

# KILMERSDON **PARISH** NEWS



JULY / AUGUST 2023



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Your **FREE** magazine, supporting the **COMMUNITY** and **PARISH COUNCIL** news.  
DELIVERED TO THE PARISH OF KILMERSDON, CHARLTON, GREEN PARLOUR & FOSSEFIELD ROAD.

## From the editor ...

Hello Kilmersdon Folk,



Thanks to everyone who has sent items in for this edition of the newsletter. Please keep it coming. We are still looking for a volunteer or two to help out, so please get in touch if you are able to contribute in any way, and help take the load off Penny and me.

I was sad to hear about the death of Hugh Pountney who always wrote the wine articles for Kilmersdon Parish News. I didn't know Hugh very well, but I enjoyed reading his articles. His enthusiasm and personality always shone through in his writing.

This edition also contains an obituary of Steve Wood who sadly



Kilmersdon School at Glastonbury Festival

died recently too. Thanks to Penny Hutton for her fine words.

We also have reports from Kilmersdon Gardeners; Kilmersdon Ground Force, who do a great job on the hanging baskets; a message from the church; and a very interesting bit of history about Kilmersdon Hill from Martin Horler.

*Phil Preen*

*Cover photo: Jane Coombes  
If you would like your own picture  
featured in a future edition, please  
send them in.*

**The copy date for the next issue is 20th August. Please restrict articles to 350 words and notices to 100 words. Items for inclusion to be sent by email to [kilmersdonnews@gmail.com](mailto:kilmersdonnews@gmail.com) — We reserve the right to edit any item submitted.**

**If you would like to receive your Parish News as a pdf,  
please contact the editor at [kilmersdonnews@gmail.com](mailto:kilmersdonnews@gmail.com)**

## Kilmersdon Ground Force

### Hanging Baskets



Once again, we would like to draw your attention to the beautiful hanging baskets in the centre of Kilmersdon. And, once again we have to thank

Anthony Dutton from Charlton for selecting the plants, organising the planting, followed by hanging them – at the same time as checking the irrigation system!

We are doubly grateful to him this year, as he had a fall earlier in the week, badly injuring one leg - but he still insisted on hanging them & checking the irrigation system himself! Thanks Anthony, you're a star!!

We'd also like to thank Richard Chivers in Church Street and Martin Horler from School Lane, for their hard work in filling all the baskets!

In order for us to be able to have a good display of baskets each year, we do need donations towards the cost. So please be generous, giving donations to either Martin in the Old School House, Ames Lane, or Penny Hutton at Wilscombe, Hoares Lane.

Let's make this the best year yet!!

With our grateful thanks,  
*Penny Hutton*

### VILLAGE GROUPS

#### KILMERSDON ART GROUP

Roz Wilkinson 01761 434452

#### KMR BRIDGE CLUB

Mike Bradbury  
Tel: 01373 455645

#### KILMERSDON VILLAGE HALL

Danielle Forrester 07527 693937  
managerekilmersdonhall@outlook.com

#### COLES GARDEN MEETING ROOM

Cherry Gilham 01761 436767  
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  
school.office@kilmersdonprimary.co.uk

#### KILMERSDON GARDENERS

Chairman Judith Stanford 01761 233045  
www.kilmersdongardeners.org

#### KILMERSDON VILLAGE SHOP

John Clayton 07974 440468  
john.clayton@outlook.com

#### PARISH COUNCIL

clerk@kilmersdonpc.co.uk  
www.kilmersdonpc.co.uk

#### PARISH PATH LIASION OFFICER

Stuart Green 07753 904 678

#### PARISH CHURCH (East Mendip Trinity)

clarissacridland@hotmail.co.uk  
01373 812705  
www.eastmendiptrinity.co.uk

#### PARISH NEWS

Penny Hutton 01761 435193  
Phil Preen 01373 813441  
kilmersdonnews@gmail.com

#### WOMENS INSTITUTE

President - Viv Love 01761 414419

# What's on at Ammerdown

## July

- 8-13** - Art Exhibition On Hospitality, Peace & Reconciliation
- 8** - A Tibetan Buddhist approach to difficult times
- 10-13** - Summer Meadow Embroidery
- 13** - TLC Day for the Retired
- 31** - Cream Tea for TLC, Carers Group and Cuppa and a Chat (Please book)

## August

- 1** - Wind in the Willows
- 2** - Taize Prayer Service
- 7 - 11** - Watercolour Painting
- 8** - Wildlife Gardening for Kids
- 10** - Wildlife Gardening for Kids
- 12** - Stained Glass Cheese Board
- 13** - Cream Teas
- 14-17** - The Future of the Celtic Past
- 18 - 20** - David: Shepherd Boy, Musician, King, Beloved, Parent and Man of God
- 20** - Cream Teas
- 27** - Walking with Jesus
- 27** - Cream Teas

## September

- 1 - 3** - 50th Anniversary Weekend
- 4 - 7** - Embodied Prayer Using the Alexander Technique and Centering Prayer
- 6** - Taize Prayer Service
- 8 - 10** - Interfaith Youth Weekend - Living with Difference
- 11 - 15** - Autumn Break
- 12** - Refreshing Day for Carers
- 14** - TLC Day for the Retired
- 24** - Book Club Relaunch!
- 25** - Cuppa and a Chat
- 25 - 29** - Chinese Brush Painting - Pagodas and Temples
- 28** - Quiet Day
- 30 - 1** - Tall Arch Mixed Media

Find more information on all of our courses on our website [www.ammerdown.org/WhatsOn](http://www.ammerdown.org/WhatsOn)

The Ammerdown Centre  
Ammerdown Park  
BA3 5SW



[www.ammerdown.org](http://www.ammerdown.org)  
[admin@ammerdown.org](mailto:admin@ammerdown.org)  
01761 433709



# Wildlife Gardening for Kids!

Suitable for  
children  
age 7-11  
years.

with Olly the Ammerdown Gardener

**Tuesday 8 and  
Thursday 10 August**  
2pm - 4:30pm  
£5 per child per session

Join Olly the Ammerdown gardener this summer and let your little ones get their hands dirty while you sit with a nice cup of tea and a slice of cake! Olly will have them bird watching, bug hunting and exploring the great outdoors so make sure to put them in old clothes!

Please book by visiting [www.ammerdown.org](http://www.ammerdown.org)  
or phoning 01761 433709

Price includes session, a snack and drink for the child and a hot drink for the parent.  
Cake and cold drinks will also be available for an additional cost.

How many  
creatures can you  
spot hiding in this  
poster?

The Ammerdown Centre  
Ammerdown Park  
Radstock BA3 5SW

# Kilmersdon Primary School

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL

# Kilmersdon Summer FAIR

FRIDAY 7TH JULY 2023  
17:30 - 19:30PM

STALLS | BBQ | RAFFLE PRIZES | BOUNCY FUN | BAR  
AND LOTS MORE!

## KILMERSDON PRIMARY

School Lane, Kilmersdon, BA3 5TE

## Kilmersdon Gardeners June 2023

### A Tale of Two Gardens:

#### Pauline and David Wright

This illustrated talk captured the skill and pleasure Pauline and David experienced creating two gardens from scratch. They give talks and open their garden to raise funds for a head and neck cancer charity founded by the surgeon who treated Pauline.

In the 1980's they bought a run-down house and garden in Somerset intriguingly called 'Lift the Latch', not an instruction on the gate but the house name. They were fortunate to have the beginnings of a pond which after much excavation provided the focus of the garden. With such a large area to tend and aiming for all year-round colour they selected trees and shrubs with colourful stems and foliage. Salix Flamingo has redstems in the winter and pink and white foliage in the summer. Liquid Amber is a shrub that has acer like leaves and maintains russet red foliage throughout the year. Spring blooming Rhododendrons and Azaleas added rich colour. Laburnum with its yellow flowers in early summer was a favourite until it became unsafe and was felled. The owners have a small vase created from a branch by a wood turning friend as a memento. Pauline didn't go for annuals but enjoyed lower growing perennials like Rosanne Geranium to give colour and ground cover through the summer. She also enjoyed poking in false plants around the garden to provide colour and talking points. The garden attracted a variety of birds including kingfishers.

In 2007 they featured in a BBC gardening programme with Carol Klein about how to



get into the National Garden Scheme Yellow Book. They found it hard to go along with the way the programme makers created a narrative rather than following the real-life scenario. In 2020, although it was hard to let go, they moved on to a bungalow 'Little Latch' where they are nearer their grandchildren. They have started from scratch to create similarly colourful garden from the blank canvas of the space around the bungalow. They had plenty of practice along the way creating utilitarian small gardens for friends and family.

Next talk 'Organic Gardening – working with nature' – Oliver Jones. This includes the 'Potted Plant' competition for members plants that have lived with them for at least 6 months. Wednesday 12th July 2023 - 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start at Kilmersdon Village Hall. Refreshments and raffle on arrival. Visitors are very welcome. [www.kilmersdongardeners.org](http://www.kilmersdongardeners.org)

**Trisha Jordan**

## **A Little Guidance on Finding Our Way Through The Peaks and Valleys of Life**

*by Patrick Leo Holland*

### **This Month - Maintaining Gratitude In a Fast Paced Life**

Oh my, we live in a fast-paced world - running around at 300 miles an hour, sometimes without what feels like an end in sight - not exactly conducive to being consistently present and grateful.

‘What - I’m supposed to do all I need to in meeting my basic human needs and then on top of that - maintain a grateful outlook, sustain a healthy lifestyle and keep my levels of self-esteem boosted? Come on!’

No, it’s not always easy, especially with the time crunch many of us find ourselves under, but when you take a moment to step away from the noise, it is actually simple ... and it all starts with gratitude.

The little superpower that is gratitude, when woven into our habits, nudging our whole life perspective, more and more to ‘a cup half full’ vs ‘a cup half empty’ experience.

So how can you help yourself open up that superpower? Make the act of being grateful a daily habit and do it before the busyness of life sweeps you away.

Here’s an example of what I say when I roll out of bed in the morning and my feet touch the floor ...

‘Thank you you for this incredible life of wonderful health, wealth, happiness, freedom and prosperity. I love this moment, this hour, this day, infinite abundance pouring down over me, strength and love rippling through my every thought, word, action and habit, instantaneously fulfilling all needs, wants desires and dreams on a wave of joy. Thank you for always being there, showing the way and sharing the journey.’

What are you doing by creating a habit of starting your day like that? ... Stating to yourself and the universe that you are grateful for all and everything, however challenging it may seem in the moment; that possibilities abound, you are deservedly aligned with them and that you are not going to wait until tomorrow to live today.

It doesn’t even have to be as involved as my paragraph. It can be as simple as the old classic, “Today is Going to Be a Great Day!”

Having doubts? Well, if so, please ask yourself the following ...

What kind of experience would I have if I said, “Today is Going to be a Great Day,” 365 days in a row versus, “Today is going to be horrible day?”

Love, plh

*Patrick, a local resident of Kilmersdon is An Actor, Teacher, Author of The Ultimate Power of You, ‘A guide to Honouring Your Time’ and co-host of The Radio Show and Podcast - ‘Living Beyond Fear’ at Frome FM.*

*If you’d like to drop him a line, please do so at - [info@theultimatepowerofyou.com](mailto:info@theultimatepowerofyou.com)*





## KILMERSDON PARISH CHURCH

Dear Friends

I am typing this just after I have been to see the exhibition by Kilmersdon Art Group on 17 June – what incredible talent. I was really, really impressed.

Just before that, I took a Christening service in the church which was also a lovely occasion with lots of children.



Kilmersdon School will be coming into church for their end of term service, and, as ever, it will be lovely to have them and their parents with us. The end of the summer term sees Year 6 children about to leave Kilmersdon and move on to secondary school, and it is always sad to see them go – they have played a wonderful part in the school. However, in September we shall welcome new children into Reception, and we look forward to seeing them then.

Before that, though, there are summer holidays to enjoy and whether or not you are going away I hope you do find some time to relax.

We have had a very nasty shock in the church as we have a very serious woodworm / damp problem which needs to be sorted as soon as possible. I am still waiting for the report and quotation, having seen a company on 11 May, but it is going to cost a serious amount of money, and as I have said before our expenditure is greater than our income. If you would like to help, please do scan the QR code here.

This comes with love and prayers,

Clarissa

Revd Clarissa Cridland, Vicar, East Mendip Trinity

[clarissacridland@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:clarissacridland@hotmail.co.uk)

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## In memory of Stephen Robert Wood

*Born 6/11/1954 at The Royal Alexander Hospital, Plymouth to Frank & Tegwen Wood*

Most of you probably don't know about Steve's life. He was born in Plymouth to Frank & Tegwen Wood, educated at Ford Primary, going on to Ford Secondary Modern. However, he spent most of his childhood living with his parents & grandparents by the sea, with his sisters Sian & Sarah. He would follow his grandad round the garden like a shadow, and spent most weekends rock-pooling with the family at local beaches.

Steve never wanted his first baby sister, but was convinced that Mum was bringing a puppy home from hospital. Disappointed, he called Sian 'Rebel' after an alsatian he had seen in a film! This name stuck for many years!! When he was 11, their sister Sarah was born, making the family complete.

When Steve was 13, his dad was posted to Singapore for 3 years to deal with the handover of the dockyards to the Singapore government. So, off they all sailed on the P&O liner "Chitral" (all first class!) This was a real eye-opener for the whole family, but as kids, it opened a whole new world of adventure!

During the six-week journey, they called into ports in the Canary Islands, South Africa, India, Sri Lanka and Malaya. As first-time travellers going over the Equator, they had to perform the official 'Crossing the Line' ceremony to ask for 'Lord Neptune's permission!

On arrival in Singapore port early one morning in October, they ran on deck, only to see Frank's brother Ron, a sailor in the merchant Navy, on the pier wating with a welcome wave!!

At first they lived in a bungalow near the village of Sembawang Springs, then 6 months later, they moved onto the naval base. Steve and his sister Sian went to Bourne military school, then Steve transferred to St. John's when he was 15. Both were very strict establishments, the day starting at 7:00am but they were in the local swimming pools by 14:00hrs, as school finished by 13:00hrs each day! Holidays were spent off the island, normally on the sandy beaches of the east coast of Malaya. Elephants, crocodiles and lots of lizards were a regular sight!

After the three years, Frank was posted back to Scotland, to the Royal Naval Dockyard, Rosyth, Dunfermline. So the family travelled back to the UK and settled into Scottish life in Dumfermline. Steve decided to go to agricultural college in Cooper to study farm management, and work as an apprentice at a local farm.

A few years later, he met Lucy Hunter and after a year they married and lived in a small flat in Dunfermline. Very soon, however, they decided to emigrate to Canada and within six months, they were living in Hamilton, west of Toronto, on an extremely large farm! The whole family in the UK went to visit and enjoyed trips to the Great Lakes, Niagara Falls and across the border into the USA to see distant cousins in Pennsylvania! After 2 years, Steve & Lucy had a son, but unfortunately life was very lonely on a remote farm and the marriage failed, resulting in them moving back to the UK separately then divorcing. Steven, their son who was 2½ at the time, went to live with his mum in Portsmouth.

After 9 years in Scotland, Steve's Dad moved back to Bath, working at MOD Foxhill & living in Clandown. Steve decided to move back to join them & worked for the Milk Marketing Board, then as a builder, when he found the travelling was too much.

A few years later, he met Diane Aldum and they decided to get married. They lived happily in Writhlington, having three children – Scott, Shannon and Alice. However, when the children were teenagers, sadly their mother died, leaving Steve to bring up three teenagers!

Time passed and he met Janet McIntyre, who's husband had also died, and as they had many interests in common, including gardening and the church, Steve decided to move in with her in Kilmersdon, where they were happy for many years – and contributed a lot to the village.

Steve was eventually diagnosed with cancer and struggled with health for a number of years. More recently he seemed to be doing OK, but after he collapsed over the Coronation weekend

he was taken to the RUH & his family were told to be prepared, as he might not survive. This is where he remained for his final few days, passing away peacefully on 17 May 2023, surrounded by his Children.

He will be sadly missed by all who knew him in Kilmersdon!

Does anyone know of a possible 2/3 bed rental property coming up soon in Kilmersdon or the surrounding villages? We would like to stay as local as possible, due to my children attending Leigh on Mendip school. I have been looking since November, with no luck so far.

Many thanks. 😊

Jess Webb  
07821 806921



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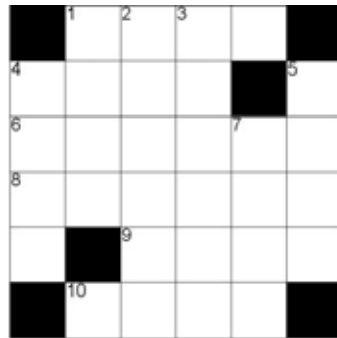
EVERY 3<sup>RD</sup> FRIDAY OF THE MONTH AT **8PM.**



## Cryptic Crossword

### ACROSS

1. Warning: submarine captain is returning (4)
4. Olympian athletes: runners, equestrians & swimmers primarily (4)
6. Make your home in place where badgers live alongside the French (6)
8. Former prime minister loses edge in both The East and The West Country (6)
9. Alien with new area in volcano (4)
10. Took advantage and joined without force (4)



### DOWN

1. Wood rejects outsiders and rocks (4)
2. Came together on the subject of small rhythmic structures (6)
3. At the end of lane to say, Ammerdown for example?
4. China is here because I initially asked (4)
5. Mass energy at the start of Lammas - ace party (4)
7. Left to stop grant (4)

Solve online: <http://www.philpreen.co.uk/kilmersdon-cryptics>



## What's so Interesting about Kilmersdon?

I thought I would start with the Toll Road or Kilmersdon Hill as we know it.

The line of the original road up the hill can now just be just seen as a sunken road in the field with Gallows Ash, which were three cottages, on the right-hand side of the road going up the hill.

Here below is a photo of a map of 1839 which shows in red ink the proposed re-alignment of Kilmersdon Hill road which includes removing the Toll House from the top of the hill and building a new Toll House at the bottom of the hill.

This road was part of the Buckland Dinham Turnpike Trust which was established in 1768, a very small Trust with just 19 miles of road BUT very strategically placed for the trustees to see a hansom return for their investment as their roads were on a coal route – about forty coal waggons a day were passing through their toll-gates. In 1820 the income of the Buckland Trust was £1,265.00. I think the old road which went passed Tumblers Bottom, together with the old road, was then abandoned.

An interesting entry in the Vestry Minutes ...13th February 1840 states - 'discussion on the re-alignment of the road (Kilmersdon Hill) to be opened to the public on 29th September (Michaelmas Day) 1841' So we know that Kilmersdon Hill came into being on 29th September 1841.

An item in the Churchwarden's Accounts .....

August 1859 for bringing the Iron Chest from the Vicarage to the Church Turnpike charge 4½d (four and a half pence)

Martin Horler



# FROME FESTIVAL at the SILK MILL



8th July 10-4pm FREE  
SMALL PUBLISHERS' FAIR



7th JULY 7.30pm £13-15  
BRASS JUNKIES



9th JULY 10-5PM FREE  
RING OUT WORKSHOPS



8th JULY 6-12am FREE  
SWEET MACHINE & GUESTS



11th July 7.30pm £13-15  
COMEDY AT THE SILK MILL



9th July 7.30pm £13-15  
RADIO BANSKA



12th July 6-7pm £10-15  
IZZY YARDLEY



12th July 1-2pm £10  
MUSICKE IN THE AYRE



14th July 8.30pm £13-35  
CROSSING THE ROCKIES



13th July 7.30 FREE  
BIDDY



16th July 7.30m £13-15  
CORACLE



15th July 7pm-2am £15-18  
SENSONIC & GUESTS



## FROME FESTIVAL

7<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> July



The Frome Festival once again has a full programme of events in numerous venues across the town. There will be music, dance, theatre, storytelling, exhibitions and various activities both indoors and out. Programmes are free and available at various places. Full details of all the events can also be found on the festival website at [www.fromefestival.co.uk](http://www.fromefestival.co.uk). While you are in town you can also check out the Frome Open Art Trail. More details at [www.frome-open-art-trail.co.uk](http://www.frome-open-art-trail.co.uk).

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## Kilmersdon Parish Council

It was Volunteers Week from the 1st to the 7th of June, & it does seem as if there are lots of opportunities to take part in interesting activities which will really help the community. Locally in Kilmersdon our volunteer footpath warden has left the area, and Somerset Council are looking for a replacement. Drivers are always wanted to get people to hospital & medical appointments, much needed as bus services are difficult when your health isn't great. Schools are

looking for governors, and there are many opportunities to help and support young people who are struggling. There is also a vacancy for a parish councillor, helping to represent Kilmersdon's voice to the powers that be! Please contact [clerk@kilmersdonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@kilmersdonpc.org.uk) for more details.

One more local opportunity to help is at the play area behind the village hall. The Parish Council does pay for regular professional inspections of the equipment, once a quarter. But weekly inspections can really help to spot problems early, this isn't a difficult or terribly time-consuming task, just a 'once over' to make sure the usual wear & tear is checked, also if there has been any vandalism damage. Full support & training is given, help will be much appreciated, please contact the parish clerk.

Robin Moss  
[www.kilmersdonpc.co.uk](http://www.kilmersdonpc.co.uk)

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## Parliamentary By-election

A by-election will take place on 20 July 2023 following the resignation of our MP David Warburton. This will be the first election here where you will need to bring photo id. If you do not have a driving license, bus pass, passport or other acceptable form of id, you can apply for a 'Voter Authority Certificate'. It is not difficult. You can apply online here: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate> or there is a form available if you wish to apply by post. If you need help to find the form you can contact the Parish Council. You can still also apply for a postal vote as normal.

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