

# *Kingston Seymour Village Magazine*



*Issue 189 AUG - SEPT 2020*

# Issue 189 August – September 2020

I find it hard to believe that we are still in an easing lockdown. I wonder how many people realised it would go on for 130 days and still counting. Yes, I am still keeping a diary!

When we first came here now 36 years ago the idea of a set of traffic lights even temporary in the village would have been laughable and two sets ridiculous, hence the front cover photo. It is good that we are having vital work done but such a muddle as to who is doing what in the next few weeks. Hey ho at least someone cares about us.

I would like to welcome Rev Fran Binding, our new vicar who moved into the Village in July. You'll find a letter from Fran later in the magazine, but I know we all hope you will be very happy here and wish you the best of luck.

Sylvia Stokes - Editor [ksmagazine@outlook.com](mailto:ksmagazine@outlook.com) 01934834461

## Magazine Copy Date Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September

### Message from Your Village Agent

Hi everyone, I've been missing you all at the Tuesday coffee mornings and hope that you are all keeping safe and well.

Whilst COVID-19 is still limiting the way I can work (remotely), I thought I'd remind you that I am still here to help in any way I can, whether it's a chat or help with any problem (big or small) you may have. Just get in touch either by phone on 01275 878180, 0771 0580751 or email [sarah.friend@curo-group.co.uk](mailto:sarah.friend@curo-group.co.uk).

Here's hoping that normality will resume soon and I can return to your lovely Village.

Until we meet again, stay safe and well

Sarah Friend

## COVID-19 Update from the Village Hall

Over the past few weeks the VH Committee has been busy assessing the new guidelines in respect to opening the hall and how we are to ensure that our patrons remain safe and socially distanced. As you can imagine, there are a lot of new hoops to jump through before we are able to open the hall and to date these have been seen as being unachievable within our hall. Therefore, we have taken the difficult decision to keep the hall closed until, at the earliest, mid-September 2020. However, that said we are not sitting on our laurels and I thought that I would just update you with our current situation:

Changes to KSVH - what you can expect:

We are working hard to adjust things here at the Hall to keep all our visitors and volunteers safe. We are investigating how the hall can be used going forward. Upon opening there will be a new one way system put in place to access and exit the premises. There will be “sanitisation stations” on entry, exit and at key locations within the hall. Numbers of users and types of activities will be reduced to comply with Government and ACRE guidelines. We are considering the following:

- The Kitchen and Skittle Alley may not be available for hire. Cleaning within the kitchen will be cost prohibitive and social distancing cannot be maintained within the skittle alley.
- The Main Hall will be limited to 30 occupants and it will be the responsibility of the hirer to ensure any events or activities are carried out in accordance with applicable social distancing guidelines and new pre and post cleaning routines.
- Exercise classes could be limited to 12 persons plus 1 instructor.
- Hirers/users will be required to provide an attendance register after each session which we will hold for 21 days for Track and Trace purposes.
- If we are able to run pub nights, they will be outside and supported by a table delivery service. Attendance will be registered to support any Track and Trace.
- Any commercial undertakings using the hall (this would include exercise classes) would need to provide proof of their own liability and indemnity insurance at time of booking. This is a stipulation from the hall’s insurers and one that we have to ensure is in place.

Other controls may have to be put in place dependent on the activity, but we will ensure that hirers are aware of these at time of booking. One last element is that we are having to make changes to the hire charges. The cost for a hire will now raise to £10 per hour with a minimum booking of 3 hours. We have not taken this decision lightly but due to the amount of additional checks and cleaning required we have had to increase the charges associated with hires.

As you will be aware, these changes may be with us for some time and we therefore ask you to bear with us during this challenging period of adjustment.

We thank you for your patience while we make these modifications and we will let you know as soon as we have a reopening date.

In the meantime we are progressing with projects within the hall that will be in place when we do reopen. The external windows and doors are being replaced, we are decorating the skittle alley and hall, we are upgrading the toilet facilities and will be renovating the floor in the hall. All exciting stuff and I hope that we will be able to reopen in September to share this with you all.

We look forward to seeing you all again!

## **Thank You from the Clark/Holt Family**

We as a family wanted to thank everyone in the village for their love and kindness over the last few very difficult months. Being relative newbies to the village, the tremendous support we have received has reminded us what a wonderful place and community we live in.

We would like to thank All Saints Church for their support especially when interring Joy's ashes, in particular Avril, Sue and Mark.

And finally, we would like to thank Sue Lang for making face masks in memory of Joy and raising an amazing £350 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

David, Bev, Karl, Abi and Ben.

## **Historical Society**

Due to the current uncertain situation of Covid-19 we do not anticipate restarting our meetings in September. We do hope to hold the meeting which had to be cancelled last March for next March 2021, and also to hold the AGM and Social in April 2021. Details to follow.

We also would like to have a summer evening history walk during August for members only, if they would like to, and we should be able to socially distance well enough for this. A suggested walk would be to view the Roman site on Ham Farm, now in ownership of the Wildfowlers, from nearby fields, as this is now a lake with a lot of wildlife thriving there. For those who do not know, the land was taken by the EA to rebuild the banks of the River Yeo. This walk would be a flat walk through several fields but with an uneven track and possibly muddy depending on the weather so please come with suitable footwear.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August and if weather is not suitable then Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August, meeting at 7.00pm at Greenacre, Ham Lane. There is some parking nearer than this, but we will need to meet together to be guided to the parking.

For details please contact Jane on 01934 877322 or Anne on 01934 833888

## **Something to Amuse**

These announcements which were apparently made during religious services or published in religious news bulletins.

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

## Children's Challenge!

Sue Lang has been doing some wonderful charity work during lockdown with plant sales for the Food Bank and face masks for Macmillan Nursing. Now her granddaughter has picked up the baton and is raising money for the Children's Hospice South West by walking or running the equivalent of a marathon over a length of time. What a brilliant idea. The Hospice, like many other charities, is struggling for funding because of covid, so how about this challenge to our village children during the summer holidays - 26 laps of the village - walk it, run it, bike it, as a family group with each one being part of the total, or as individuals, in your own time, however you'd like to challenge yourselves?

It would be lovely to say we could save the last lap until the weekend before school starts again and all get together at last, but that's not looking very likely so.... over to you, get some sponsorship and see what we can do collectively.

Thanks you Sue for such a great idea.

Sue Thomas

## Kingston Seymour Parish Council

Firstly, the Parish Council expresses its thanks to everyone who has helped the Kingston Seymour community get through what has been an extraordinary period. With only a limited end in sight (the library is back!) and autumn approaching, looking after our fellow villagers will remain as important as ever and I know that you are doing all that you can to keep the "*Kingston Spirit*" well and truly to the fore!

During the period of lockdown concerns have been raised about various '*anti-social*' occurrences which have affected the village. These include an increase in litter, dog mess, and noise from power tools, chainsaws. We would like to thank those parishioners who, as part of their '*lockdown walk*' have been collecting litter from around the village and ask that we all continue to show consideration to our fellow villagers.

The Parish Council met using Zoom video conferencing for a Planning Application Meeting in June and has just met for a full meeting using the same technology. Personally, I'm looking forward to returning to face to

face meetings but at least we have a way of keeping Parish Council business moving forward in the meantime.

Quite high on the Agenda was the situation regarding our roads. We have seen the road markings repainted (at no additional cost) after they were only poorly laid in the autumn. The far end of Ham Lane has been resurfaced and is probably now the best piece of tarmac in the village! There has been work in Back Lane and some pothole filling elsewhere.

Lampley Road has seen all of its drains cleared and some repairs made in advance of resurfacing which may still happen in August. Truespeed and Bristol Water have also been working to bring robust services to the village, not only is Lampley the busiest thoroughfare above the ground but it's also critical under the ground!

You may have read that Highways England have allocated funds to NSC to let them complete the Tutshill Multi Access Route. Preparation and design is underway this year and it is anticipated that work on site will begin in March 2021 for completion late that year.

An Inspector has been appointed to investigate the objections that have been raised about the coastal footpath. Site visits and hearings about these are expected in the next few months. We are also working on a Rights of Way review for NSC and Councillors will be further discussing this in September.

Our Police team has seen the departure of PCSO Rebecca Budd who has moved to commence study into becoming a full PC and the arrival of PCSO Eleanor Hicks. We were advised that there had been a spate of thefts from vans in Clevedon and two catalytic converters had also been removed, so please ensure that your property is secured, alarmed and if possible, being watched by your own CCTV.

We have completed the required audit process and the formal period of Public Examination has started and lasts until 28th August. Please contact me if you'd like any information. Financially, the Parish is in good shape with some £8k in our current account and £7k in reserves.

We will be supporting the late season cutting of our hedges and verges again this year and we are looking at ways of tidying other areas of the village through the award of small and focussed contracts.

Please do contact one of your Councillors or me if you have any comments or questions about any of the above. If you have access to

the internet, there is always new village news and *(soon we hope)* events on the Kingston Seymour website and please let me know if there's something you'd like me to put on there to share with the village.

Keep staying safe! *Steve Dixon, Parish Clerk*

Email: [kingstonseymourpc@gmail.com](mailto:kingstonseymourpc@gmail.com)

Website: [www.kingstonseymour.org.uk](http://www.kingstonseymour.org.uk)

Phone: 07902 798 162

## Church Notes

Reverend Fran Binding has arrived! What lovely news to begin church notes this time. I know she has already met some of the people immediately around Kingfisher Cottage and I'm absolutely certain will soon become a loved and familiar face around the village. She very much wants to be part of the community and we look forward to getting to know her. Fran's first service at Kingston will be on Sunday 16th August 11am, a simple service of Morning worship of about 40 minutes, and it would be lovely to see as many as possible to offer her a warm Kingston welcome. Fran's licensing will be a very short service by Zoom purely for the legal process, involving just those few people who need to be part of that.



*Social distancing ready for the service (The front row are one family)*

We re-opened for services last week and will continue to alternate Sundays with Kenn during August at least. The first, led by Avril, was deliberately not about thanksgiving for being together again, lovely as that was, but more about remembering the anxieties, struggles, loneliness, heartache felt by many during these past weeks and in particular, the loss

of seven dearly loved family members to our community since March, each one remembered by name and with a lighted candle.

The village has continued to witness great sadness, firstly with the sudden passing of Paul Adams and then, in the same week, the untimely and tragic death of Matt Davey. Paul, a hugely talented musician, together with Margaret was a familiar figure at our concerts. Matt has used his skills many times for All Saints, mending metal door handles, creating a beautiful iron cross for the Sunday School and giving demonstrations of blacksmithing at Flower Festivals. So much creativity in them both and such a tragic loss to those who love them. To their families we offer our deepest sympathy, our love and our prayers.

In the same week we learned of Chris Simpson's stroke. It's a huge relief to hear that she is steadily improving and that Hugh has been able to visit, albeit briefly, from the beginning. Chris, we send our love and look forward to seeing you home again as soon as possible. Other much loved people have had hospital visits for various treatments, our love and prayers are with you all.

As a community we have witnessed several comings and goings with the latest being the news that Margaret Laishley is moving to be closer to family. Margaret will be dearly and greatly missed. She has always taken an active role in everything she has become involved with, from Mothers' Union treasurer, outings co-ordinator for the Flower Guild and absolute stalwart helper at any social event we hold. Most recently she has organised Ladies who Lunch, seeing a need for a social group to share a meal together. Margaret, thank you for all you have contributed to Kingston and we wish you every happiness in your new home.

We had a brilliant working party day last weekend, tackling some of the bigger churchyard jobs. Thank you so much to Mark for organising it, but especially to those who gave much of their day with hedge trimmers, strimmers and mowers to clear overgrown areas. What a difference now!

**Services for August are:**

**Sunday 2nd 11am Service of Morning Worship and dedication of some new altar linen.**

**Sunday 16th 11am Morning Worship, Fran's 1st Service at Kingston.**

**Sundays 9th and 23rd, 11am Morning Service at Kenn**

**Sunday 30th no service**

Zoom services will continue throughout August, 6pm each Sunday. Please contact John Allday or Sue Thomas if you would like to receive the link for any of these.



*Some of the churchyard working party taking a break.*

**Thank You Roger and Janet Calderbank** who, many of you probably don't realise, have been keeping our lanes litter free during lockdown. Some of you may have spotted them going around with plastic bags full of rubbish they have collected on their walks. So, thank you both from everyone in the village for this very thoughtful act which I am sure is not always pleasant.



Missing Cat by the name of Luna. Black/grey and white. Please contact me on 01934834461 if you spot her anywhere and I will pass the details to the owner. Many thanks Sylvia Stokes

### **And finally a few awful jokes.**

How many birds does it take to change a light bulb?  
Normally three but toucan!

I didn't go jogging in 2017; I didn't go jogging in 2018; I didn't go jogging in 2019: it's now 2020 & I haven't been jogging – This is a running joke!

Patient - Doctor, Doctor, I feel like a supermarket.

Doctor - How long have you felt like this?

Patient - Ever since I was Lidl!

## A Letter from our New Vicar

Dear all,

Thank you for all the welcomes I have had thus far after moving into Kingfisher Cottage. At last I have unpacked all the boxes and am beginning to feel at home.

The team must be a magnet to Welsh folk as I too am a South Walian born in Abergavenny and brought up for most of my young life in Carmarthen. I then studied music at York University, did a PGCE in Music and Drama in Newcastle upon Tyne and began my teaching career in Leicester. From there I moved to Bridgnorth in Shropshire where I had eighteen happy and eventful years as Head Music and

wider school management at one of the two comprehensive schools in the town. I was ordained deacon in 2002 and joined the team at Bromyard, Herefordshire as curate. From there I moved to a parish in Worcester where I was also Chaplain to the City Council and Assistant Area Dean. I had a complete change when I moved to Wraxall with Failand to be nearer family and I have spent almost eight happy years there. I had no intention of retiring but when my grandson was born I knew I wanted to be able to spend more time with him, my daughter and my son in law so the opportunity to apply for the House for Duty post at Kenn and Kingston Seymour was a real gift. How blessed am I that I was offered the post! Thank you.

Now a new chapter and I am so excited to begin my new ministry and semi-retirement among you. I have a shepherd's hut in a friend's garden in Upton upon Severn which is my bolt hole and I often spend time in Bristol with my daughter, son-in-law and grandson so when my car is not on the drive overnight then these are the most likely places I might be. Other than that I shall be around and about in Kenn and Kingston Seymour getting to know the community that God has graciously called me to. I love music, literature, gardening, people and God and look forward to spending more time with them all. Huge thanks for this opportunity.

*Fran*

