

*Village
Magazine*



Urgent Appeal
See inside on Page 3

Issue 172 Oct- Nov 2017

~ Issue 172 October – November 2017~

After my Facebook plea the magazine is jam packed with stuff. Thank you everyone. By the way, if you haven't already, do join the **Kingston Seymour Village News** Facebook page (Cover Photo the Church) for reminders of events and up to date information. So much to fit in this month I think we'll just crack on without any more ado!

Sylvia Stokes 01934 834461 ksmagazine@outlook.com

Magazine Copy Date Sunday 19th November

Gentlemen Who Lunch have reconvened following the summer break. Mostly retired, we meet monthly for an informal lunch at *The Lambing Shed*.

Our Autumn meetings are :-Thurs. Oct 5th, Weds. Nov 8th and Thurs Dec 7th
Fresh faces are welcome.

For more details give me a ring on 832126 or e-mail jpgvharris@hotmail.com .

John Harris.

Village Market Saturday 7th October. Fresh meat, bread, cakes, veg and so much more.

Kingston Seymour History Society Autumn Programme

Membership £10.00, visitors £3.00 Junior visitors £1.50

Tuesday 26th September

At: **THE TYNINGS**, Ham Lane 7.30 for 7.45.

Lois Brenchley - Sandford Station, past and present-illustrated in archive and contemporary photo's.

Tuesday 24th October

At – **KINGSTON SEYMOUR CHURCH** – Note change of Venue. 7.30 for 7.45

Bryan Smith - The Smyth-Pigotts of Brockley Dr Smith describes research done since 2003 on the lifestyle of the Smyth-Pigotts, how they accumulated great wealth and then lost it, and how they changed the landscape of Somerset. The Symth-Pigotts had quite an influence on Kingston Seymour.

Tuesday 28th November

At: **BULBECK**, Bullocks Lane 7.30 for 7.45

Trevor Bowen – Coates Cider , Nailsea – illustrated with many archive photos

Non-members welcome to all events.

Urgent Appeal - Kingston We Need You

You will all no doubt be aware that our Church was the victim of a significant lead theft. We couldn't have imagined the quantum of the damage, but following a competitive tender process we have established the minimum cost to repair and protect the church is going to be £35,000.

Sue Thomas and myself are setting up a community fundraising campaign to see what we can all collectively raise. More information will follow with a flyer through your door.

In the interim we are appealing for donations in the form of a financial gift or perhaps an interest free loan or a combination of both, so we can urgently instruct the repairs and get the building weather tight before the winter.

The insurance will pay out towards the repairs but sadly there is a cap of £7,500 for lead theft so there is a big shortfall. Moving forward the church has unlimited cover as The Friends have been able to donate the cost of installing a high-tech roof alarm system, but this unfortunately wont resolve putting the roof back into repair.

Donations can be made openly or in complete confidence to Sue or myself. Any amount will be gratefully received.

I am making investigations to see if there are options for individuals or families to sponsor the repairs and have your names or tributes to your loved ones permanently inscribed onto the timber roof before we have the new lead installed, further to this we will provide a plaque with the list of all the names of the villagers who helped Raise the Roof installed in the porch as a permanent dedication to your generosity and support.

If you would like to make a financial pledge to help or would like to register your interest in sponsoring to have your or your loved ones' name(s) as a permanent dedication then please contact either Sue or myself.

Mark Humphries 01934 833603 Sue Thomas 01934 833593

Clevedon Food Bank is to be the subject of a Forum held in the Chapter House, Yatton on **Thursday 5 October from 7.30pm** with one of those involved, Sue Regan, giving details of the vital work done by it.

All are welcome to go along and take part in discussions around the subject. The evening, organised by the Team's Education and Nurture Circle, begins with coffee and biscuits.

Making Music for Fun If you play a musical instrument or have one buried deep in a cupboard as you are banished to the tool shed/bathroom etc to practice you might like to consider playing with others just for fun. It is a great way to pass the time on the long winter evenings coming up

I will provide the music which will not be at all difficult and we would explore playing in parts. We could meet at my house in Middle Lane and perhaps enjoy a glass of wine!

I do have a piano a bit ancient but in tune.

If you are interested please contact: Claire Ray Hawthorn Cottage Tel. 838396 email claireray2@sky.com

A Sad, Sad Story About Nobody

Some of you may have noticed a difference in the appearance of the Churchyard close to the Building itself on the North side of the church building recently. The concrete surround is now visible again after a huge amount of moss was cleared, three drains visible and hopefully functional, brambles and other encroaching weeds cut away and a large pile of Jackdaw sticks removed under the Belfrey. The Belfrey door is now clear of brambles and the grass edge is defined where it meets the concrete.

This was due to the efforts of Tanya, Jessica, Chris Robyn, Pippa and Roy, with the help and guidance of Jane Bell. Jane is a "Shared Lives" carer. This is a scheme run by North Somerset to enrich the lives of Adults with Learning Disabilities. Jane and her team wanted to make a difference as they noticed the Churchyard could do with some TLC in certain areas. After several hours work over two days during August the team were so delighted with their efforts that they asked if they could be regular Churchyard trimmers. They are delighted that they have been given official permission to do so and will sometimes be spotted in the foreseeable future with Jane around the Churchyard doing their voluntary service to help the local community.

They pointed out that a poem which is pinned up in Jane's kitchen inspired them to take action. Some of you may be familiar with this story:

A Sad, Sad Story About Nobody - There was an important job to be done. Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

Our internet Problems Explained

The problem within the village is the way in which the telephone lines are distributed. Our closest Cab (telephone junction box) is outside the Bridge Inn. Therefore all providers will supply Fibre Optic speeds (minimum 50Mb but developing all the time to higher speeds. BT are testing Gigabit speeds over fibre currently) to the Cab. From here it is patched to your homes via the copper network. This is called a final mile distribution method but it has some serious drawbacks. The attenuation of a broadband signal over copper is large, hence why it is supposed to be the final mile on copper. In the village the final mile from the Bridge Inn will provide good speeds to the centre of the village. Any further than that will mean further attenuation of the signal and if you live a further 2 miles in from the village centre then this is going to seriously impact the speeds that you can receive. This is not the Internet Service Provider's (ISP) fault but is caused by the lack of investment into the copper infrastructure within the village in either keeping what we have in good condition (no ducts underwater, bird damage to overhead lines etc) or providing a Cab within the village to provide much better, more localised, copper distribution. The closer to the Cab the better your broadband signal will always be so this will not make it a level playing field for all but will mean better speeds for those that live further from the centre of the village.

It doesn't really matter what provider you use (in this village) as they are all dependent on the fibre and final mile solution and so will all be impacted from what I have described above.

Mobile solutions are one way to overcome this as some people have said but there are limitations to this. Data is the main one, you will be restricted to the amount of data that you can download/upload as part of your package and additional will be expensive. The second is what a mobile solution doesn't give you, a fixed IP address (unless you pay more for this service). A fixed IP solution is needed if you have certain technical solutions like CCTV cameras or some home based IT solutions. This is something to keep in mind when looking at mobile solutions.

A new Universal Service Obligation, similar to water, electricity and gas provision will be in place shortly to ensure everyone has a minimum level of service for broadband provision. Once this is in place there will be further options made available for those that cannot make the minimum speeds. Paying for our own solution is one area that could be looked into and I know of lots of other areas in the UK that have developed their own solutions. Other rural areas have setup their own Fibre Optic broadband companies, paid for microwave towers to provide direct links to the telephone exchange (if there is

direct line of sight with the TE) and mobile towers to support. These are all expensive options and why other communications providers have not done it themselves to provide services to the village but if funds are raised then this is a possibility.

Andy Gillam

A Thank you from Hazel Cole and Gerald Harris' Family

Many thanks to those who attended Gerald's funeral service on Monday 11th September. It was lovely to see so many there at the church and after at the Village Hall. Thank you to all those who came forward and provided a plate of food for "the bun fight" as Gerald called it. We hope you had a drink to remember him.

Gerald was diagnosed with oesophageal cancer in August 2016 and despite very little treatment being available to him, he remained characteristically practical and stoic regarding the outcome. He had an unique approach to his illness, for example when the hospice nurse told him gently it was time to "put his house in order" he likened it to packing a suitcase for an holiday. Putting his affairs straight became a question of making sure his holiday list was ticked off. He said he wasn't planning on coming back if he forgot anything.....

The village was extremely important to Gerald and in his last year he depended on many for help and support. Thank you to those who gave their time and made his life easier over his last year. Kingston is a very special community and he was blessed to have so many friends to call upon.

Gerald planned for the worst but hoped for the best and at the end his final hours were exactly what he had wished for and he passed away peacefully at home. The hospice nurses were a great source of support and help through his illness and our thanks go to them for all their care. Our thanks also go to Warren Williams, who supported Gerald during his illness and who gave great comfort and peace in his final hours.

Gerald Harris

This is the Eulogy written and read by Anita Simmons at Gerald's funeral.

A true countryman, a colourful village character who will be sadly missed by our community his family and his friends and especially Hazel. For Gerald this village is very special. This is where he was born, and went to school. The family farm, at Yeo Bank, provided Gerald and his brothers, Tim and Norman, hours of adventure and mischief. There were the chores and work, and also opportunities for Gerald to tinker with his old cars and engines.

The village youth club, the young conservatives, and then this dashing young man wearing his sleek Brylcreem quiff, pointed dancing shoes, and tight jeans would, along with his friends of the swinging sixties, frequent the fashionable night spot of Weston Super Mare, The Winter Gardens. I am reliably told, and having memories of older brothers partaking in the same activity, that the Jiving Gerald was a groovy Rock and Roller whilst appreciating the 'in' bands of the era such as the Yardbirds and the Animals.

In his early twenties, Gerald lived in Congresbury. Here he worked at Silver Street Farm with his Uncle, Tom Hardwick. It was during this time that Gerald had 2 sons, one which has now, sadly, passed away.

You could never really have an argument with Gerald but he was very clear in his views. He rarely got cross, in fact in the farming world, being passive and calm in a crisis was fairly unusual, and so with his gift of patience and calm, Gerald started a career with Standens of Congresbury becoming a plumber, painter and decorator.

Many of us will recall Gerald's contribution to the village plays in the 80's and 90's. Gerald was a key member of the scenery construction crew, creating staircases, wells, galleries or anything else that the director of the day commanded. Gerald completely immersed himself into this role, and his skills were so greatly appreciated.

On special village occasions such as flower festivals, fleece fairs and themed weekends, Gerald would work tirelessly around the village and church cutting grass, strimming, and generally doing the jobs that went almost unnoticed. He never drew attention to himself, but when the day of the event arrived, there he was all dressed up in his smock and straw hat, looking wonderfully the villager of a very long gone era. Gerald supported almost all village social events, and prior to an outdoor event Gerald could often be seen towing an old green British telecom van to the designated site and neatly placing it very close to an appropriate manhole. This was none other than Gerald's village Superloo!!

Living with Hazel at Fairfield Farm was the happiest time of Gerald's life. Here he was both truly happy and exceedingly contented and as a trustee of the Friends of this church, Gerald absorbed himself into yet more imaginative and successful events. There were the first Fairfield Sheep races, followed by racing with Hobby Horses. The 2 day Apple Festival, also at Fairfield Farm, where Gerald demonstrated cider making. For many years, Gerald took charge of the barbeque at outdoor events. The Wassailing was one of Gerald's favourites. Initially, Gerald not only did the barbeque, but organised the ceremony, the lighting, the braziers and the band. There was the Museum, Gerald's impressive working display of old farm engines and collection of tools and memorabilia, and all of this to raise funds for this church and for charity.

In time Gerald closed the museum and sold much of the contents, and he gave his hedge laying tools to Lydia Harris. Lydia duly turned up for her first day of hedge laying instruction with her vintage tools and became the envy of all around her as they admired this remarkable gift. Lydia had no idea how precious the tools were and will treasure them forever Gerald.

Gerald had a close association with the North Somerset Agricultural Society and besides the ploughing Gerald helped for a number of years with the Countryside Day, which is an educational day for 2,500 children primary school children. Gerald would, with his vintage machines spend all day showing children the process of turning the grain into flour, passing the flour onward to the bread making team.

Gerald (like most of us here) was not perfect and he met many challenges along the way. He loved tradition and resisted change, most of the time, finding it hard to adapt to 21st century ideas. He truly believed that his way of doing things was the only way. Gerald did not have the need for a passport, however some years ago Hazel encouraged him to travel way beyond Kingston Bridge and fly to Tenerife. This really is true! In Tenerife, every day Gerald would say “ well this isn’t like Kingston, not very green here...” after several days Hazel could cope no longer, and Gerald was threatened that if he mention that home one more time, then a taxi would be called and he would be promptly dispatched to the airport! He lasted the full two weeks.

A member of the wildfowlers, Gerald had a unique knowledge of the wildlife around us; during his many walks with Hazel, he would identify species by sounds long before they could even see them. He understood the seasons; he had a pronounced affinity with nature. He was a true countryman.

It was last August when Gerald became aware of his illness, and since that time he has been very blessed with the care and love shown to him by Hazel and members of his family. The staff from the Weston Hospice, Mendip Vale Surgery and the Strawberry Line community nurse team have supported them all, and cared and nursed Gerald with such gentleness and compassion. Thank you Gerald for all that you have meant to every one of us, we will miss you my friend.

More Lotto Winners Lucky winners of the village lotto in July and August were Phil Simmons, Doreen Burd, Diana Williams, Warren Williams, Pete Briscoe, Sue Hyde, Chris Walton and Roland Griffin. 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.

The Village Show



2017 was again a show of great competition among the younger and older members of our village. This year saw double the number of entries making for a very colourful display in our village hall. In the children's section Freddie Braine stormed into the lead with 20 points to take the Boy's Cup. In second place Seb Simmons with 8 points and James Sewell third, with 5 points. Alicia Sewell held onto the girls cup for another year with 16 points, in second place was Bethany Humphries with 7 points and in joint third place was Winnie Maker and Lily Cole with 6 points each.

Alan Saunders won the John Vanderplank Men's Cookery Cup with his scrumptious apple tart! Jane Harris won the Paul & Alice Cox Cup for best overall cookery with her chocolate cake. Peter Harris exhibited the Overall Best Photograph in Show winning the Philip and Jude Simmons cup. Warren Williams the David Hamilton Poetry Cup. Mike Hedger's talent saw him win the David and Sarah Harris Any Other Craft Cup for another year. The fruit and vegetable section saw fresh blood with Zoe Bartlett proudly took the Rodney and Angela Veale Cup.

Polishing the cups before the show!



The Ken and Freda Stuckey Cup for the adult with the highest number of points was awarded to Jude Simmons with a total of 33 points. Hotly pursued by Zoe Bartlett with 25 points and John Harris in third place with 22 points. Once again the judges were very complementary about the high standard of entries and the creativity. Our new trophy donated by the ladies of the Village Show Committee in memorial of Gill Harris for the best overall flower arrangement was presented to Sue Thomas.



Members of the Village Show Committee would like to thank all the entrants for their time and support and the visitors who come and 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 Warren Williams for presenting the cups.

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

Pop Up Pub at the Village Hall – Every other Friday 6.00 – 11.00 why not just pop in? The next one will be on 6th October and then 20th October. Look out for notices at the Triangle for confirmation of date.

Flower Guild

Following a recent meeting we have planned the following dates. Please note them carefully as this is the last magazine before most of them take place. Members and non-guild members are welcome to any of these.

1st November - Wednesday Flower Demonstration Evening with Katherine Delve at 8pm in the Church, cost £5

13th November - Monday 6pm onwards making wreaths and other Christmas decorations using natural materials at Mendip View Farm

2nd December - Saturday 10 am - 4pm. Christmas scene model workshop for families. The figures will be put in Church for Advent Sunday [3rd December] Please bring a plate of food for a shared lunch.

6th December - Wednesday Christmas Outing to Tyntesfield followed by lunch at Coates House in Nailsea. Entry to Tyntesfield will be £12.50 for non NT members payable in cash only on the day.

Lunch at Coates House in Nailsea. Cost 1 - £18 for 3 courses or £20 to include coffee and mince pie. Menus available from Sue.

Please let Sue Lang know if you are interested. Tel 835939.

11th December - Monday 7.30pm decorating the Church for Christmas.

And 13th December - Wednesday 2.30 and 7.30pm decorating the Church for Christmas.

18th December - Monday 2.30 and 7.30pm making Christmas table arrangements in Church.

19th December - Tuesday Christmas Coffee Morning with mince pies and table arrangement sale. Help will be needed please.

Please bring greenery if possible please to any occasion when we are doing arranging.

We are hoping to arrange an outing to the Physic Garden on The Embankment in London. We will keep you informed as and when we have a date and cost.

Once again, thank you for your support and I look forward to seeing any of you who are interested on any/all of the above dates. Sue Hyde Chairperson

Shoe Boxes It's getting close to that time of year again for the shoe box appeal. The response from Kingston is always amazing, though I shouldn't really be surprised. I'll put boxes and information in the church porch, bus shelter and village hall (PO days) again. If anyone would like to be part of this very worthwhile appeal, please take a box, or just take the information if you have a box of your own to use.

Kingston Seymour Parish Council

Hello everyone and I hope that you have had a pleasant summer – there has certainly been a lot going on in the village from a wet Sports Day to wheelbarrow races, via a Village Show and very popular pub nights!

Potential Cycle Route Our last Parish Council meeting was dominated by this subject and our thanks go to the many residents who attended. The Weston to Clevedon cycle route is a long-held ambition of some members of North Somerset Council (NSC) - it being part of their overall strategy to encourage greater access to areas of the county and a healthier lifestyle. Since it was last discussed with the Parish Council in 2013, the project has been on “the back burner”. However, following the success and publicity surrounding the Brean to Weston cycle route, interest in the route that could potentially go through Kingston Seymour has been re-energised.

Your Parish Council became aware of this shortly before the September 2017 meeting and we invited representatives – David Fish and Michael Herbert from the NSC project team - along to the meeting. By way of background, David advised that the proposal had first been discussed in 2012 but had been stood down when Natural England declared their intent to create a Coastal footpath and North Somerset Council deemed it most appropriate to work with them at the due time. The Coastal Footpath work is underway and it is NSC's intent to work closely with Natural England.

Extracts of a document dated August 2015 and entitled “Weston to Clevedon Cycle Route – Tutshill Crossing Proposals: Kingston Seymour to Wick St.Lawrence” was available at the meeting but David stressed that whilst this a good starting point, he would be reassessing the proposals in this document to re-test their validity so it could not be assumed that these concepts were exactly what could be proposed this time.

By way of timescales, David envisaged that initial feasibility work will be completed in this financial year (i.e. by the end of March 2018) – that in the FY 2018-19 there would be funding applications made to various bodies and planning permissions sought. The project could easily take up to 5 years to deliver.

Many questions were raised by parishioners at the meeting and these have been summarised and sent to North Somerset Council for a formal response. All of the relevant documents have been placed in the "Our Parish Council" section of our website and I urge you to visit the site and read the base (2015) document and the list of initial questions we have submitted. This sheet will be updated when we have some answers from North Somerset Council.

If you have any questions or would like the Parish Council to refer anything new to North Somerset Council, please email me at kingstonseymourpc@gmail.com or speak to one of your Councillors. This subject will be a standing item on our future meetings and all of your comments will be considered.

The Gates & The War Memorial After researching options adopted by other rural villages, we have decided that to create a bigger visual impact on approaching drivers, we will clear the area immediately in front of the gates and lay an area of light stones and install a large planter in front of each gate. We have also earmarked a budget to maintain this area and the gates going forward.

We have received a memo from the War Memorials Trust who have expressed concerns over the condition of certain parts of the memorial so we will be contacting the specialist repairer who we used a few years ago, to undertake this work. We will also be removing both trees in the compound so that the memorial does not suffer any more damage from above or below ground.

In other news The update from the Police is that – regrettably – there has been no new information or evidence coming forward for either the Church roof lead theft or the "hit and run" incident that took place in Middle Lane and that was reported in the local press. In both cases the files are currently closed.

Our Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator – Kate Gillam – reported that there had been some doorstep traders targeting the village and warned parishioners to be very vigilant. The Village Facebook Group **Kingston Seymour Village News** is a very fast way of disseminating information as is email and Kate is looking to complete a directory of email addresses for residents so that relevant information can be shared quickly.

The next full Council meeting is on Wednesday 15th November and dates have now been agreed for our meetings in 2018.

Steve Dixon, Parish Clerk

Church Notes

We've had a busy few weeks at All Saints in a variety of ways. The lead theft has given concern and elsewhere there is a report and update of where we've reached. It's certainly going to be more costly than anticipated but we're confident the target can be achieved.

Understandably the toilet project has gone on the back burner for the time being, but we've been given several lines of thought to follow up in due course following visits from the DAC (who are the church advisory committee) and North Somerset planning department.

The church clock has been silent for several weeks. The company who deals with this for us is based in Cumbria and in order to save ourselves money, we arrange for them to visit when they have other work in this area. It's now fixed again and acts as a time check for anyone going past.

The July Team Sunday Lammas Service at Yew Tree Farm was brilliant - fellowship, food and a celebration of Warren's Avril's, Tim's and Linda's milestones in ministry. A wonderful occasion in a wonderful setting with a magnificent celebration cake for all to share afterwards, along with beer and barbeque.

We've just celebrated Harvest Festival, offering our gifts of fruit, flowers and vegetables as tokens of thanks for the entire harvest of our land. Warren had a 'magical' way of presenting this message at the Family Service and in the evening Father Reg from Clevedon Friary preached. As we live through such an unsettled time worldwide, it's good to be reminded of the words in one of the harvest readings - do not worry. Harvest Sunday was our last Cream Teas for the summer. It's been a bumper year and hugely rewarding socially. As ever, we are deeply indebted to all who help in a variety of ways month by month, it wouldn't happen without you! Yesterday we had our Harvest Supper. It was a really lovely time together and the wheelbarrow racing great fun. So much effort had been put into the decorated ones, they all deserved a prize. Congratulations, Nat, Thomas and Kate you absolutely flew it! At just 2 days old, I think we must have had our very youngest little person at any village event. Congratulations Simon, Louise and Rupert on your precious bundle.

The church was decorated with sunflowers, berries and garden flowers. Gerald's funeral was earlier in the week and it couldn't have been more appropriate than to use this harvest theme for him. He loved this village and he loved the church, was a choir boy and server and then later, has worked so

very hard for it through the Friends. We thank him for all he has been and will miss him very much.

The Friends of All Saints have had their AGM. We are constantly grateful for all they do. The BBQ and bar in the churchyard at the end of August was a fabulous evening, what a joy to see people just sitting around in the late afternoon sunshine, chatting and catching up over a pint and burger.

Sadly, our Mothers' Union branch has decided it's no longer able to keep going after well over 60 years of dedicated work in so many ways. The Deanery and Diocesan Presidents, together with friends from Yatton attended a service of closure in August, led by Warren.

We've recently had a really positive meeting with sides people and congregation members, updating on the projects in hand and receiving comments and feed-back. One fabulous result of this has been to receive extra offers of help with service preparation and since the meeting, completely unconnected, a wonderful offer of help with the churchyard upkeep from Jane and the young people she supervises.

The church continues to be unlocked on Saturdays and we know is used and appreciated. Tea, coffee and cold drinks are there for anyone who would like to help themselves. We'd love to hear from you if you have any thoughts about how the church can serve you and meet needs we haven't yet explored. We're thinking about provision for the children, busy mums and dads, a quiet hour of candlelight going in to the shorter days, Advent lunches.....just a few ideas so far.

There's a bit of a change to our October Evensong (8th). It will start at 3.30pm followed by sandwiches, cake and a cup of tea. or, if you'd rather not come to the service but would like some company for tea, just come along at 4.30pm instead. We'd love to see you.

November will be our Patronal Festival and this year a really special one! Invitations are on their way to all the children and families who have had baptisms in our ancient font since the year 2000. We're dedicating a Baptism Roll, beautifully prepared by Andrew Bryden of Yatton recording all those names. We're also celebrating the recent confirmation of candidates at Wells Cathedral and after the service, finishing with buffet lunch for everyone in the church. **Sunday 5th November 11am - keep the date free.**

Sue Thomas and Jackie Wright – Churchwardens

Kingston Toddlers We've started meeting again after the summer break, Village Hall Tuesdays 10.30 - 12 noon. At the beginning of September we sent Eliza off with our love. In church we had a little 'Moving on to Big School' service for her before getting the toys out for play. We've booked another soap making/lip balm making session for the mums and nearer Christmas, Sarah will come to do sugar craft with us again. Cake sale for Macmillan soon, look out for a notice in The Triangle.

Noise (*Village Show winning poetry entry*)

Girls and Boys on Jane Bell's field have fun with tennis balls and bats
and tease the revellers looking on despite the noise of rich birds-song.

Motorway hum is light today. "Thank God", the tourists camping say,
whilst locals oblivious to the hue are stoking up the barbeque.

Vicar Warren's holding forth about good meat and second course
and Peter H with pint in hand waxes lyrically about favourite band(s).

A sudden movement on Ham lane makes everyone turn as if in pain
as tractors, trailers racing by spread clouds of dust high in the sky.

The crackle n' smell of mixed kebabs has sparked the drivers in their cabs!

Hungry folk loitering by the spit are serupticiously hovering nearer it.

"I want some first", the little ones' cry standing by the ice-cream bin
as kith and kin despite their din have a bash at both and all tuck in.

The day's been good, time moves along as village friendships deepen
'midst cacophony of merry laughter, favourite song some are nearly sleepin'.

Historical society *officianados* are holding forth

'bout Roman villas long since gone and of those remains that nearby fell;

whilst some of us sense it's time to go as one can surely, surely tell
there's not a breath of wind at all, as harkening to another sound, we listen
to a pleasant distant toll for 'evensong' from village ancient own church bell.

Warren Williams

HIGHS (*Winning story in 100 words*)

The Ruwenzoris; leave behind the big game, past the tea estates and sweat
upwards through the rainforest to the land of giant groundsel. The air thins, and
Rock Hyrax liver gives flavour to the interminable rice diet.

How can it be so cold in the sunshine? With ropes, crampons and ice axes, we
reach the summit at sunrise and straddle the border between the Congo and
Uganda without a customs post in sight.

Extraordinarily, the exhilaration of ten days of isolation is almost surpassed by
the effervescence of a *coke* and an old copy of the *East African Standard*.

John Harris

There was a young maiden called Polly

**Who wanted farm – to her folly?
She ploughed all her fields
With astonishing yields
And sold them for shed loads of lolly**
(Winning Limerick written by Anita Harris)

Competitors in the Wheelbarrow race held before the Harvest supper.

