

Kingston Seymour Village Magazine



Issue 176 June - July 2018

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Congratulations to Ed Brooks for completing his Lands End to John O'Groats Cycle Ride. There is a note from Ed later in the Magazine.

Thank you everyone for being so patient as this issue is very late and also for all the contributions.

Sylvia Stokes - 01934 834461 ksmagazine@outlook.com

Next Magazine Copy Date Saturday 21st July

Neighbourhood Watch Thank you to everyone who filled in the form or contacted Kate Gillam with their details so she can keep us all up to date with any Neighbourhood watch information. If you wish to join this list but have not given your email address to Kate yet please do not hesitate to do so. - kswcoord@icloud.com

Kingston Seymour Village Flowers - The parish council hopes to take delivery of flowers from NSC for the village early during w/c 11th June. They will be delivered to the War Memorial green and put near the hedge. We are keen to get them planted as quickly as possible focusing around the church entrances, the stable, village green and the entrance gate planters. It would be great if there was a band of volunteers ready next week to help, in that way hopefully it can all be done without too much burden to anyone. If you would like to help perhaps you could contact me. Mike Sewell Chairman KSPC

Ladies who Lunch in April and May were a great success. Our next two Lunches at the Salt House will be on Wed 20th June and Thurs 12th July we will alternate the day from now on to give everyone a chance to join us. Meet in the Village Hall car park at 12.30 for car sharing or y make your own way there.

Please ring Margaret Laishley if you would like to come on 01934 834461 or 07749831927 or m.laishley@btinternet.com

Welcome to Kingston Seymour

Holly Megan Cole born on the 16/02/2018 weighing 8.15 pounds!
Congratulations to Richard and Clare.

William Robert Edward Simmons born on 23rd March - Congratulations to Kate and Ed.

Lands End to John O'Groats

Thanks to all of you for your donations and kind words of support for my cycle ride covering the length of Great Britain. After a hilly and hot start in Cornwall and Devon we had a stop at Congresbury before striking north up the Wye Valley and the West coast. We crossed into Scotland at Gretna then traversed to the east coast. Scotland was stunning and although there were hills we all had stronger legs and could enjoy the scenery. After 12 days we reached our destination for a photo, glass of champagne and then straight onto a coach for the long journey back. Miraculously we did not have a single drop of rain whilst we were cycling, not one. Thanks to all your help I have raised £1855.00 for Lifeskills the Bristol based safety education charity. Thank you for all of you support.

Ed Brooks

The Silent Danger

I'm not anti - cyclist and have used a push bike all my life on and off from the age of 7 years old around these lanes. I'm now 60 years old. However, in the last few years cyclists have increased dramatically around the lanes of Kingston Seymour. Obviously the type of cycling has changed too, no longer a little old fashioned bicycle leisurely going along with a basket on the front to get your milk from the farm just down the road (this type are indeed a collectable rarity, and what's more they even had a bell!!!).

There are indeed many cyclists coming around the lanes, maybe the majority, who are polite and not an issue for other road users, particularly pedestrians. Yet I have had many near incidents whereby fast cyclists have forced me, sometimes on my own and sometimes with the Learning Disability (LD) people that I care for, into the grass verges at the last moment before a collision would have taken place.

The speed that some cyclists come along at, gives the pedestrian very little time to react, this type of cyclist often does not use a bell or hooter, if, in fact they even have one. A bell or warning system is not actually a legal requirement, even in this day and age, for cyclists in England, Scotland and Wales! They sometimes call out instead; As a pedestrian one is not aware immediately of a call from behind, as to what it means, so the few seconds given to react to it is hardly enough. Autistic people, who I care for, do not often have great road sense or spatial awareness and with the surprise of a fast cyclist suddenly upon them, tend to try to move out of the way

inappropriately and on several occasions I have had to grab them and steer them to safety only just in time.

On one occasion last autumn an incident happened just as we were leaving the front gate of my place, about to cross to the other side of the lane to face the oncoming traffic. A cyclist appeared very fast and unexpectedly and as the four of us were reacting, he started swearing and using aggressive language, but did not stop or hardly slow down and was gone before I could even decide whether to have words with him.

In April I was walking to Church for a service, with one other person and walking on the “wrong” side the lane for a few feet to enter the little kissing gate, just a few feet away. A friend said hello from his gateway opposite and so I looked his way and as I did so a cyclist whizzed past me at about 25 miles an hour, and just missed me by inches. The friend remarked that he was horrified as to how the cyclist was so close to hitting me. The friend remarked that he was horrified as to how the cyclist was so close to hitting me and of course the cyclist was gone like the wind and probably completely unaware of it. I was left reeling and sincerely thankful during the prayers in church, for “our health and preservation...”

One Monday, in late May, in the afternoon, I was walking with one of my L D service users and a visitor along Middle Lane, towards Broadstone Lane, from a Westerly direction and again was taken by surprise from a cyclist calling out from behind and we got on to the verge just in time. The visitor remarked to me that the cyclist had not slowed up when he saw us or used a bell and how he then just cycled on extremely fast after the near miss. I was telling him about how this is becoming very much the norm here, when out of the blue another fast cyclist came along and this time, no verbal warning, no bell, no hooter, just angry words on being upon us. Both myself and LD service user were nearly ploughed into from behind, me helping her to safety on to the grass verge just in time. The cyclist carried on with no regard.

The visitor was not going to take that behaviour from a cyclist, he is a cyclist himself. He called after the man that he should have used his bell or hooter, if he even had one, and that he had not shown any respect for other road users, and that one of us was disabled. The cyclist flung down his bike and stood shouting terrible abuse at us. He used all sorts of swear words and the word C**t was used repeatedly. He also stated that he had fought in two wars and invited the visitor to fight with him.

Eventually the unpleasant situation ended with the cyclist backing down, and going on his angry way. The visitor jokingly stated to me that he did not mind being called a C**t but that he did resent being called a “Northern” C**t! He also believes that the cyclist was so angry because his trials times had been messed up. This could be one of the problems with this type of cyclist. They are treating the village lanes as a practice race track. The Police have been made aware and hopefully things could change, maybe in a hundred years time?

I now want to express the fact that although I am not against the cyclist mode of green transport and so on, it surely should be time that the Highway Code and especially the Law is updated to account for the mode of cycling nowadays. Things have changed drastically in the past 30 or 40 years since the general rules were last written. They seem so bland and some almost laughable on perusal.

In addition, Cyclists are not required by law to have any third party insurance against injuring others. They are not required to have a bell, horn or hooter as a warning. They are not required to be identifiable by a number plate; A number plate, although it may seem impracticable, could surely be designed as a lightweight plate, similar in size to a motorbike number plate. Cyclists are totally anonymous road users and there is no way of identifying them. Also, perhaps it would be a good idea if the Racing cyclists had to have a license. I will not go as far as to say that cyclists should pay road tax. That old chestnut is not an issue that I see relevant to this ongoing concern. Jane Bell

The Royal Wedding is celebrated in Kingston Seymour with Cream Teas



Church Notes

Spring is the time of annual meetings in the church year and election of churchwardens and PCC members. Jackie Wright has dedicated her time as

churchwarden for 4 years. Warm and welcoming, creating smiles wherever she is and determined, despite the aches and pains, to carry out jobs that needed doing, she has been a ray of sunshine. Now, quite rightly, she has decided to step down. On Sunday we gave her a small token of our huge gratitude with our love. Jackie, thank you for all you have done for All Saints and for the village. The very good news is that John Allday has been elected and brings his knowledge, experience and financial skills at a time when we shall need to look at the fabric of the building following the 5 yearly Quinquennial Inspection. Thank you John on behalf of everyone.

Mark Humphries and I have been working on some final calculations for the roof repair and the wonderful news is that we are almost there. The response since the theft last June has been completely overwhelming. Thank you so much. When all is finalised we will get notices out.

The Fleece Fair was a great afternoon once again - sheep shearing, cart rides, crafts to enjoy, music, home-made cakes, a pint of beer in the sun - all magical stuff. Thank you Tim and Jackie for hosting the event and to David and Sarah Harris for instigating it each year.

Christian Aid Week raised the magnificent sum of nearly £400. Thank you for your generosity and to Diana, Claire and Jackie H for delivering and collecting the red envelopes. If you still have yours and wanted to give, it's not too late, drop it in my letterbox at Woodview, The Triangle.

By the time you read this, the churchyard will have started to look ship-shape - weather permitting. Thank you to everyone who came to help and also to those who just quietly go in and do a bit of a trim or tidy when they can. It makes a huge difference if a few take responsibility for a little bit each.

Freddie Pearce was baptised recently , a lovely occasion celebrated with his many family and friends. Congratulations Hariette and Shaun and we send you all our love and prayers.

The service pattern for each month is:

1st Sunday 11am Family Service

2nd Sunday 6pm Evensong with Afternoon Tea at 5pm for anyone who would like to join in with that.

3rd Sunday 11am Holy Communion

4th Sunday 8.30am Holy Communion

Come and see if you haven't yet - you might be surprised!

And don't forget, the church is unlocked every Saturday and offers a very special quiet space to sit and be. Also Cream teas on 1st July, (A musical Treat with Harmony), 5th August (All things Vintage and 16th September (Harvest Festival Flowers)

Finally, news of Kabwe, our link parish in Zambia.

The hymn books requested have been collected together from neighbouring churches and are ready to be sent with funds from a concert at St Mary's, Yatton. On Saturday 14th July the Zambian Bishops will be at Wells Cathedral for a celebration service marking the 40th Anniversary of the link with Bath and Wells, followed by a picnic tea in the Bishop's Palace Gardens. A coach has been booked, please come if you'd like to. Details are in church or speak to Warren or Sue to book a seat.

Sue Thomas

Change – We Have A Choice

In 1789 Benjamin Franklin famously wrote, “.. in this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.” However, thirty years in business suggest to me there could be at least one more to add to Franklin's list. Change. In fact, in around 500 BC, the Greek philosopher Heraclitus said, “The Only Thing That Is Constant Is Change”.

Change happens all around us. At times you may not recognise it, but it is happening all the time. Technology is an obvious example. Who would have thought just 10 years ago that our everyday lives would be dominated by mobiles phones, online shopping, digital banking or a 24x7 connected society. Medical advancements, fashion, and even the varieties of food we eat are other notable ways change impacts our everyday lives. Change in business happens all the time and is often triggered by the need for an organisation to ‘keep up with its competition or even get ahead’, ‘meet customer's increasing expectations’ or fundamentally ‘to become more efficient in order to survive’. I am sure you can recall numerous instances where we have seen organisations dwindle and even cease to exist as a result of ignoring or reacting slowly to major industry change; Comet, Woolworths, Blockbuster, Toys r Us.

But how should we react to this change? Ignore it and put our head in the sand, or, acknowledge it and take action to face it. In 1988, Dr Spencer Johnson wrote a modern day parable called “Who Moved My Cheese?”. It is the story of two mice and two little humans who live in a maze searching for cheese. They find one day their cheese supply is finished, the story examines how each of the characters deals with this upheaval. Needless to say, those that embraced the change and took action to find more cheese were rewarded with an even better supply. The one character who didn’t accept the change was left to go hungry.

We have a choice how we respond to change, it is in our hands.

In the last 35+ years, congregation sizes for the Christian Church in the U.K. have continually declined. There are probably many reasons for this, but it is widely recognised that a failure of churches to respond to a rapidly changing society, and a failure to make itself relevant to the younger generation has underpinned this decline. There are exceptions though, and a growing number of churches in the U.K. have accepted the need to modernise and, in many cases, have seen a significant increase in numbers, especially young people.

So, what has this got to do with our village? If you consider that in the last 15 years, the number of dwellings has increased by at least 20% and the number of cars owned in the village has increased by 24% to a staggering 333 in 2011 (and probably higher now), I am sure we can agree the village has become much busier and seen significant change in that time. We all love the fantastic traditional community feel in our village, and despite the amount of change, this feel has been largely maintained by the superb efforts of those who organise and participate in the many village events we all enjoy. In fact, it is great to see the village embrace and put to use new technology with the new Village and Village Hall Websites as well as the Village Hall now providing Wi-Fi.

Sadly though, with the significant changes in the village comes a major downside. Increased traffic through the village. During the Speed and Traffic Flow survey conducted between 8th and 14th September 2015 approximately 18,850 speed measurements were recorded into and out of the village. Of those measurements, 29% were recorded over the 30mph Government Policy Speed Limit for Villages. For clarity, that is almost one-third of all vehicles in the village travelling faster than the maximum speed the Government considers safe for villages. In 2004, The Department of Transport set out the policy on achieving lower speed limits in villages and set minimum criteria for the

definition of what constitutes a village, for the purpose of applying a village speed limit of 30mph. Kingston Seymour more than meets all the criteria set.

As a community **we have a choice**. Do we ignore the increase in speeding traffic and its impact, or do we acknowledge it, and do something about it? Some in our community choose to ignore it and wish for things to stay the same. But by doing this they are clearly advocating that, contrary to the Government's policy, there should continue to be no limit on how fast vehicles can choose to travel through our village up to the National Speed Limit of 60mph. But can we really afford to do nothing? Government research in 2011 calculated that 66% of all road deaths occurred on Rural Roads. Also, numerous studies from around the world have determined that pedestrians hit by a car at 30mph have an 80% survival rate, at 40mph this falls to just 10%.

We have a choice. Do we ignore the increased traffic in the village? Or, do we acknowledge the change and take action to face it head on decisively and keep our village safe and tranquil.

If you are interested in acknowledging and facing this change head on with me, please email me on karlholt3001@gmail.com.

Alternately, if you think differently, please feel free to come and knock on my door at Lampley House, Lampley Road we'll have a few drinks and I'll share with you my best Brian Clough impersonation. Karl Holt

Sheep Shearing at the Fleece Fayre



Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute

Preparations are now really progressing for the above event which is over the weekend of 9th to 11th November and is aimed as a celebration of the end of WW1 and a commemoration to all those who have given their lives in defence of our country. There is a theme nationally of light which is driven out of Sir Edward Grey's famous remark "The lamps are going out all over Europe we shall not see them lit again in our lifetime".

The programme of events for the weekend will be as follows for which more details will be provided shortly including how you can join in at each of the events planned

- Fri 9 Nov 18 - Concert in the church
- Sat 10 Nov 18 – Daytime Village wartime history trail (aimed all ages) Cream Teas in the church
- Sat 10 Nov 18 - Evening - Period dinner in Village Hall
- Sun 11 Nov 18 - Daytime Wreath laying and Remembrance Service
- Sun 11 Nov 18 - Evening - Bonfire and Fireworks on the coast

Already many in the village are getting behind this event with the making of ceramic poppies which will be featured in displays in the village from September up to and beyond the weekend itself. Thank you to everyone who is supporting this great piece of community spirit.

Mike Sewell Chairman KSPC

Kingston Seymour Parish Council

It's been a busy time for the Parish Council and its officers – well, me – as the end of March sees the end of all Councils' Financial Year, the period for the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual – admin – meeting of the Parish Council.

Finances The Parish Council's finances are in good shape and you know that we haven't increased the Parish precept for this year either. The accounts have all been audited by our "internal" auditor, Chris Walton – to whom I offer a big vote of thanks for giving his time for free once again. The accounts have now gone off to the external auditors for checking and, from 11th June to 20th

July, everyone will have the legal right to inspect them. You don't have to wait until then though, if you have a question please let me know and I'll answer it.

Annual Parish Meeting There is a summary of the financial position in the presentation that was used at the Annual Parish Meeting and this is available in the Meetings section of our website. The presentation also contained the headlines of what the Parish Council has done in the past year. If you can't access the internet and would like a paper copy, just phone me (07902 798162) and I'll arrange for one to be delivered.

Our thanks to everyone who attended the APM and to our presenters. The Draft Minutes are on the web site but, in essence, the big topics were Fracking and Traffic.

I've written about Fracking in this magazine before (January 2017) and whilst the factual position has not changed, there is talk that the company who have the rights to explore in our area are getting closer to securing funding to continue. Your Councillors would like to know what you feel about Fracking and whether you want your Council to continue to maintain a watching brief – reacting to whatever planning application might arrive – or whether you want your Council to be more proactive – as have some Councils (e.g. Watchet) – and declare ourselves a “frack free” area in the hope that that dissuades anyone from proceeding.

I feel that it's important that you understand the implications of fracking and the APM presentation will help you start that journey and there is a wealth of information and commentary about it on the internet to consider. Please let us know what you think by using the “contact us” form on the website or phoning/writing to me or one of the Councillors. Thank you.

The other major topic that arose was traffic speed through the village. This was discussed in some depth at the 2016 APM and since then some traffic calming has been implemented where we have installed the gates on the Lampley Rd access to the village and introduced a Give Way instruction at the junction of Middle Lane. The traffic volumes into the village are seen by some to be rising and the speed of some vehicles as they enter and pass through the village are still a concern today to some parishioners.

Council Meeting – 16th May Because of the strength of feeling expressed at the APM, the next available Council Meeting on the 16th May was organised

around giving more time for parishioners to share their views on traffic and a good number of parishioners attended.

After a full discussion, the Chairman stated that the Parish Council continues to try and do the best for all of the village and summarised there were clearly many different views about whether a speed limit in the village was the best way forward to help manage vehicle speed but that there was a general consensus that further traffic calming should be considered.

So, we have approached NSC about a portfolio of possible ways forward and have asked for their ideas and input. Councillors intend to discuss the way forward – and the investment of the Parish funds - at an extra meeting of the Council to be held in June.

Annual Meeting of the Council – 16th May At this meeting, we discussed “admin” items for the Council including the re-election of Mike Sewell as our Chairman and Pete Harris as the Deputy Chairman. These two and our other Councillors remain in post until at least 2nd May 2019 when there will be local elections. If you would like to be part of the Council from next year, details of how to proceed will be issued by North Somerset early in the new year.

As summer breaks out, please keep an eye on the village website for news of the latest happenings in the village and area

Steve Dixon, Parish Clerk

Clevedon Summer10K Road Race will be passing through Kingston after 8.00pm on Tuesday 12th June. This will involve Back Lane, Middle Lane and the Triangle. Coming in and out of the Village at this time may be quite slow.

More Lucky Lotto Winners -Lucky winners of the village Bonus Ball Lotto in March and April were Ros Woodman, Alan Bakrania (twice!), Hugh Edwards, Nathan and Luke Cox, Jude Simmons (twice!) and Bryan Thomas. Most recently, the lotto fund has paid for the new ‘comfy’ chairs in the hall foyer and bar.

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. For just £1 a week you can win £33 if the Bonus Ball is your number.

Flower Guild - We are looking forward to our outing to Hestercombe Gardens at the beginning of July and to the visit to Winchester Flower Festival on 6th September. We hope these visits will be enjoyed by all those who are going. We have no special events looming for arranging flowers until the autumn.

I would like to put out a request for volunteers for the Flower Rota. The request is for something to be put in The Chancel and by The Pillar in Church but does not have to be an arrangement but can be vases of flowers or pot plants. There is money available towards the cost and members of The Guild would be happy to do the flowers on behalf of someone. The Rota is in the porch of the Church so please add your name against your preferred date. Many thanks.

Sue Hyde. Chair.

And finally probably the worse joke ever!!

Defra found over 200 dead crows on the M42 near Birmingham recently and there was concern they might have died of Avian flu. A pathologist examined the remains of all the crows and to everyone's relief confirmed the problem was not Avian Flu.

The cause of death appeared to be from vehicular impacts. However during analysis it was noted that varying colours of paint appeared on parts of the birds. By analysing these paint residues it was found that 98% of the crows had been killed by impact with motor cycles, while only 2% were killed by cars.

An ornithological Behaviourist was then called in to determine if there was a cause for this disproportionate percentages of motorbike kills versus car kills. He informed Defra that as crows are scavengers they feed on road kill and they always have a look-out crow to warn of danger. More work was done and the solution to the mystery was discovered. This was that while all lookout crows could call "Cah", not single one could shout bike!!!!

(I did warn you. - For the faint hearted please do remember no crows were injured in the telling of this joke as it is all fiction!!)

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 careers, fire safety checks, advice on unwanted callers and scams etc. 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



Kingston Seymour Sports 2018

Saturday 14th July

Family Sports, Stalls, Bar, Food
& more from 2pm

‘Hayfever’

featuring **Replica** from 6pm!

Village Cricket Match 2018

Sunday 15th July

All at Bulbeck Field , Back Lane

Look out for notices in the Triangle and posts on
Facebook for more details in July.

VILLAGE SHOW

SATURDAY 25th AUGUST 2018

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

Entries please by Saturday 18th August

**To: Kate Esler, The Dairy House, Yew Tree Lane
or the Village Post Office [Tuesday mornings]
or Kingston Garage Back lane**

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

Open Day

**At Honeymead's Home Field Nature Reserve
(The Old Sports Field Back Lane)**

**Sunday 8th July
10.00am – 5pm**

Guided Tours

**All Welcome
Bob and Sue Watts**

Parking in Home Field for Disable badge Holders only.

SUMMER BARN DANCE

WHEN

**Sat 23rd June
7:30PM – LATE**

WHERE

**Kingston Seymour
Village Hall**

FOOD BY EDESIA'S KITCHEN!

**THE HALL ARE PROUD TO BE
PARTNERING WITH THE NEW
RESTAURANT IN THE VILLAGE BASED
AT THE LAMBING SHED, BULLOCK
FARM!!**

**PROFESSIONAL
BARN DANCE
CALLER MR
ZIKKING!**

ADVANCE TICKETS

£10 from:

**Kate & Andy @
Orchard End;
Alice @
Kingston
Garage;
Tuesday Post
Office**

**FABULOUS
HOT AND COLD
AMERICAN
STYLE BUFFET
INCLUDED IN
TICKET
PRICE!!**