

KILMERSDON PARISH NEWS



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021

THE POETIC BEAUTY OF SNOWDROPS

Fair Maids of February is a beautiful old country name for the snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*) though this year they have begun to appear in my garden in early December. There are other just as evocative names which they go by such as Candlemas Bells, from their use as a symbol of purity for the Feast of the Purification of St Mary on February 2nd or Snow piercer, from the French *pierce-neige*.

Snowdrops are probably native in several parts of Britain, notably in the Welsh Borders and in western parts of England but become less widespread as one progresses northwards. They prefer stream sides and damp woods and will carpet the ground in a few years if they like the soil. Elsewhere snowdrops can be found in drifts where they have escaped like an advancing wave from old gardens and washed across the ground under hedgerows and copses. There were great swathes along the escarpment in the Vale of Belvoir in Nottinghamshire near where I used to live, and I was thrilled to find that similar sheets of joyfulness exist in Somerset. It was delightful to discover, during our first winter in Kilmersdon, that there were small pools of snowdrops in the little wood behind us and lovely ribbons of them along a shady bank in our garden.

Two sturdy grey-green leaves, tipped with white, are the first part of the snowdrop to push through the soil or snow. Enclosed between them are the delicate stalk and flower bud. The bud is protected by a transparent

membrane from which it breaks forth to reveal a frail white drop, elegant in its simplicity.

In sunny weather the flower opens out showing that the three white outer petals are surrounded by three shorter ones which are fringed with green. Green streaks lead to a nectar source deep within the flower, but few pollinating insects are about this early so snowdrop seeds are seldom produced.

The snowdrop may be missing from the pages of most herbals but it is often found amongst the pages of poetic volumes. Perhaps Christina Rossetti's few lines best describe the promise of awakening that the snowdrop brings: *Brother joy to you!*

*I've brought some snowdrops;
only just a few,
But quite enough to prove the world awake,
Cheerful and hopeful in the frosty dew
And for the pale sun's sake.*

Julie Palmer



NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

And goodbye to bitter sweet 2020, Covid 19 inflicting myriad sadnesses and great disruption to people's lives running parallel to joy in the many acts of kindness it spawned in human nature and its will to survive.

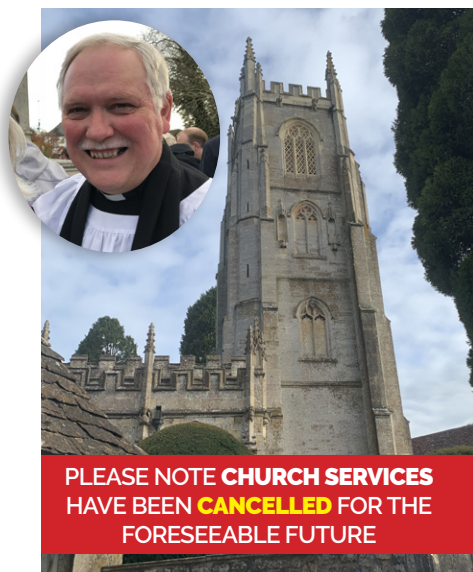
The pandemic has continued to take its toll on club news, so we hope you will enjoy reading the features about local people highlighting their interests. We would like to hear from more of you so if you have an interest or hobby that you would like to share please contact us before the **Feb 20th deadline for our March/April issue**. Try to limit your articles to 350 words and email them to us at: kilmersdonnews@gmail.com.

Let's all trust that the Covid 19 vaccines will set us free to again explore and hopefully enjoy whatever the new "normal" of life will be.

Finally, may we wish everyone a safe and positive 2021 and remind you all that we still need to look out for those who may need our help or support in different ways.

Sue & Penny

suedmeadows@gmail.com
pennyhutton.ph@gmail.com



**PLEASE NOTE CHURCH SERVICES
HAVE BEEN CANCELLED FOR THE
FORESEEABLE FUTURE**

As I write this, the year is drawing to a close and the general consensus is that 2020 may be a year to forget rather than one to remember. Christmas too was very different, with many families having to spend the festive season apart and not even being allowed to hug or comfort each other with that reassuring touch which conveys so much more than mere words ever can. As we remember in our prayers those who have lost loved ones, we can also count ourselves fortunate that we have survived.

There is a well-known saying that tells us it is always darkest just before the dawn breaks. Covid numbers are increasing and tougher restrictions are being put in place, but at the same time it has just been announced that a second vaccine has been approved for distribution within the next

few days. This is a significant game changer with enough doses to inoculate the entire population and therefore, hopefully, to get us back on to the path of progress towards some sense of 'normality.'

Another monumental change about to take place is the United Kingdom's final exit from the European Union after four years of haggling about terms of departure. I suspect that the next twelve months are certainly going to be very different from the last twelve. I wonder - does that fill you with fear or excitement! A philosopher once made the observation that 'people don't mind change, so long as it doesn't make any difference!'

Well, I for one, am looking forward to some changes, and I hope that you are too - for the positive of course! Regardless of what happens, I know that my faith is a rock on which I can stand firm and that no matter what occurs, God will give me the strength to keep on keeping on. Jesus himself has promised that he will 'never leave us or forsake us.' And so, I hope that you will find the following prayer useful as we begin this New Year together.

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the New Year: 'Give me light that I may tread safely into the unknown.'

And he replied: 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than a light and safer than a known way.'

So I went forth and finding the hand of God, trod gladly into the night.'

May God bless you all on your journey into 2021 and may He uphold you in the palm of His hand.

With my prayers and best wishes to you all.
Rev. David Izzard

KILMERSDON & BABINGTON PARISH

Vicar
The Rev'd David Izzard
07786 863912

Church Wardens
Mrs Rosie Kane 01761 439062 &
Mrs Penny Hutton 01761 435193

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA. As services have had to be suspended for the foreseeable future, there will be no church cleaning required until services resume.

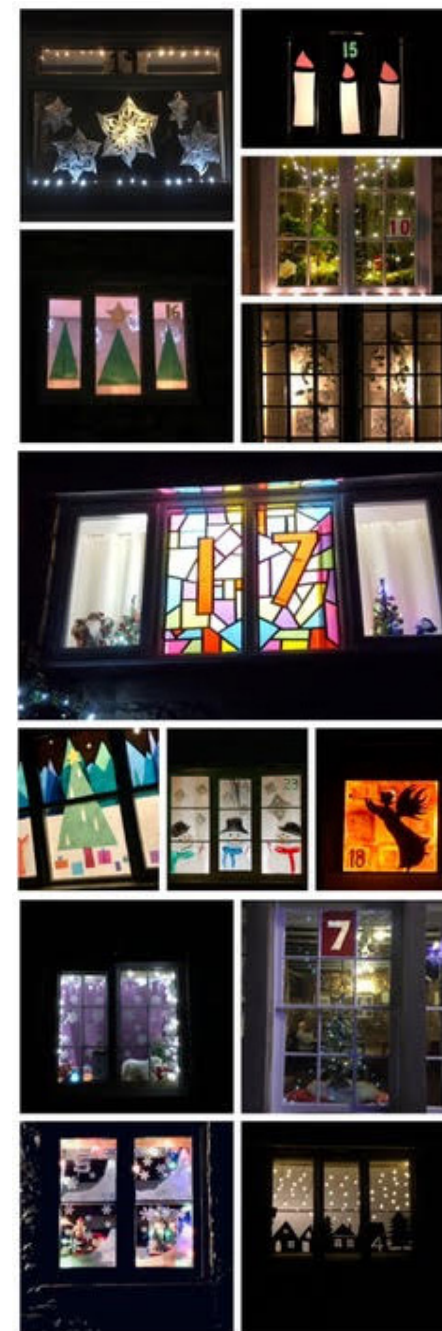
Kilmersdon Village Advent Windows

December in Kilmersdon was a lot more fun than anticipated as every night at 6.30pm, even in the rain, the snow and the dark, a (socially distanced) crowd gathered to witness the opening of a Window on the Kilmersdon Living Advent Calendar event. There were so many brilliant windows and everyone made such a huge effort. Alongside the opening of the Window, sometimes there was a fire; sometimes mulled wine; chocolate and even crackers! There were dogs with festive collars; new puppies; magic trains moving around windows; festive headgear; festive hip flasks; big windows; small windows; windows that changed at the last minute; windows with music; windows that were outside; windows that took on global themes; windows that represented items from different countries. All the Windows told a story.

Said organiser Janet Whitelaw- Jones....

"What was so lovely about this December in Kilmersdon was the spirit with which people took part. Sometimes you never quite know how these things will turn out. December was a hard month for many. For me it's a month I usually love. But with the backdrop of COVID and not being able to visit our family in Ireland as well as the death of a close friend, it risked not being what I'd hoped. Therefore, I was actively looking for good things each day to connect me to a sense of place and community. I was so delighted each evening to wander down the lane from Walton Farm in anticipation of seeing friendly faces, hearing the day's chat and standing in awe of what had been created. The final gathering on the 24th at the Lock Up was so joyful and special. There was magic in the air that night!

I thank each and every one of you for taking part and for joining in with such delight and joy. And yes, I think we will do it again in 2021."



SLOW SOMERSET

After 20 years of writing and updating a multitude of guide books, former Kilmersdon resident Norm (Darren) Longley admits that researching and writing his latest book "Slow Somerset" has given him the most pleasure.

As well as mentioning Kilmersdon's own famous Jack and Jill nursery rhyme legend, the diversity of Somerset (the 7th largest county in England) confounded Norm's expectations, with discoveries like a hospital cemetery in Wells to the wreck of a Norwegian barque on Berrow Beach.

"Throw in bracing coastal and moorland walks, and sensational views from the moderately lofty heights of Black Down, Brean Down, Cadbury Castle and Dunkery Beacon, to name but a few, and it was an absolute blast - made all the more enjoyable by having family frequently in tow, said Norm, born in Somerset and now living in Chilcompton.

He lists further highlights as seeing Common Cranes on Somerset Levels (recently reintroduced there 400 years after becoming extinct); being stalked by cows whilst wandering around Stanton Drew's standing stones, and enjoying a bracing midwinter stroll along Clevedon Pier, which is the UK's only Grade 1 listed pier.

"Naturally there was plenty of cheese and cider

to boot in the course of my research," Norm continued, urging readers not to miss Somerset Cider Brandy in Burrow Hill, uniquely the country's only apple distillery. "And if you have never been to Roger Wilkins' Cider Barn, make haste before he retires!"

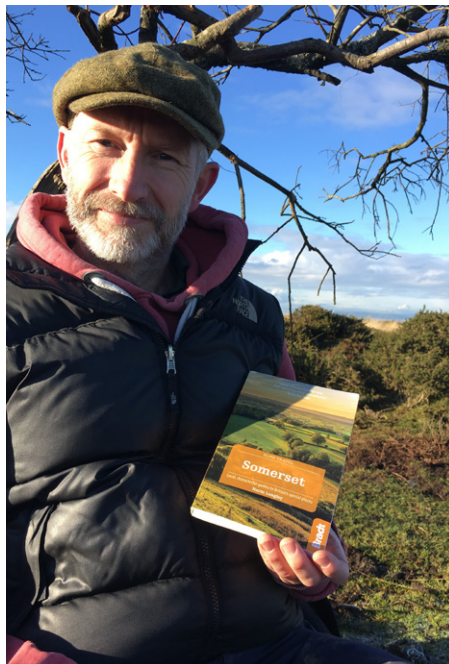
But one of Norm's greatest joys was the opportunity to explore what was, literally, on his doorstep, not only because he was able to write about people and places one does not get to hear about in other guide books, but because he never truly appreciated what was just down the road.

Hence he spent a wonderful afternoon at the superb Radstock Museum which sheds fascinating light on the North Somerset coal-field; enjoyed a ride on the inspiring Somerset and Dorset Railway and spent a day discovering Mells' architectural treasures, which include

the many contributions of Edwin Lutyens.

"Given the current restrictions we all face, there is no better time to indulge in this wonderful county of hours," Norm concluded "And if Slow is your thing, then Somerset will be too."

You can order Norm's book from bradt-guides.com or directly from him, signed and hand delivered! via dclongley@hotmail.com: or on 07814/032532.



In praise of trees



Like pretty much all of Charlton's residents, Jess Swales and her husband Simon can often be found wandering the woods behind their house. It's usually intentional. In fact, Jess has been working with the Woodland Trust for a while and recently contributed to their publication "The Understory", a love letter to 52 remarkable trees, receiving a silver birch sapling in return.

"Particularly at this time, we need trees more than ever, and people to notice and nurture them," said Jess. "I preach about it all the time for work (less often practice it), but immersing in nature really can have a positive effect on your immune system, blood pressure, cortisol levels and mental health. If you want the science behind it, trees release phytoncides, airborne antimicrobial chemicals that help protect them and plants against germs and insects. Japanese researchers found that inhaling these phytoncides lowers stress hormones and enhances natural killer cell activity in humans too, hence the whole shinrin-yoku/forest bathing movement that has ensued.

"Walking in the woods is also an excellent antidote to 'place blindness', or spending too much time indoors or in front of a screen. Throughout our evolution we've spent 99.9% of our time in nature, so our physiology is still adapted to it, which means we can slow down and resynchronise with it."

We are lucky in Somerset to have so many beauty spots. Just taking a few moments to take a breath or appreciate what's around you when you're among trees can produce a few surprises, such as a deer, owl, buzzard, unicorn...

Jessica Swales

Calendar supports Move the Mind

A calendar is currently on sale to support **Move The Mind**, the Kilmersdon farm yard arena project that, through interaction with horses, other animals and birds, brings joy, confidence and calm to young people on the autistic spectrum.



Pictured with the calendar is MtM's inspirational founder Nicole Gillard who praised the initiative of a pupil from a specialist school in Frome, who created it by photographing the MtM guinea pigs to feature each month in different scenarios, wearing outfits she had designed and made.

Nicole's project in Hoares Lane is always looking for volunteers to help with the children, animals and general handiwork, so if you have a few hours a week to spare, please contact her on 07483221030. You can also support MtM by making a small donation or purchasing a calendar for £10, and to see more of the work it carries out, visit its website www.movethemind.net

If readers would like to receive their parish news online each month, please contact Penny on 01761 435193 or Sue on 01761 437855

Kilmersdon Parish Council

Kilmersdon Parish Council's next meetings will be on January 18 & February 15 at 7.30pm on Zoom. Links to join them can be found the week before on the news section of the www.kilmersdonpc.co.uk website.

If you have any community events or notices you would like to go up on the website please contact the Parish Clerk – clerk@kilmersdonpc.co.uk

Kilmersdon WI

We are very sorry we are unable to give a date for a future WI meeting, but hope life in the Institute will resume normality very shortly. In the meantime our members have received a Christmas card and a small gift delivered in person by one of the committee plus, I am sure, many phonecalls over the festive period. Our secretary Julia has been working tirelessly forwarding County email messages, distributing letters and County News etc to members without internet.

May we take this opportunity to wish all our members and friends a Happy New Year.
Susan Knatchbull and Elaine Herbert.

The Jolliffe Arms

Jolliffe Arms Wishing all customers a happy new year - hoping for a better 2021!

We will be starting our pre-order takeaway service again this week (7th) from 5-8pm on Thursdays to Saturdays.

We'll also be offering our Sunday roasts again between 12 & 3. **All of these must be pre-ordered by ringing us on: 01761 436699.**

Census 2021

**census
2021**

Households across Mendip will soon be asked to take part in Census 2021... a snapshot of modern society.

A once-in-a-decade survey it will give the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales, an event that has been carried out every decade since

1801, with the exception of 1941.

It will be the first run predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets.

"A successful census will ensure everyone from local government to charities can put services and funding in the places where they are most needed," said Iain Bell, deputy national statistician at the Office for National Statistics.

"This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, schools and new transport routes. That's why it is so important everyone takes part and we have made it easier for people to do so online on any device, with help and paper questionnaires for those that need them."

Census day will be on **March 21**, but households across the country will receive letters with online codes allowing them to take part from early March.

The census will include questions about everyone's sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And, for the first time, people will be asked whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

For more information, visit census.gov.uk.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**SPARK
SOMERSET**
INSPIRING COMMUNITIES

Volunteers are urgently needed by Somerset Covid Vaccination Programme to greet and direct people attending vaccination centres.

If you can help, please click on the following link that takes you to Spark a Change, Somerset's volunteering platform. www.sparkachange.org.uk/o/Somerset-NHS-Foundation-Trust. For any queries, email: volunteer@sparksomerset.org.uk.

Generally the pandemic has inspired many people to want to give something back to society and there are hundreds of local Somerset charities and community organisations who would love to hear from new volunteers. To find out more click on the **Spark a Change** website.



"KILMERSDON HAPPENING"

January Saturday 16th – the annual Wassail will **not** be taking place in 2021 due to ongoing coronavirus restrictions.

Book Club – will resume in January. Hoorah! something to look forward to during the long dark nights!
Contact: Jacki at jikihm@hotmail.com

February Saturday 20th – Sadly, it has also been decided to **CANCEL** the community litter picking event due to the new lockdown and the incredibly rapid rise in cases of coronavirus.

However, don't despair as you can still, on an individual basis, collect litter in your local area. During lockdown why not make it part of your daily outdoor exercise? Don't forget to wear stout waterproof gloves to keep your hands safely clean and dry. A pair of Marigold gloves worn under a large pair of gardening gloves works well. If you'd like to send in a photo of yourself with your litter collection then we will try to publish a selection of pictures in the next issue of Parish News. Happy litter hunting!

Kilmersdon Players are intending to resume as soon as they are free to do so, hopefully in March/ April.

Contact: Jessie jessica@omniexchange.net

Keep watching this space for details of forthcoming events as and when restrictions allow! Contact **01761 437372** or email: martinfranceshorler@talktalk.net



Ammerdown
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CARERS' & RETIREES MORNINGS



An invitation to carers to join Ammerdown via Zoom for the January Carers' Morning **Tuesday 19 January 10am-12noon**. For the Carers – a simple chapel service; Cuppa and a Chat; and a harp meditation with Vicki Burke.



TLC Zoom for the retired
Thursday 21 January 10am-12noon
For the TLC - a simple Chapel service; Cuppa and a Chat; and fun singing with Helena Softley.

To book either event: Call 01761 433709 or email us at admin@mmerdown.org

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Our church missionaries in Lebanon, Audrey and Colin Gibson are now settling into their new role with A Rocha Lebanon (www.arocha.org) a Christian organisation that engages in community based wildlife conservation in 21 countries worldwide. They are currently working to complete two small nature parks - learning fast and adding their own ideas to what has been, and still needs to be done. Rampant Covid 19 continues to hamper progress but the aim is to develop partnerships with other local community organisations and encourage local schools to use the parks for educational purposes.

Lebanon continues in crisis in the aftermath of last August's massive and catastrophic explosion at the Port of Beirut, the pandemic, and a political process that has again stalled, with sectarian interests overriding the needs of ordinary people. Prices continue to rise and even some middle-class people are now in need of food boxes.

Audrey and Colin wish everyone health and happiness this New Year and throughout 2021.

Recycling sites stay open for essential use

Somerset Waste Partnership (SWP) plans to keep the county's 16 recycling sites open on standard winter hours for essential use during the latest COVID-19 national lockdown.

Government guidance - gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home - has clarified that people can visit recycling sites as they are an essential service.

SWP is asking people to only visit sites if the trip is really necessary, for example because waste cannot be safely kept home or disposed of through kerbside recycling and rubbish collections.

Recycling sites already have measures in place to protect the public and staff, including:

- Do not visit if you have COVID symptoms or have been asked to shield
- Maintain social distance
- Wear gloves and consider wearing a mask
- Maximum two people per vehicle from the same household
- Site staff cannot assist with unloading
- Vehicle and trailer permits continue –

somersetwaste.gov.uk/apply-for-a-permit

Staff will monitor site user numbers and control vehicle flow if necessary; visitors are asked for their understanding and patience.

The Reuse Shop at Taunton Recycling Centre will be closed during the lockdown.

SWP is also highlighting government guidance on how to dispose of personal waste if you have COVID symptoms or live in a household with someone who does.

Personal waste, such as tissues, facemasks and disposable cleaning cloths, should be double-bagged in black sacks, kept separate from other waste in the home for 72 hours, and then be added to your rubbish bin outside your home for the usual collection.

All residents are asked to maintain a social distance from collection crews. They should wash hands and disinfect container handles before and after putting out recycling boxes and bins.

For latest lockdown information, visit somersetwaste.gov.uk/coronavirus and follow @somersetwaste on Twitter and Facebook.

NEW YEAR COVID

*Our Letter's gone to Santa with thanks for what he brought
Our thoughts return to Covid, our feelings feeling fraught
By now it's lost its novelty, to distance is a chore
NO MORE LOCKDOWN's what we want*

– freedom please once more

To roam around where're we want our friends to see again

And relatives we rarely see 'cos travel is a pain

Oh for things just normal we don't need a surprise

Or something unexpected please just a normal guise

Forgotten things in lockdown, memories we lost

Come flooding back to boost us all without a cost

Normality just suits us – routine will be our game

An antidote is what we crave so things can be the same

As when we could do what we liked and in our own time too

The New Year comes expectantly of things that we can do

A vaccine now looks promising – no cause for an alarm

So off down to the surgery and offer up an arm

Normality will soon return our friends we'll meet again

21 will soon be here patience we'll regain

THERE'S HOPE



By Rod Bruce

Welcome to Kilmersdon!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Emma, Kirstie & her daughter Kate, who have recently moved in next to the Old Post Office.

Also to Peter Michael who has just moved from Frome into the Old Vicarage. We hope they will all be very happy here in Kilmersdon and soon get to know people, despite the difficult situation that we are facing currently!

PLEASE let one of us know if you are aware that you have new neighbours, so we can make a visit with our 'Welcome Pack'. Also, do please get in touch if you have recently moved into the parish and would like to introduce yourselves. Many thanks.
Penny (01761 435193) Rosie (01761 439062)

Coles Garden Meeting Rooms Committee

The committee send our Seasonal Greetings to you all in Kilmersdon and the wider Community. Though the rooms are still closed at this time, please know we are thinking of everyone.

BEREAVEMENTS



In loving memory of Geoffrey Thomas Rhymer

Geoffrey lived all his life in Kilmersdon. He was born in Silver Street in 1932, and moved to number 235 shortly afterwards, while still a baby. He attended Kilmersdon School and then Midsomer Norton Grammar School. After leaving school, Geoff became an apprentice electrician at the St Ivel dairy at Oldford, where he met Peggy. They were married in 1957.

Once Geoff had successfully completed his apprenticeship, he took a job working nights at the Clarks factory. After 2 nights, he decided night work was not for him and left to go to SWEB in Shepton Mallet, where he worked for many years.



Geoff spent the rest of his working career in Bath, working in electrical wholesaling. He had to retire on medical grounds a little before the age of 65, when he broke his ankle badly while on holiday in Tenerife.

Geoff joined Gilbert Pomeroy as Churchwarden in 1977, when his father retired. He continued in this role for 42 years faithful service. He was also very involved in many fundraising and social events for the Church. He was for many years a Trustee of Kilmersdon School, and also a Governor.

There is a plaque and painting on the wall of Kilmersdon church in praise of Geoffrey's 42 years as church warden, summing up the dedication of a warm hearted, knowledgeable, steadfast, dependable, helpful and modest man who served well many incumbents and the community at large.

He will be greatly missed.

Bereavement support

The Somerset Bereavement Support Service is here if you've been bereaved and need emotional support or someone to talk to.

Call 0800 304 7412
9am to 5pm, Monday to Saturday.

In partnership with






somerSET COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Kilmersdon Primary School



There was a very different lead up to Christmas this year as many of the children had been learning at home before being welcomed back in the last week of term. Because of Covid 19 restrictions, visitors were not allowed into the school, so other ways had to be found to bring in the community.

Much enjoyed were the Advent and Christmas worship videos compiled by the Revd David Izzard, which can be viewed on the class pages of the school's website. Christmas lunch on December 9th was also very different, but still a happy event with the children eating with friends in their class bubble groups.

The school's community worked hard to make Christmas still a special time, with the PTA providing a wonderful "virtual" live pantomime and each child getting a little something extra. Ammerdown donated a tree, which the children decorated, and Buzzard Class created a nativity video for parents and some members of the local community.

Advent calendar ideas abounded and on the back of each "window" was something special that each child could give to someone else, like a smile or a helping hand. The children also enjoyed Kilmersdon's living Advent calendar.

We hope that our local community found ways to safely share the Christmas season with their families, friends and neighbours, and from all at Kilmersdon School we send our best wishes for the New Year.

Steve Bamford, Head Teacher.

VILLAGE GROUPS

KILMERSDON ART GROUP
Roz Wilkinson 01761 434452

KMR BRIDGE CLUB
Mike Henton 01761 439960
mike.henton@talktalk.net

KILMERSDON VILLAGE HALL & MEETING ROOM
Bookings Clerk Mrs Cherry Gilham
01761 436767 www.kilmersdonvillagehall.co.uk
www.kilmersdonmeetingroom.org

KILMERSDON FACEBOOK
www.facebook.com/Kilmersdon

KILMERSDON VILLAGE DAY
enquiries: kilmersdonvillageday@gmail.com
www.kilmersdonvillageday.org

KILMERSDON C of E VA SCHOOL
Head Teacher Stephen Bamford 01761 432283

KILMERSDON GARDENERS
Chairman Judith Stanford 01761 233045
www.kilmersdongardeners.org

KILMERSDON VILLAGE HALL DRAW
Martin & Shayne Gibbs 01761 432574

KILMERSDON VILLAGE SHOP
John Clayton 07974 440468
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01761 412773 and Sue Knatchbull 01373 813781

CCS Village Agent News

Christmas really brought out the best in everyone following a challenging year. We had so many donations to our 'Gift of Small Things Christmas Appeal' that we were able to deliver well over 300 boxes absolutely STUFFED with presents for those most in need in Somerset. A HUGE thank you to all those people who arranged drop off locations in their community and to the many hundreds of people who donated - it made such a difference!

For Village Agents, the new year and colder weather always brings challenges to our less fortunate clients who struggle with fuel poverty. Often the choice is between food and heating, which is a heart-breaking position to be in! There are many ways to help people in crisis or fuel poverty - Firstly: You can donate your winter fuel allowance to the Somerset Community Foundation (SCF) at www.somersetcf.org.uk/winter. SCF then work with us to allocate donations as needed. This year, many people will be staying at home to keep themselves safe; they'll be cut off from family & friends and will be facing higher heating costs. Your donations will help us make sure around 500 vulnerable older people across Somerset have the support they need to get through the winter.

Secondly: Our #LoveSomerset Crisis Fund: www.ccslovesomerset.org/somerset-crisis-fund has proved to be an enormously valuable extra "tool in the bag" for Village Agents to help people facing personal and family crises. At this time of hardship for many in our communities, we desperately require donations.

S.G. TAYLOR.

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www.localgiving.org/charity/somersetcrisisfund
You can donate online via the link or by contacting us directly – all support, no matter how small, makes a huge difference to people! We help when others can't, won't, or don't.

Thirdly: You can join our Community Oil Buying Scheme to ensure you benefit from the best bulk buying discounts on heating oil. You can find out more on www.ccslovesomerset.org/oil/. We receive 50% of the small annual membership fee, which goes into our Crisis Fund!

Village Agent TOP TIPS for staying warm and well this winter:

Check out the energy (& money!) saving advice here: www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/heating-your-home Contact the Centre for Sustainable Energy who can help find a better rate: www.cse.org.uk. If you haven't changed energy supplier in over a year you are guaranteed to save money by changing! CSE can help you with this.

Don't forget that our LIVE Talking Cafes - (11am weekdays on Facebook and afterwards on YouTube) regularly cover fuel saving tips, debt advice and more. Just check out www.ccslovesomerset.org/talking-cafe to find all previous Talking Cafes on this subject under 'Everyday Advice & Money/Debt Support' section. Tune in at www.facebook.com/talkingcafesomerset

If you need help with any of this please do contact your local Village Agent on 01823 331 222 or visit www.somersetagents.org. We wish you a healthy and warm start to 2021!

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Do you know someone who is visually impaired and would benefit from Somerset Sight's Volunteer Befriending Service?

We are a long established charity supporting people with sight loss. Our befriending service provides fully trained and checked volunteers who visit sight impaired people on a regular basis to provide company and support. The ongoing help and friendship of a volunteer can make a lasting difference to a person's quality of life.

For more information, please contact Somerset Sight on 01823 333818

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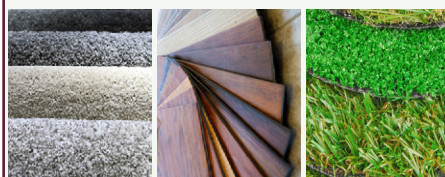
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