

*Village
Magazine*



© B. Clough
2017

*Issue 168 Feb-March 2017
Kingston Seymour*

~ Issue 168 February – March 2017 ~

Still no snow – so disappointing! Well Christmas in Kingston was as busy as ever. The Village looked brilliant with all the lights and then there were all the usual traditions. The Christingle Service was the beginning, then the Christmas Market, Christmas Fair, Crib service rehearsals, the Toddler Christmas party, the Flower Guild Coffee Morning combined with the Christmas post, Church Decorating, two Carol services in the church, Carols round the Christmas Tree, the Crib service and Nativity play, Midnight mass and finishing up with Wassailing. Did I miss anything out? Apologies if I did but quite a list of busyness. So thank you to every one for helping or attending events or just lighting up their houses making Kingston Seymour look so festive.

Sylvia Stokes - 01934 834461 ksmagazine@outlook.com

Magazine Copy Date Monday 20th March

An Interesting thing – A token much like a coin turned up in a field off Ham lane. It turned out to originate from the 1500s when the National Mint ran out of money and local areas were forced to produce their own form of currency. This token was minted in Bristol. 'Quantitative easing' perhaps or just the original Bristol pound.

A small plea to anyone putting signs up in the Triangle. This a great way of passing on information but could you please remove them after your event and remember the signs belong to the people who put them there and should not be reused by someone else. If yours has gone it has been put in bus shelter so please do take it away!

~ Flood Lighting in the Church ~

28th November 2016 – In memory of Dickie Wait, for a long time the Postman here in Kingston Seymour.

11th December 2016 – Frank and Margaret Laishley's Wedding Anniversary.

29th December 2016 – In Memory of Ponty Sirrell.

Flower Guild - Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Church look so beautiful and very welcoming for the Christmas Celebrations. It, as usual, was incredible teamwork and hard work. We received many compliments and it is all due to every person who contribute. More news of events after the AGM.

The Kingston Seymour Flower Guild AGM

**On Wednesday 1st February at 7:40pm
In the Foyer of the Village Hall.**

All welcome.

~ Kingston Seymour Village Facebook Page ~

This has really taken off with well over 100 members now. It is a closed group so restricts who joins to Villagers or people closely associated with the village and can only be read by these people. If you want to join it or add something onto it, it is called **Kingston Seymour Village News**. A great deal of information has appeared over the last few months here so why not join in. You can join Facebook and then join it and never do anything on Facebook. The page is also linked to the website where extra information can often be found about a news item or event.

There are three other closed groups in the village **Kingston Seymour Services/Buy&Sell**, **Kingston Seymour Flower Group** and **Kingston Seymour Crib Service 2016**. If you want to join any of these just make a request.

There is a further group called **Kingston Seymour Village Event & Information**. This is not a closed group but it does share some of the members of Kingston Seymour Village News It is a group worth joining with different information but it is causing a little confusion I think.

So if you want to advertise an event or pass on information only relevant to Kingston Seymour Village, you might be better to use the

Kingston Seymour Village News page. However if you want a wider audience, I would suggest putting it on both **Kingston Seymour Village News** and **Kingston Seymour Village Event & Information** pages to get the greatest coverage for your information or news of your event.

~ Kingston Seymour Historical Society ~

Meetings at member's homes at 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start.
Membership £10.00, visitors £3.00 Junior visitors £1.

For details please contact Jane on 01934 877322 and 0759195926

Tuesday 31st January: at Hawthorn Cottage, Middle Lane
Peter Ellis - Birnbeck Pier, past, present and future

This evening will be a presentation given by the Birnbeck Pier Regeneration Trust about the exciting hopes and prospects for the preservation of Birnbeck Pier and Island for the benefit of the people of Weston-super-Mare and the Nation. The natural, historical, architectural and constructional heritage of Birnbeck Pier

Tuesday 28th February: at: The Tynings Ham Lane
Trevor Bowman- Nailsea Coal and Glass

For 400 years Nailsea had a fairly large coal mining industry, and for 80 years it was also the 4th largest Glassmaking industry in Britain. Trevor will be using slides of period pictures and showing surviving buildings and ruins along with examples of Nailsea glass to show the extensiveness and importance these forgotten industries at Nailsea.

Tuesday 28th March

At: Greenacre, Ham Lane

Rose Hewlett- 1607-The great Severn Estuary flood

The flood of 1607 is generally acknowledged to have been the greatest natural disaster to affect communities along the Bristol Channel and Severn Estuary. The enduring images from the pamphlets of the day ensure that it is remembered more than 400 years later and its cause is still being debated. Was it a tsunami? Was it a storm surge? Rose Hewlett is currently undertaking a research degree at the University of Bristol studying the response and recovery aspects of the event.

Tuesday 25th April AGM and Social at Bulbeck, Bullocks Lane

The Friends of All Saints Church, Kingston Seymour

Charity No. 1056781

Quiz Night save the date.

???

The Friends are pleased to invite you to join them
for their annual quiz night

at

The village hall

on

Saturday 18th MARCH 2014

@

7.00pm for 7.30pm start

Tables of up to 6 People £10 per head including a generous
Ploughman's' Supper

Information on where to obtain tickets to follow

~ Christmas at All Saints' Kingston Seymour ~

Advent started quietly, we lit the first Advent candle at 8.30 Communion on the first Sunday; the second Sunday was different, our very busy family Christingle service. The Christingles made after school on Friday were given out, with lighted candles, by the children (with great concentration!) to the congregation after they'd explained the orange represents the world, the red ribbon Christ's blood to show how much God loves us and the fruits and sweets, the good things we enjoy.

As Richard Simmons of Yew Tree Farm is this years' President we welcomed the North Somerset Agricultural Society for their Carol Service by candlelight in the beautifully decorated Church. Wonderful singing, farmers reading the Christmas story, and a full Church made this a very special occasion.

The following week North Somerset Young Farmers joined us as they do every year for our Carol Service. Our thanks to David and Robert, our organists, and choir for all their hard work leading the singing and to all the readers. Refreshments afterwards were enjoyed by everyone; a lovely, friendly atmosphere.

This year Crib Service was written by Georgia, James, Bethany and Alicia with a little help from Sylvia Stokes. The freshness children bring to the story each year, and the hard work children and their parents put into the costumes make sure the Church is packed. At the end of Midnight Mass we sing 'Yea, Lord, we greet Thee born this happy morning' and Christmas is once more.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make another wonderful Kingston Christmas; Warren and Avril for preparing and leading all the services, the Crib figure and star makers, the Christmas tree provider and decorators, flower arrangers, candelabra organizers, candle lighters and changers, bell ringers, choir, organists, children, refreshments people, anyone I've forgotten to thank, and everyone who attended a service.

Sue Thomas and Jackie Wright

PS Plough Sunday is 5th February

WINE TASTINGS 2017

Thank you to everyone who came to the Fun and Festive Wine Tastings in December! I was very encouraged by all the positive feedback so I am in the process of finalising a programme of (mostly) seasonal tastings for this year. I will send the details to everyone who came or has expressed an interest, but they will also be on the website and Village News Facebook page.

Watch this space for developments in Clevedon too

Leonie Allday - leonie@the-alldays.org.uk

~ The Village Christmas Post ~

A tsunami wave of Christmas cards swamped the foyer of the village hall on Christmas Post morning. A huge thank you to everyone for coming along and donating so generously. A fantastic £228.00 was raised during the morning, thank you all so much.

As usual we split the money,£100 to the village magazine an integral part of our village life. Thank you to Sylvia for all the hard work you put into making it an enjoyable and informing read. The remaining£128.00 was topped up to £150.00 by Tim Harris, a most generous gesture. He then kindly received the money and passed it on to the local Parkinsons charity office. Thank you Tim !

The morning went off with much gusto with what seemed like hundreds of cards for us to sort into our original G P O sorting frame. Then a quick tie up before distributing bundles to helpers to deliver on the same day! A huge thank you to all who volunteered. Also a big thank you must go to Gill Harris for taking control of the donations as people came in. Without her efficient and friendly support we would have been struggling

to cope with the flow. Thanks too, to Sue Smith for handling the mulled wine and mince pies, to Graham Daniel for his advertising expertise, to all in the post office for putting up with it all and Olive for founding this wonderful inter village Christmas Post and raising money for charity . We look forward to seeing everyone next December.

Judy and Robin Seward

You do a brilliant job Judy and Robin. Thank you so much.

Can I also echo a big Thank You to all those who run the Post Office and those who supply coffee biscuits and cakes on Tuesdays through out the year. We are so lucky in Kingston that this all happens.

~ More Calling of All Would-Be Willow Weavers! ~

Claire Kinsella is running beginners' basket making workshops on Friday 17th February and on Saturday 11th March in the Village Hall.

No experience needed, all willows and tools provided. Take home a lovely little basket made all by yourself!

This will take all day; hot drinks will be provided but please bring lunch or whatever suits you.

For further details and a booking form (booking essential, as spaces will be very limited) please contact Claire on 01934 838624.

~ Lucky Lotto Winners ~

Lucky winners of the village lotto in November and December were Pete Briscoe, Sue Saunders (twice), Ron Chappell, Sue Hyde, Bob Ford, Sue Thomas, Carol Chappell and Doreen Burd. Congratulations to them all.

Each week, one lucky person wins £32 for just a £1 stake, helping village causes (primarily related to the village hall) 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.

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

GWL - End of Term Report

Average age: 68 (est.)
No. in Class: 25

Attendance: Good
Behaviour: Exemplary

GWL has grown in confidence in his second year. The all-male environment seems to suit his relaxed demeanour, though the house mistress often has trouble calling the class to order.

He appreciates cook's excellent, varied cuisine and his appetite is invariably robust. His manners are impeccable, though there are occasions when the vin du jour seems to take effect.

In open discussion, there appear to be no limits; politics, sport, history and current affairs feature prominently and there is usually the class comedy act and even the occasional quiz organised by matron.

The class Brexit vote echoed the national outcome exactly.

GWL has shown great interest in all manner of sports this year, in particular both football and rugby, golf, bowls and the Olympics. They can on occasion handicap his attendance. His bridge leaves room for improvement.

Despite protestations to the contrary, fees for the coming year remain @ £10. Prospective attendees, resident in the village past and present, are welcome and should contact the bursar on 01934 832126.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 22nd February

John Harris

For those of you not in the know GWL stands for "Gentlemen Who Lunch"

~ Could It Be Yours? ~

On the Tuesday before Christmas, I found a ladies' wristwatch on the ground in the small parking area at the old stables end of the churchyard. Enquiries were made at the time but nobody claimed it and it's since sat in a post office cupboard!

I won't describe it in detail (the owner will be able to do that) but, whilst it wasn't in pristine condition, it was still working and didn't look that cheap. So, if you think it might be yours, just pop along to the post office one Tuesday morning and speak to the lovely people there.

Graham Daniel

~ Time for another terrible Joke ~

I apologise before I even start!

There was a man who moved into a block of flats. He had purchased one high up in the building so he would not hear the sound of traffic but without a view of the ground he could not always tell if it was raining. He solved this problem quite simply by holding his hand out of the window and whilst doing this one day a glass eye fell into his hand. He looked up to see where it came from in time to see a young woman looking down.

"Is this yours?" he asked.

She said, "Yes, could you bring it up?" and the man agreed.

On arrival she was profuse in her thanks and offered the man a drink. As she was very attractive he agreed. They chatted about this and that and found they had a great deal in common. After a while she said,

"I'm about to have dinner. There's plenty; would you like to join me?"

He readily accepted her offer and both enjoyed a lovely meal and finally as the evening was drawing to a close the lady said,

"I've had a marvellous evening. Would you like to stay the night?"

The man hesitated then said, "Do you act like this with every man you meet?"

"No," she replied, "only those who catch my eye." *(I did warn you!)*

Many Thanks to the Friends of All Saints for organising Carols in the Close and the Wassailing event both of which were so enjoyed by so many. Thanks also to Mark and Susie Humphries for allowing their front garden to be a base for the Carols.

~ Kingston Seymour Parish Council ~

Happy New Year everyone and I hope that 2017 proves to be a happy and successful one for you and yours!

The Parish Council kicked off the year with our first meeting on Monday 9th January.....

Road Safety and Traffic Calming

I'm very pleased to report that North Somerset have agreed to install the gates and hatchings on the Lampley Road before the end of this Financial Year – i.e. by the end of March. This is great news and this should give drivers cause to think about the village environment they are entering and to slow down as they approach the Triangle.

You may also have noticed that a “Give Way” sign has been installed on the approach to the Triangle from Middle Lane, the white lines around the Triangle have been repainted and the broken bollard replaced.

The Parish Council will monitor the success of these measures over the next few months.

Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Our local PC – Adam Clarke – has reported that a private post box was stolen in early December and that damage was caused to a fence and a gate as someone tried to get into a field in Middle Lane. Also, there has been the theft of some heavy equipment from a yard in Yatton and all owners of plant and machinery in the Parish should remain vigilant.

Our new Neighbourhood Watch coordinator – Kate Gillam – has been receiving and distributing relevant notifications and anyone who is not yet on her email list should contact her at ksnwcoord@icloud.com to make sure you are alerted quickly when it is necessary. Those Parishioners without Internet access will be covered by Kate and her local coordinators.

Green Waste Changes in March 2017

Anyone who hasn't registered yet will now have to pay the higher fee (£25 per bin) and may find that they are not on the list for collection from March. I imagine that if you do want to register then the sooner it's done, the more chance of your service continuing without interruption. You can do this registration either online or by phone on 01275 888 802.

Fracking

Many of you will have heard the interview with Gerwyn Williams - MD of South Western Energy Ltd - that was broadcast on Claire Carter's Radio Somerset show on the morning of the 2nd December 2016.

The facts are these.

It is part of Government strategy to make the UK self-sufficient in natural resources and it has chosen to licence the exploration for natural energy in very many parts of the country. These licences include nine licences for the coastal areas of Somerset - from Clevedon around as far as Dunster. Please visit the Oil and Gas Authority's website www.ogauthority.co.uk for detail of all the areas that have been licensed.

Kingston Seymour lies at the very northern edge of licence area ST36 and this licence, plus the eight other licences for the Somerset coastal areas, have all been taken by South Western Energy Ltd. The geophysical analysis of the opportunity that MAY exist beneath this very large area was expected, by Mr Williams, to take another year. If that "desktop" work shows that there could be some value to undertaking physical exploration, South Western Energy would then have to apply for permissions and consents from a number of bodies and this process would give us all the opportunity to engage and act because these permissions and consents are not in any way assured

We think that it is unlikely that potential value will be found under KS but please be assured that your Parish Council, North Somerset Council and all of the other authorities in whose areas these licences fall - will be maintaining a very great deal of vigilance over this and will act quickly and appropriately as matters develop.

Web Site and Facebook

We have agreed to invest in our web site to upgrade the basic code and to make it more “mobile friendly” - and I will be working on this over the coming weeks with our supplier. Our web manager, Sylvia, has become so busy with her many other activities (including the village Facebook presence and preparation of this very magazine!) that she asked to step down from the current role. When the new site is implemented this will be possible and I will be running the website from then on.

Whilst on the subject of the web site and Facebook, the Council has decided that we will not use Facebook for “official” Council statements. As you know, the Council’s work is governed by statute and, whilst everything we do is very open it also has to be formally documented and this takes time. Facebook on the other hand is about immediate news and events and would lose its impact if there was much delay in getting something posted.

So, whilst the Facebook pages will still carry reminders of our meetings and links to the website and to the posted Council documentation, anything else posted by one of the Councillors (or me) will be our own opinion/position and will not be an “official” statement from the Council.

Other Parish Council News

We met in December at Yew Tree Farm to discuss an extension to the existing chicken facility. You may have seen from the minutes of that meeting that the Council gave its full support to this well-planned addition to the existing structure and conveyed its approval to North Somerset. They have subsequently granted the necessary permission. I mentioned the Consultations that were underway last time and you will have seen lots of comment in the local press. The Site Allocations Plan has the more immediate implications with more dwellings likely to be built between Yatton and Kingston Bridge over the next 10 years. In view of this, we have commented that a new junction should be put in at Kingston Bridge during this period so that we can all still – safely – get into and out of the village.

Financially, the Parish is in good health and we will be transferring some £1,500 into reserves at the end of this financial year. With a review of the Parish Plan underway, we are confident that we will have enough

funding to invest in the village next year and therefore we will not be increasing the village precept for the 2017-18 year. The Parish Plan will be discussed further at the Annual Village Meeting on Thursday 4th May.

And finally

My predecessor, Leonie Allday, very kindly presented the Council with bound copies of the minutes of all of the meetings she had “clerked” since January 1989. These five volumes are our official record and must be retained forever so – as we don’t have a Council owned building in the village - they will be safely placed in the county archive in Taunton

However, before they “head south”, I will bring them along to the Tuesday morning activities at the Village Hall on **Tuesday 14th February** and all parishioners are welcome to come and have a browse for a nugget of local history! The meetings since 2011 are all on the website but I have no doubt that there are many gems buried in the meetings from those other 22 years!

Incidentally, back in 1989, John Harris was the Chairman and there was much discussion about Wessex Water and the screening of the Sewage Works, the “Tour de Kingston Seymour”, fast traffic on the Lampley Road and the Best Kept Village competition!

Steve Dixon - Clerk - kingstonseymourpc@gmail.com

Sound Familiar?

“WE TRAINED HARD, BUT IT SEEMED THAT EVERY TIME WE WERE BEGINNING TO FORM INTO TEAMS, WE WOULD BE REORGANIZED. I WAS TO LEARN LATER IN LIFE THAT WE TEND TO MEET SITUATION BY REORGANIZING. A WONDERFUL METHOD IT CAN FOR CREATING THE ILLUSION OF PROGRESS WHILE PRODUCING CONFUSION, INEFFICIENCY AND DEMORALIZATION”

CAIUS PETRONIUS AD 66.

This popped up on a Facebook page.



From The Calendar.

Wednesday 1st February - Flower guild AGM 7.30 in the Village Hall.

Saturday 4th February -. Village Market 10.00 to 12.00 in the Hall.

Sunday 5th February - Plough Service in the Church

Wednesday 22nd February – Gentlemen Who Lunch. 12.30 in the Lambing Shed, Back Lane.

Saturday 25th February – Let It Shine disco and karaoke event in the Hall from 7.30.

Tuesday 28th February – Historical Society Meeting 7.30 for 7.45 start in The Tynings, Ham Lane.

Saturday 4th February - Village Market 10.00 to 12.00 in the Hall.

Saturday 18th March – The Village Quiz organized by The Friends 7.00 for 7.30 start in the Hall.

Tuesday 28th March – Historical Society at Greenacre, Ham Lane.

Every Tuesday Morning The Village Post Office, Coffee & Chat in the Hall Foyer. Toddler Group in the Hall.

Every Tuesday 7.15pm Bridge Club

Every Wednesday Keep Fit sessions at 6.30 to 7.30 often followed by Badminton Club

KINGSTON SEYMOUR

'LET IT SHINE'

**Food, Disco, Bar
&
Karaoke**

**Don't be shy (young or old) you will be amongst friends
and all proceeds from the evening will go to
LIFESKILLS Safety Education Charity based in Bristol**

**(Ed and Fi are running the Bath Half Marathon
in aid of LIFESKILLS on the 12th March**

**SATURDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2017
KINGSTON SEYMOUR VILLAGE HALL
7.30 TILL 11.30**

**Tickets £12.50 each in advance from Ed or Fi Brooks
Ed: 07778517771 or Fi: 07771813481
or fihahlobrooks@gmail.com**