

*Village
Magazine*



Issue 170 June - July 2017

Kingston Seymour

~ Issue 170 June – July 2017 ~

Well summer seems to be here at last - long may it last. There was, however, a sad time in April when Gill Harris passed away. The over 300 people who attended her funeral was a testament to what a brilliant person she was. When I now think of her I just see a wide smile which she always seem to have what ever the circumstances along with an enthusiastic or encouraging remark.

Sylvia Stokes - 01934 834461 ksmagazine@outlook.com

Magazine Copy Date Saturday 22nd July

A warm welcome to:

- Simon, Louise and Rupert Thornton who have moved into The Old Manor House.
- Fiona and Ian Morgan who have moved into The Old Coach House.
- Yvonne Nelson who has moved into the Old School
- James, Sally and the rest of the Rochford Family who have moved into Barbary House

We hope you will enjoy village life in Kingston Seymour.

~ Jumble Sale~

A very big, no massive, thank you to all the people who helped at the recent Jumble Sale. Compared with the enormous amounts raised at the Jumble Sales of old this only made a profit of £138, but it was **something** towards Church Funds. Sadly it has been decided that Jumble Sales have had their day so this will be the last. Gone are the days when buyers queued out to the road and then someone arrived at the end to take away all the unsold goods. This time helpers had to fill cars and find ways to dispose of unsold goods, a pretty tiring task at the end of the day.

However, this does not take away from the willingness of helpers to help towards raising vital funds for church funds, so again,

Thank You.

Margaret Hawks

Thank You to those people who have visited Bob Ford in hospital. He is at Somerset House, Yatton for respite care. He would appreciate a few visitors.
Many thanks Jane Ford.

VILLAGE SHOW

SATURDAY 26th AUGUST 2016

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

**Entries please by Saturday 19th August
To: Kate Esler, The Dairy House, Yew Tree Lane
or the Village Post Office [Tuesday mornings]**

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

**Contact Jane Harris on 07498058245
for additional programmes and entry forms.**

Sports Day 2017 Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th July

The Sports will begin at 2.30pm on Saturday with the judging of the Fancy Dress competition, with the races starting at around 2.45pm. Please bring your entries for the "Garden on a Plate" competition to the marquee between 2pm and 2.30pm so they can be registered before the fancy dress competition starts. There will be face-painting, tombola and other competitions, plus some mouth-watering cakes, and tea/coffee to go with them

"Hay Fever", the free evening social event, will start directly afterwards at 6pm. Yatton band The Penguin Collective will be returning to play for us after their successful gig here last year. "Piggy in the Griddle", the caterers who provided the food at the Last of the Summer Swine charity event last September, will be cooking burgers and hot dogs, and the bar will be open until 11.30pm.

If you would like to play in (or help 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 (please contact Andy Gillam on 07707 100013 or Mike Gorham on 01275 873113).

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 Young

Janet Calderbank

~Goodbye~

Our move from the village happened very quickly as the chain was already well advanced when we joined it. We packed and cleaned over Easter and only had time to say goodbye to a few friends and neighbours before we moved on. We will be moving in to Bloor Homes in Yatton when our new home is ready in July. We have had a very happy time living in such a beautiful village and feel privileged to have lived there for 13 years.

I am sure that James and Sally Rochford and family will settle down well in the community and enjoy their new home as much as we did.

Kind Regards Bryan and Pam Thomas

~More lucky Lotto Winners~

Lucky winners of the village lotto in March and April were Leonie Allday (twice), Sue Hutchins, Robin Seward, Judy Seward, Anika Bakrania, Graham Daniel, Nita Stanley and Alice Cox. Congratulations to them all.

Each week, one lucky person wins £33 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.

Graham Daniel

North Somerset Fleece + Country Fair

Saturday 3rd June 2017

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
- Craft demonstrations
- Sheep Shearing
- Entertainments and music
with Bon Accord



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

~Kingston Seymour Parish Council~

Hello everyone, I hope that you are enjoying a nice late spring.

Annual Parish Meeting Firstly, many thanks to everyone who came to the Annual Parish Meeting on the 4th May and special thanks to the speakers – Richard Simmons, Andy Gillam, John & Leonie Allday and Mark Humphries – who shared some good insights into their areas. See the draft minutes of that meeting for more information. These minutes, along with all of the other minutes of Council meetings are available on the website under “Our Parish Council”.

Mike Sewell, Chairman of the Parish Council summarised the progress that had been made during the year and I was able to report on the healthy state of the Parish funds and on the prospects for investment in the village this coming year.

We followed the Annual Parish Meeting with the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (very different!) – and then a regular meeting of the Council. Draft minutes for these meetings are on the website.

Traffic Calming and a Bollard You will have noticed that the long awaited “welcome gates” on Lampley Road were installed but, as you will also have noticed, they were put in incorrectly and then moved again but still not to the correct position. As I write this, North Somerset Council will be sending their contractor back to have another go – third time lucky perhaps?! We will be painting them white to increase the impact they have on motorists entering the village.

I would like to express our thanks to Wessex Water for stepping in and replacing the bollard on the triangle that was flattened by a large lorry. We do not believe that it was their lorry but nevertheless, they kindly fixed the area with no charge to the Parish funds.

Website Regarding our website, I’ve received a lot of positive feedback about the new layout and information carried and we’re constantly looking for additional information and features to make it interesting and useful. Since we converted it in March, we’ve seen a 10% increase in weekly users and a 50% increase in the number of pages visited. It works really well on smart phones and tablets – so you don’t need to be behind a PC or Mac to use it! Please do have a look around the site – you might be surprised at what’s on there!

If anyone would like to contribute an article for the site – or tell me about an event that I’ve not listed – please contact me via the “Contact Us” section – or email me direct at kingstonseymourpc@gmail.com.

I'm also pleased to announce that the Parish Council has sponsored the installation of a Wi Fi facility in the Village Hall and this is now up and running. This facility is free to Village Hall users so you'll be able to log in and look at your favourite Kingston Seymour website and others on your smart phone or tablet – whilst you enjoy your beer or your coffee!

Defibrillator and Other Emergency Protocols We are fortunate to have a defibrillator at the Village Hall and we are equally fortunate never having needed to use it so far. Reports in the local press though suggest that others in the area are saving lives and I am very grateful to Judith Barber for carrying out the necessary checks every week to make sure that it is ready when needed. The machine has been there for some years and I am hoping to organise some training sessions for parishioners who would be interested in learning how to use it and in knowing about other emergency protocols – e.g. how to cope with a bleeding or choking patient or with someone who is unconscious. Sessions would be for about two hours and are likely to be organised for Monday or Friday evenings at the Village Hall. There would be no charge to participants with the Parish Council sponsoring the events. I have already gathered some names and would welcome other expressions of interest so that I can gauge how many sessions to organise. Please lodge your request through “Contact Us” on the website with your email address or phone me on 07902 798162. I'm just collecting expressions of interest at this stage – you are not being asked to commit at this point.

Steve Dixon - Parish Clerk kingstonseymourpc@gmail.com

~The Painting of Kingston Seymour Manor House~

The Historical Society wish to thank all those people, in the village and outside of it who so kindly and faithfully donated so that the village could purchase to keep the William Walter Wheatley water colour painting of the original Edward IV Manor House of Kingston Seymour, which burnt to the ground in c 1851. The sum has now been reached and the proceeds will be donated by the present owner to “Network counselling and training”, which is an affordable counselling service, for people in Bristol and the surrounding areas.

The decision is still to be made as to where the painting will need to be kept and displayed, but it will definitely be available to the public to enjoy and treasure, as part of the heritage of Kingston Seymour.

Information about William Walter Wheatley, 1811 to 1885, can be researched and found easily on the internet. He was an eminent artist and illustrator of his day, particularly of Ecclesiastical buildings and in the Somerset area.

~Church News~

Easter was its normal busy time. Holy Week is a time of preparation and contemplation on the events leading up to the Resurrection Day. Celia led a meditative service on Good Friday, thinking of the people who were part of that Good Friday scene. What would our own responses have been if we had been witnesses on that day? There was much upon which to ponder.

There was time to stop and ponder the evening before as well, when Warren and Avril led the Maundy Thursday Service, re-enacting the moment when Jesus washed his disciples' feet leading in to sharing The Last Supper together. A thoughtful time at the end of a day that had stirred up sadness and many questions as, of course, it had been dear Gill's funeral. But it was also a day to give thanks for her and for all she has been to our village in so many capacities. Alex and Dominic, with amazing courage, paid wonderful tributes to their mum, and Avril to the Gill whom we all knew and loved and who was such a huge part of our community. All I can do is simply point you to the number of people who were at her service, and to the response to Mark and Susie's message about tidying the churchyard. That says far more than words will ever do. It was truly amazing, though not surprising.

Quite a few of you have popped in to church on a Saturday while it's been open. It warms the heart to have the doors unlocked. The kettle is always handy if you're ready for a cup of coffee or tea while you're there. Just help yourself. For the May Bank Holiday Arts Weekend the church was open for the whole long weekend. Some of the Flower Guild members had arranged flowers on the theme of 'Once Upon a Time'. Publicity was low-key this time, but those who called in loved what they saw. It was our turn to hold the Team Service on the Sunday morning and with Cream Teas in the afternoon, the efforts were very much appreciated by a large group of people. The Flower Guild held their 1st Junior Section session recently. The young ones were taught how to prepare a dish of oasis and arrange a posy. It was a lovely morning with both boys and girls trying out their skills before proudly taking home their finished arrangement.

We look forward to the Fleece Fair on Saturday 3rd June at Tim and Jackie's - always a great afternoon with something for all age groups. And we also look forward to the Friends' Strawberry Ball on June 10th. I understand tickets are going quickly. Cream Teas continue on the 1st Sunday of the month throughout the summer, 2.30pm - 5.00pm in church.

In July, Warren and Avril both have something to celebrate as they will have been priested for 25yrs and 20yrs respectively! We can't let that pass without some kind of celebration for them, so look out for details later on. Bob has had a spell in hospital and now Nursing Home, but we look forward to having him back in Kingston as soon as possible and send him our love, our prayers and best wishes for better health.

Jackie Wright and I have been sworn in as churchwardens for another year. Thank you for all the kindness and support you give us and we both hope and pray that we will fulfil our duties and serve the church and community as we should. And as we look forwards, please let us know if there is anything, as a church, we can offer as we seek to carry out that act of service.

Sue Thomas Churchwarden

~Village Hall News~

The Village Hall has been working to the new management configuration for six weeks now and we have some initiatives in place that I you may be interested to hear about. As you are hopefully aware, the management of the hall has been divided between two bodies: The Charity, which owns the building and the Trust, which will deal with the day to day management of the activities within the hall.

The Village Hall Committee is made up of: Ed Brooks, Caroline Harris, Helen Harris (Treasurer), Lesley Cole (Secretary), Karen Elliot (Trust rep on the Charity Board), Alice Cox, Carol Chappell (Bar Manager), Ian Ford, Paul Nicholls (Maintenance Manager), Olive Lawrence and myself as Chair.

We have been working hard to put in place processes for running the committee and working together with the Charity. During this period, we have also been identifying new activities we can arrange to ensure that the hall remains the social hub of the village. During our first six weeks, and with many thanks to the Parish Council for obtaining grants, we have had a Wi-Fi broadband internet connection installed within the village hall. The ID and passwords can be found within the hall, foyer and skittle alley. This is a free to use service for anyone making use of the village hall so you can log on and access the internet. Don't worry about quiz nights, we will disable it to ensure no one cheats!

One of the most voiced opinions that I have been privy to is the need to have somewhere to go on a Friday night for a pint with other members of the community. So, we are pleased to announce that from the 2nd June 2017 we will be opening the hall/bar area for an informal social occasion so that everyone can have a drink at the end of a busy week and discuss their plans

for the weekend with friends. To support this activity, we have reviewed the pricing structure of the bar and from this date (and for all other events) new reduced prices will be in place. The Friday night social will be run as a pilot for around 3 months to see what take up we achieve and what other activities we could lay on to support you all. Things that are on the drawing board currently are film nights for the kids whilst the adults are socialising (obviously suitably supervised) and other activities for the younger members to get involved in. It's early days and we need to ensure that this is something that the village wants and will make use of, so your support is the most important thing to ensure its success.

Another concern that has been brought to my attention, from many sources, is that sometimes the wine selection within the bar is left wanting. To overcome this, we are currently in discussion with Butcombe Brewery (who stock a wide selection of wines) to put on a wine tasting evening on the first social night (2nd June). The plan is to have 6 variants of white and red wine, 3 of rose and 3 of sparkling so that you can taste and select which you would like to see served at the bar. The final choice will be the top 2 scoring white and reds, 1 rose and 1 sparkling. This may be a regular occurrence to refresh the choices but we need to see what support Butcombe can provide and have a call soon with their wine expert.

As for the fabric and management of the building, we have a new key system in place, we are looking to set up a new website with online enquiry facility to complement our telephone bookings, and are in the process of fixing the cowl on the skittles roof. **We will also be having a tidy out of the loft space. This will happen on the 24th June when we will have the village hall filled with the contents of the loft and will be looking for villagers to attend, at some point during the day, to help us identify what the items are (there are some confusing things in that roof space!), who owns them and whether they are needed to be stored within the hall.** We will then be able to zone the roof space and provide specific storage for items should they be needed longer term.

We hope you can see that we are making some good progress on the hall and its use and that you will be there to support us through the activities to ensure that the Village Hall remains a vibrant place for socialising and supporting the various clubs and activities that make use of it. If there are any ideas that you would like to see considered then please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Andy Gillam Chair of the Village Hall Trust
Email - andygillam@live.co.uk

~Flower Guild~

Thank you to all who helped make the Church look so beautiful for the Easter period. The arts and crafts weekend presented us with some very interesting and novel placements which were the result of a lot of planning and hard work so thank you to all concerned.

Along with the rest of the village we were very sad to lose Gill and we shall miss her support and friendship greatly. It was with very mixed emotions that we did the flowers for her funeral and thanks are due to all those who did such poignant arrangements.

Please keep an eye out for forthcoming events but we will endeavour to inform you all of anything we plan.

Sue Hyde

~ Village Agent~

Our Village agent is Sarah Friend, who many of you have met at the Post Office. She can help with all sorts of issues you may have, from transport to medical appointments, support for carers, fire safety checks, advice on unwanted callers and scams, claiming for benefits, help with mobility to helping you find activity groups so you can socialise with others.

If you would like advice on anything please call me on 07422 078548 or 01275 888 803 (office) or email me sarah.friend@curo-group.co.uk

~A Crest for the Village~

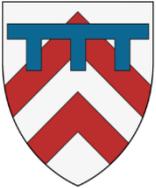
A little while ago, I was involved in a project that required writing to a number of different organisations on behalf of the Village Hall. I was conscious the village did not have a crest, emblem or logo. I have tried to research whether there is or ever has been an official logo but so far I have not found anything concrete. I understand a competition may have been run to design a crest but I have no further information.

You may ask why does the Village need a crest? A valid question and I am not here to suggest we adopt one necessarily. However, once I started looking into the history of the Village I was struck by how important some of the founders were, not just locally, but in the history of England. I have not undertaken scholarly research so I caveat my findings with the admission that my findings are mainly from internet research and there has been very little cross-referencing. I invite members of the Historical Society to add anything they may have on the matter.

Sancto Mauro, Sancto Mauri, St Maur or Seymour? Very briefly, there seem to be two branches of the Seymour family, one famously contained Jane

Seymour, wife of Henry VIII, and the other is ours. It is likely they were originally of the same stock that came over during or immediately after the Norman Conquest in 1066 but no definitive link has been shown. There is sufficient history to write an academic paper on the St Maurs of Somerset but I am concentrating on those relating to our village.

It seems that one Milo de Sancto Mori (St Maur) was granted the Lordship of Chingstone (later Kingston) by Lord Malherbe of Shipham and Rowberrow in the 9th year of the reign of Richard III (1200). So from Chingstone St Maur we get to Kingston Seymour. From the earliest records the crest of the St Maur family is a shield with white background and two red chevrons.



I took this example from a Magna Carta website (which shows the crests of all involved in the signing). Almeric (pronounced Emmer) de Sancto Mauri (aka Henneri St Maur) was the Grandmaster of the Knights Templar in England and apparently advised King John on the creation of the Magna Carta. Almeric's connection to the St Maurs is also unclear but he was using the family Crest. Milo De Sancto Mori was also

part of the conspiracy of Barons against King John which led to the signing of the Magna Carta.

It seems the family line died out in 1400 with the death of Richard St Maur who left a daughter Alice, who married one Sir William Zouch, and hence the land and inheritance passed into his family. There is a further connection to the town of Ashby-de-la-Zouche in Leicestershire but I have not explored it any further.

Beyond the above information, the crest on the Historical Society scrap book is the only other one I am aware of. This lovely crest was designed by Mrs Molly Willis of Court House.

(Main source for the info is 'the Knights Templar in Somerset' by Julie Faith)

Edward Brooks



Orchard Apple Request: As a newcomer to the Village and to the South West, I am slowly learning about orchards (not just the cider). I know a survey was done in the autumn of 2010 when Bob Ford and Angela Slott surveyed twenty-three orchards in Kingston Seymour. Apart from the extract on the website I have not been able to find the full survey nor any report of apple varieties. Does anyone hold a copy of the survey and is there a list of varieties in the village? If people know what types they have I am happy to collate a list which could be held on the parish website.

Please email me at edsbrooks@hotmail.com or drop a list into 5 Cherry Tree Court, Ham Lane.

Edward Brooks

~Light Relief! ~

A husband and wife who work for the circus go to an adoption agency. Being unable to have children they are anxious to have a child of their own.

The social workers raise doubts about the living conditions in a circus, but the couple produce photos of their 50-foot luxury motor home, which is clean and well-maintained and equipped with a beautiful nursery.

The social workers also raise concerns about the education a child would receive while in the couple's care.

"We've arranged for a full-time tutor who will teach the child all the usual subjects along with French, Mandarin and computer skills."

Then the social workers express concern about a child being raised in a circus environment.

"Our nanny is a certified expert in Paediatric care, Welfare and Diet."

The social workers are finally satisfied and ask, "What age child are you hoping to adopt?"

"It doesn't really matter as long as they fit in the cannon."



Next event:

Here comes Summer! – Rosés and Barbecue Reds

**A different format for this tasting - an actual barbecue!
at The Old Farmhouse, Bullocks Lane**

Friday 30th June 2017, 7.30pm

Cost: £25 per person; advance bookings only (max 20 people)

Contact / booking details: 01934 876528 / 07753 662803 / email:
wintimeallday@gmail.com

or message me via my Facebook page: @wintimeallday

~Gill Harris~

This is the eulogy written and read by Anita Simmons at Gill's funeral.

So beautiful, so courageous, and so thankful for every day, for every friend, for every family member, her boys and their partners, 4 gorgeous grandchildren and of course her husband John.

Gill you were gently and peacefully taken from us on the wings of the birds who sang so loudly on that bright sunny beautiful spring morning of April the 5th. Words cannot express my gratitude to you Gill, not just as a dear friend for almost 40 years, but forgiving me, for never learning my words in the village plays, and now here I stand, without you to prompt me as you have done in the past, when I, with others made up pages of words that were never in the script. It will come as no surprise, to all of you here today, that much of what I am going to say was actually prepared for me, by Gill.

Gill's parents Graham and Joan Scott were living in Leeds when Gill was born and it was in Leeds, Leicester and Bristol where Gill grew up finally attended Redland High School. After an Institutional management course in Plymouth Gill become a matron at Kings School Taunton. An advanced secretarial course in Bristol led to secretary to the University Hall of residence. These were the building blocks of Gill's remarkable organisational skills.

Gill rose to the ranks of a product development researcher for the Dickinson Robinson Group for many years, and it was around this time that on the squash courts of Redwood Lodge in Failand, Gill encountered a very tall, and dashing young John Harris. John and Gill were engaged after 12 days and married within six months.

Almost immediately John whisked Gill off to Malawi. John was working as an Animal Husbandry Officer for the Malawi Government, and Gill was working for President Banda as a press censorship officer. Gill managed his upmarket retail enterprises, spending much time on overseas buying trips. What a challenging and exciting time for these two, working and meeting so many diverse expatriates from Europe, Israel and Southern Africa.

After three and a half years, John and Gill came back to Kingston, initially living in Rose Cottage and then moving into the farm in 1982. John was now working in partnership with his father at Mendip View Farm.

Gill would always manage to turn a challenge into positivity and in 1979 John and Gill adopted Alex, and in 1982 they adopted Dominic. They were both overwhelmed with such joy and love for these two wonderful little boys. In a flash Gill became a founding member of the village mother and toddler group, which was a blessing to the sudden rush of new families and new babies moving into the village, and from that moment Gill's feet did not touch the

ground. Up and back to the school coach, immersed in the friends of the Bristol Grammar School, one eye on the farm, cricket matches which never seem to end!, rugby, athletics, you name it, the children did it and Gill made it all happen. Action packed long hot summers surfing and swimming at the family bolt hole at Rock in Cornwall, reuniting with close friends, and John joining the family as often as the farm allowed.

As the boys were growing, Gill went to work part time at Internal Drainage Board office, in the Kingston Seymour Old School. In due course Gill became clerk to the board, and the office moved to the farm. For 29 years Gill's responsibilities included the role of water management, climate change and expanding planning development. During this time Gill formed working relationships with a number of farmers and landowners who valued her knowledge, competence, warmth and hospitality. In fact there was always a warm welcome and generous hospitality whenever you called either at Mendip View Farm or latterly at Rose Cottage. The kettle was usually about to boil and as always homemade cakes or biscuits appeared on the kitchen table.

Gill had a heart for this community of Kingston Seymour. Whether for church, village hall, sports day, charity events, you name it, Gill was baking and making, heading up rota's and volunteers, but much like the role of prompt in the village plays, Gill was in the wings, working harder than most but never centre stage, never seeking the limelight. This is what made Gill so special, and why the applause for the prompt was always the loudest. Gill's organisation of the village show was flawless, and the Flower Guild has blossomed with Gills encouragement and motivation.

Gill was diagnosed with cancer almost ten years ago. We were all stunned.....treatment began, and all through this very difficult time Gill never complained. Hospital stays, days of treatment and hours in waiting rooms where Gill had on occasions found it necessary to deal with impatient patients! It is quite remarkable how Gill managed her illness with incredible courage, and Gill constantly grasped every moment of life with both hands. To witness the boys with such supportive and loving partners in Anastacia and Gemma was so much more than Gill had hoped. But the arrival of Ksenija, Alfie, Olesja and Molly made Gill the proudest Granny ever. To share in just a little of their growing up was one of the greatest gifts that Gill could ever have dreamed. She loved them all so dearly.

Throughout her illness Gill maintained her very close bond with her dear sister Angie. The girls were young when their mum died and Gill was truly blessed by the unstinting love and support that Angie together with husband Graham and Gill's very special niece Kate, gave to her, over the years.

Just one more look at the fields, and as you lift your eyes to the sky
We have your smile to hold in our hearts, as we say our final goodbye.



**Tickets on sale now at
The Box Office, Rustic Farm.
Kingston Garage, Back Lane.
The Post Office & Sue Lang.
or e-mail: kingstonfriends@hotmail.com**

Strawberry Ball

Tickets £25.00

Saturday 10th June @ 7.30pm

Kingston Village Hall

Organised by Friends of All Saints. Registered Charity 1056781

Black Tie

To include

Welcome Drink & Canapes

Hog Roast, Summer Desserts

Late Bar, Music, Entertainment & lots more

