is to think about this from the perspective of the leaf, which maybe on the line in the first place only because there were no spare seats and wanted to sit next to his wife.

**A thought.** Since it is just as likely these days to see a female driving with a man in the car as the other way round, why do you never see a woman on the front of a tandem always the man?

*We are aware that probably only half our readers use the Mendip Vale Practice who will be interested in this article. Ed.*

## **Mendip Vale Medical Practice – Proposed New Surgery for Yatton and Congresbury**

As patients of the newly-merged practice will probably be aware, it is hoped to replace the existing surgeries at Yatton and Congresbury with a new state-of-the-art facility such as exists at Pudding Pie Lane for patients from the Wrington and Langford areas.

Both surgeries have run out of capacity and indeed are operating with only about 50% of the space recommended by the NHS for a modern practice. In addition the buildings are non-compliant in a number of important respects – for instance it is not possible to manoeuvre a wheelchair into some of the consulting rooms, the toilet facilities are not of an appropriate standard and parking facilities are totally inadequate.

The existing surgeries serve a population of some 12,500; this is growing rapidly and will increase significantly over the next few years. Moreover, as the population ages, demand for GP services is increasing faster than population growth. Finally, the government wants to see more care delivered as locally as possible, both as a convenience to patients and to take the pressure off hospitals.

All this means that the time is right for such a project. All the partners in the practice are involved, including those who are based solely or mainly at Pudding Pie Lane, and together, under professional guidance, they are drawing up plans for the new premises. The NHS has agreed in principle but further down the line will have to give the final go-ahead. However it will be the partners in the practice who fund this project, so they have a huge vested interest in ensuring that it is as good as it can possibly be.

At an early stage a number of options were ruled out:

- Do nothing – not an option, for the reasons given above
- Extend and refurbish / demolish and re-build on existing sites – not practical or viable
- Re-develop on a “hub and spoke” model with one big facility and a number of smaller ones would be a logistical and technological nightmare and would involve costly duplication

It was therefore agreed to create a new, significantly larger facility to replace both surgeries, which would deliver much improved facilities and sensible economies of scale.

A large number of sites (20), mostly off the B3133 to the north of the A370 (ie the Yatton side), have been identified, examined and scored by independent consultants taking into account planning policy, environmental constraints, accessibility and deliverability. None are perfect, and at two recent consultation meetings many concerns have been raised, mostly around transport and access. The site being taken forward is west of Smallway, roughly opposite the former Round Trees Garden Centre. It is in the “Strategic Gap” between Yatton and Congresbury but North Somerset Council recognises the critical situation confronting the practice and the importance of identifying a site which is reasonably central and accessible by public transport. A transport and access study has been commissioned, the findings of which will feed into the eventual plans.

Much work remains to be done and there will be further consultation on the detailed proposals. A “drop-in” session will be held at Pudding Pie Lane on 5<sup>th</sup> October between 6.30 and 8pm for those who would like to express a view on the emerging plans. The point of having it there rather than at Yatton is so that you can look at the facilities there and say what you like / don’t like / could be improved. Please also feel free to contact me direct with your ideas and concerns.

Meanwhile – for those who, like me, fear that traffic delays on Smallway will frequently sabotage the appointments system, we are assured that if you are late for your appointment because of the traffic you will still be seen!

Leonie Allday, Member, MVMP Patient Participation Group

**Finally, Don't Miss:**

**The Friends Of All Saints Present:**

**Dinner at Dovedale Court**

**On 19<sup>th</sup> November in the Village Hall**

**A Murder Mystery Evening in Three Courses**

**Set in the 1920s - Fancy dress of the period optional**

Look out for details on the Website, Facebook and at the Triangle

**The Village Christmas Fair**

**On 3<sup>rd</sup> December in the Village Hall**

**There will be old and new stalls.**

**Surprises and definitely Father Christmas**

Look out for details on the Website, Facebook and at the Triangle