



# UPPER KENNET NEWS

August 2021

Published by Fyfield, West Overton and East Kennett Parochial Church Council for the Upper Kennet Benefice

## Kennet Valley Lottery Club draw winners

£100 Number 52 Jason Galley

£75 Number 96 Jane Drew

£50 Number 35 Elizabeth Musgrove

(Some winners prefer that their names were not published, in which case we just state the winning numbers)

If you would like to join the lottery, ring David Snape on 01672 861267 or email: davidwsnape@aol.com

Another way to support our churches at West Overton, Fyfield and East Kennett

## 100 Club

Draw Results for July

1st	£48.00	39	Mark Wightman
2nd	£36.00	14	Jill Durnford
3rd	£24.00	13	Lyn Bennett-Nutt
4th	£12.00	41	Martyn Meeks

(some winners prefer that their names are not published)

If you would like to join the lottery ring Richard Nutt on 01672539611 or email richard@184systems.com

Your way to help support the churches of Winterbourne Monkton and Berwick Bassett

Lottery is licensed by Wiltshire Council

## Notice Board

### Weddings

Lauren Cole & 26 June Avebury

Connor Kelleher

Tina Breiova & 3 July West Overton

Tomislav Afriyan-English

### Baptism

Rex Swadden 27 June Broad Hinton

### Burial of Ashes

Peter Dodds 1 July Winterbrne Bassett

### Funeral

Herbert Douglas Brown 15 July West Overton

“A brief respite from everyday pressures – a time of peace, calm and silent reflection.”

## MEDITATION (TAIZÉ) Service

Every fortnight on a Wednesday evening at East Kennett Church from 7.00 to 7.25pm: a chance to just sit quietly and relax and enjoy the silence and the peace by candlelight, with a background of occasional singing and some words of wisdom.

Future dates for your diary:

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August, Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August &

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

## View from the Rectory

‘God is Love and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them’.

Some of you will be very well aware that the Church of England has been wrestling for years with questions about sexuality, gender and relationships. Some of you reading this will wonder why on earth this is such a big deal for Christians and think of us as being somewhat out of sync with the rest of society. At the heart of this are some very serious matters indeed and in the next few months we are being asked to engage meaningfully in looking at what Living in Love and Faith looks like in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: how do questions about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage fit within the bigger picture of the good news of Jesus Christ that all people are beloved of God and made in God’s image to reflect this love back into the world? What does it mean to live in love and faith together as a Church where acceptance and understanding, true welcome and inclusion of others in the manner of Jesus is to be lived out daily?

‘Living in Love and Faith’ is a project long in the making and it is our turn to engage with it with courage and commitment. Each generation, it feels, has a task to undertake for Jesus’ radically inclusive message of love to grow - the task of **our** generation in the Church, is to listen and think about gender, identity, sexuality and marriage, and to share in the important conversations taking place nationally. The project aims to help Christians think about issues of gender identity, relationships, sexuality and faith in safe small groups using a range of materials. Feedback will be given to local Advocates at Diocesan level and in this way we can participate in discussions and decision-making at a national level in mid-2022. The ethos underpinning the course is that we learn from one another within our diversity, not just in the Church but in society as a whole.

At the session we shall hear powerful testimonies from people via short videoed interviews, sharing openly and honestly from their own experience. We will also be able to receive factual information, look at what the scripture tells us, and have safe space and time for discussion. This is the aspect that is most important in engaging with the project - that we really listen and learn from one another, and be willing to consider how we include all in God’s grace gifts and blessings and within the sacraments.

Now is the time to resolve some of the grey areas over sexuality and relationships in the Church. I am aware of those living amongst us who carry a huge amount of sadness and anxiety because of the present views of the Church on matters of human sexuality, and some have suffered greatly. As your priest, whether you come to church regularly or not, I feel the time has come to do some serious soul searching together, using a range of resources in a safe setting, where we can be honest with one another and learn from the stories of those who have been brave enough to be part of this project from the outset.

My deepest hope is that we can find a way, both to be a radically inclusive Church and that the Church of England, with all its breadth and diversity of church tradition and within our understanding of life experience, gender and sexuality, continues to tell out the gospel afresh in each generation. You are invited to be part of the shaping of the future of the Church of England -ALL welcome. See inside for details.

# UPPER KENNET CHURCHES SERVICES

	St Nicholas FYFIELD	St Michael & All Angels WEST OVERTON	Christ Church EAST KENNETT	St James AVEBURY	St Mary Magdalene WINTERBRNE MONKTON	St Katherine & St Peter WINTERBRNE BASSETT	St Peter ad Vincula BROAD HINTON
1 August Trinity 9	9.45 AM – BENEFICE SERVICE – COMMUNION - WEST OVERTON 11am - ZOOM – Online Service of Morning Prayer						
Wednesday 4 August			7 pm Meditation Service (Taizé)	10.30 am Celtic Communion			
8 August Trinity 10	9.45 AM – BENEFICE SERVICE – COMMUNION - AVEBURY 11am - ZOOM – Online Service of Morning Prayer						
Wednesday 11 August				10.30 am Celtic Communion			
15 August Trinity 11	9.45 AM – BENEFICE SERVICE – COMMUNION – WINTERBOURNE BASSETT 4 PM - PET SERVICE – FYFIELD 11am - ZOOM – Online Service of Morning Prayer						
Wednesday 18 August			7 pm Meditation Service (Taizé)	10.30 am Celtic Communion			
22 August Trinity 12	9.45 AM – BENEFICE SERVICE – COMMUNION EAST KENNETT 12.15 pm – Feather Baptism – Broad Hinton 11am - ZOOM – Online Service of Morning Prayer						
Wednesday 25 August				10.30 am Celtic Communion			
29 August Trinity 13	9.45 AM – BENEFICE SERVICE – COMMUNION – BROAD HINTON 11.00 AM – MORNING SERVICE – WEST OVERTON 11am - ZOOM – Online Service of Morning Prayer						

## Rector's Research and Development Leave

Rev Maria was due to undertake a 12 week research project last August which was postponed due to Covid. As the restrictions lift and with the support of the Benefice and the Diocese, she is able to take the opportunity to do so a year later – Commencing after Worship on September 5<sup>th</sup> and returning to parish ministry on the first Sunday in December.

Rev Maria will undertake a period of prayer and silent retreat to renew and refresh her ministry, engage with a significant and very exciting research project with the support and encouragement of some leading theologians and experts in the field of interfaith dialogue and communication, and have some dedicated time with her husband before coming back into the parish.

Whilst you won't see Rev Maria and Phil in church you will certainly see her around as they will be mostly at home and around the villages. The Rectory will not be vacant at any time during the leave period. Arrangements for emails and phone messages are in hand.

While the Rector is away, the churchwardens are in charge and will consult with the Rural Dean or the Archdeacon on significant matters. Arrangements are in place to cover all other normal parish matters and things should proceed as normal with no significant changes in her absence.

Rev Maria looks forward to reconnecting with everyone at the West Overton, East Kennett and Fyfield Bazaar and Christmas Tree sale on the first weekend in December.

## Readings

**Sunday 1 August – Green  
Trinity 9**  
Ephesians 4.1-16  
John 6.24-35

**Sunday 8 August – Green  
Trinity 10**  
Ephesians 4.25-5.2  
John 6.35,41-51

**Sunday 15 August – Green  
The Blessed Virgin Mary  
Trinity 11**  
Isiah 61.10-end  
Luke 1 46-55

**Sunday 22 August – Green  
Trinity 12**  
1 Kings 8.22-30,41-43  
Ephesians 6.10-20  
John 6.56-69

**Sunday 29 August – Green  
Trinity 13**  
Song of Solomon 2.8-13  
James 1.17-end  
Mark 7.1-8,14,15,21-23

**Sunday 5 September – Green  
Trinity 14**  
James 2.1-10  
Mark 7.24-end



## St James Church Avebury Going Digital

We are VERY thankful to those who have donated £2,600 in support of our Livestreaming Appeal in such a short space of time. Your generosity is very much appreciated and gives us the courage to take a 'leap of faith' and go ahead as soon as possible with the installation, hoping that other donations may come in over time.

We look forward to being able to continue to support those living at home and in isolation and those who find the winter weather stops them from attending events like Christmas Carols. IF you would like to help and haven't done so please contact Lizzie Daley, your Treasurer, [lizziedaley@icloud.com](mailto:lizziedaley@icloud.com)



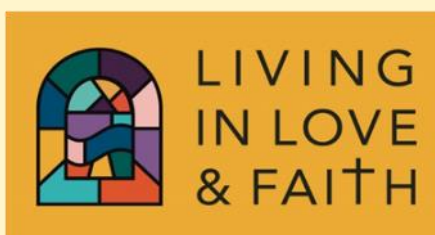
## To all who supported our recent appeal for The Lighthouse School Gaza

– Teas, Produce and Bric-a-brac on a very hot sultry day raised £845 which includes some very significant

donations from people unable to attend on the day.

Thank you to others who have made direct contact with the Trust and whose support is very much appreciated. Every penny of this money goes directly to support the children, staff and families of the school, offering hope in the darkness. If you would like to find out more about the work of the Hope Christian Trust contact Rev Maria or follow this link

[www.spanglefish.com/HopeChristianTrust](http://www.spanglefish.com/HopeChristianTrust)



## Upper Kennet Churches

### Introductory Sessions August 2021

Talking Tuesday August 3<sup>rd</sup> 7.30pm St James Church Avebury  
Refreshments from 7.15pm

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 11.30am- 1pm St James Church Avebury

Refreshments from 11.15am

All Welcome

For further information contact Rev Maria on 01672 539643

SEPTEMBER DATES TO FOLLOW

WATCH THIS SPACE

## Under The Beech Tree

### A Space to Breathe

Do you connect best with God in creation?

Are you in need of a breathing space simply to rest in the Divine Presence and be still within creation?



Then THIS might be just what you are looking for!

Come and join us @ the Rectory Garden Tent, Avebury on the following dates/times for Quiet Mindfulness, Guided Meditation, Sounds of Creation.

ALL welcome, wherever you are on your spiritual journey.

WITH REFRESHMENTS and opportunity to chat.

### DATES

Friday	August 6 <sup>th</sup>	4.30pm
Monday	August 16 <sup>th</sup>	6pm
Wednesday	August 25 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm

## Upper Kennet Churches

### Pet Service

St Nicholas' Church,  
Fyfield

Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup>  
at 4pm

followed by afternoon tea

ALL welcome

All Species

ALL Creatures Great and Small



## Talking Tuesdays CHANGE OF VENUE AVEBURY CHURCH 7.30 pm



Have you a story to tell about how you came to have faith? Do you enjoy hearing the journeys of others? Do you enjoy storytelling or listening?

A safe place to come and listen.  
Refreshments provided from 7.15 pm.

August 3<sup>rd</sup> 7.30pm:  
Living in Love and Faith.

### ALL WELCOME

Talking Tuesdays will resume again in the New Year.





## Zoom services - Together and Apart

After almost 18 months we need to stop our weekly Zoom services from the end of August and move to a combination of recorded services posted to our You Tube Channel and live streaming. We hope to start streaming weekly communion on Wednesdays at 10.30am, and Sunday Services when scheduled at Avebury for starters - the cost to link our churches is prohibitive at a time of financial uncertainty for the church but we aim to offer what we can thanks to the generosity of supporters. To find the You Tube channel search for Upper Kennet Churches Rev Maria Shepherdson and click subscribe. Automatically and FOR FREE you will be sent a link to anything we record. Zoom was used not only on Sundays but for events, meetings, gatherings at Christmas and urgent pastoral support. Morning Prayer has continued throughout and all these things will continue in one form or another.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to the stalwart crew who have assisted me in including as many people as possible in worship during the pandemic: Michaela Bosquet - whose help with technology and co-hosting has enabled so much to happen as smoothly as possible. Sibella and Stuart Laing for racing against the clock to get home after our in-church services to sing, play music and co-lead worship, and Claire, Graham, Angharad, and a huge team of volunteer readers, regular intercessors and musicians, including Talis Kimberley-Fairbourne and Kerry and Tom Blower who gave their time so generously.

Last but not least behind the scenes we had a team of distributors of links and liturgies - your patience when people lost the plot, the link or the liturgy or all three sometimes was appreciated by those struggling to connect with church and with friends and with God.

We 'zoomed' into a hospital ward where worship continued during a consultant's rounds. We were joined by friends in Ireland, Australia, Canada, California, Bethlehem, and Belgium from time to time, and continued to laugh, and cry with each other when stuck in isolation. We caught glimpses inside each others homes, drank tea together and even had the odd dog snore interrupt the Sermons. We never thought it would take a pandemic to make us realise how much we missed being together but we have equally learned that God is everywhere and works for good through everything. We have a tool we can use if, God forbid, we have another outbreak. We have remained steadfast in the faith and together in purpose if not in presence.

Well Done- now - Live streaming here we come.....

Rev Maria Shepherdson  
Rector

## Looking for a new home

Loving home needed for my late aunt Heather's cat Myrtle, she's tabby and white and isn't micro-chipped, Myrtle is very independent and would suit an older family or person.

She's currently being looked after in Avebury and it would be nice if she could be re-homed in the local area.

**Please call Tim 0779 255 7516**

**Email: tim915@aol.com**

**Or Fi: 01672 539656**



## Avebury Community Shop

Shop Phone Number:

**01672 539200**

Revised Opening Hours

**10am-4pm every day**

### Shop Update

The summer solstice was much quieter than usual for the shop. We stayed open late on the eve of the solstice and had quite a few customers, but not nearly as many as usual. We also opened earlier on the morning of the solstice. As a result we still have a lot of Mead available for sale in the shop (fortunately mead does not go off!!). Thank you to all the volunteers who put in extra hours at this time and to our managers for juggling our ordering.

**Thank you to Annie** for making new bunting to go outside the shop to replace the rather tired old bunting that was there. Annie masterminded a plan to ask volunteers to make individual flags which she then put together to make a bright new display.

### Coronavirus precautions

Because the shop is so small and ventilation is limited, we will be continuing to ask customers to observe the current precautions. We will be continuing to limit numbers in the shop to 2 customers, and also asking customers to continue to wear face masks in the shop.

### Meet the Team

Martin Bell is our new shop manager who shares the job with Lyn. Martin was an IT project manager before he worked in the shop. He has recently moved to West



Overton and wanted a job to support the community and to meet people in the area. He applied for the job when he was still living in Reading and for the first few weeks he travelled to Avebury from Reading to work in the shop.

Martin's favourite products are Sumbler sausages and bacon and Ramsbury Beer (especially Belapur IPA) and he also likes the sandwiches which we have recently started to get from our new sandwich supplier.

Martin's hobbies are going to the gym, cycling, walking the dog and enjoying the countryside.

Martin is pictured next to the Avebury post box which you will notice has an attractive top. Martin asked his partner who was a member of a crochet group in Reading to make this for Avebury to go with the new bunting.

### Call and Collect Service

We provide a call and collect service for people who don't want to go into the shop or are unable to go into the shop. Please call us on 01672 539200 to place your order, we will then contact you for payment and have your shopping ready to collect from the door, or we can load it into your car.

### Extension of Free Delivery Service

Avebury Community shop will be providing a FREE delivery service of food and other essentials to anyone in our community who is in self isolation due to the Coronavirus. This is an extension of the service we already provide to the elderly and others in our community who are unable to get to the shop.

Please call 01672 539200 to arrange a delivery. We would prefer payment by card, but can accept cash on delivery if necessary.

Michele Lomas (Chair of Avebury Community Shop)

## News from the Tower



### Calne Branch SDGR – Branch Meeting at Yatesbury, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2021

Corona virus restrictions were due to be lifted on 21<sup>st</sup> June, but that didn't happen, however our planned meeting at Yatesbury was able to go ahead within the restrictions. It was such a joy to get together again and to hear real bells in place of electronic ones!

We met at 3.30 and spent an hour ringing and socialising, then we had a short service in church, led by Rev Matt Earwicker, followed by a picnic tea and

another short burst of ringing.

Most of us had done a small amount of ringing for Sunday services, but this was a first visit to another church for most.

Yatesbury has 5 well behaved bells and they were just perfect for simple ringing – call changes, Grandsire Doubles and similar. It is a ground floor ring with a big door into the ringing room, so ventilation was not a problem. We had 20 members in attendance, including our Guild Master, Robert Wellen, who was able to tell us that this was the first branch event, with members meeting in person in the whole Guild. 3 members even cycled to Yatesbury from Swindon! Valerie

Goddard, the only local member was able to join us, she celebrates 75 years of SDGR membership this year as she was made a member in 1946 at the first Guild meeting after the Second World War.

It was a fine afternoon so we were able to spend most of the time outside in the

delightful churchyard, surrounded by birdsong. We look forward to more events in the remainder of 2021 and hope for a full programme in 2022.

This article was written by Jane Ridgwell who is a Calne ringer and the Calne Branch Secretary; Jane rings at Avebury on practice nights.

**Mary Davidge**  
**Belfry Correspondent.**  
**Tel: 01672 513819**

## AVEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

### Headlines from Avebury Parish Council's meeting on 6 July 2021

**Vacancy:** We have a vacancy on the Council. Please consider applying for it! Liz Moore (clerk@aveburyparishcouncil.org) or any of the Councillors will be glad to answer your questions.

**Summer Solstice:** We began our review of the events that took place over the summer solstice long weekend. We agreed that this year solstice celebrations in the henge were understated. By contrast the Ridgeway saw an unprecedented invasion of up to 400 vehicles and some 1,000 people. They seem to have been attracted by a 'free festival' featuring guest musicians, for which a flyer had been found at Stonehenge. During the weekend APC and KVPC chairs wrote to Cllr Richard Clewer, Wiltshire Council's Leader. By way of response, a more strategic response is promised for next year. We have a meeting with representatives from the police, Wiltshire Council, and the National Trust on 21 July at which we will pool experiences and consider countermeasures, especially for the Ridgeway. We thanked Jeremy Sumbler for the loan of Heras fencing for the nursery site and Ben Butler and his team for putting it up and taking it down.

**Local issues:** We learned that Wiltshire Council is consulting the public on two proposals for work to roads in the parish. The first is to extend the existing primrose double lines on the B4003 so that they are continuous throughout the length of the road. The second is to reduce the speed limit from 60mph to 50mph on sections of the A4361. We have long campaigned for both. As long as there is no objection, we expect both projects to progress and to be complete by the end of the year. A related task is reconstruction of the B4003 lay-by and verge, the need for which was agreed about three years ago. We have taken delivery of a SID (Speed Indicator Device) and, once we have found a contractor, hope to install it at one of two locations on the A4361. On planning applications, we decided not to comment on one from Truslowe Manor. We agreed that the planning committee would meet to consider the Red Lion's plans. We heard that a meeting with a number of local organisations to discuss the time-restricted use of a not-for-profit community space in the chapel is due to take place on 20 July. The National Trust told us that it will accelerate the gradual reopening of their facilities following the government announcement expected on 19 July.

**Dates of next meetings:** an ordinary meeting on 7 September at 19h30 in the Social Centre. As always, residents wishing to participate in these meetings are most welcome to do so.

**Draft minutes of this meeting may be found on the Avebury Parish Council website.**

# The New Inn

WINTERBOURNE MONKTON

**LIVE MUSIC EVERY FRIDAY**

**EVENING THROUGHOUT AUGUST**

**DOG FRIENDLY**      **INSIDE & OUTSIDE SEATING**

**LOCAL ALES & CIDERS**

**MONTHLY SUNDAY ROAST**

**FRIDAY**      **SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

**4 - 9 PM**      **12 - 9 PM**

**THE RETURN OF SUPPER CLUB**

**THEME: Summer Time**

**THURSDAY 26TH AUGUST**

**7PM**

*Optional Addition:*  
*Matching Wines*

**BOOK INDIVIDUAL SPACES OR A TABLE OF UP TO 6 FOR AN EVENING OF DELICIOUS SUMMERY FOOD.**

**THE NEW INN, WINTERBOURNE MONKTON, SN4 9NW**

**01672 539793**



## Update from the National Trust

As I write this in late July there is a sense of cautious optimism on site as the Government have just eased the rules on social distancing, the school holidays are almost upon us and each member of the team is working at full capacity to make sure everything is in place so that visitors can safely enjoy the summer months after such a challenging year so far.

As of 19 July we have lifted most social distancing requirements, face coverings have become optional but we still recommend that people wear them in enclosed spaces, and our booking system has gone, so there is no requirement anymore to book a visit.

As a result of this there are a few changes to our visitor offer as follows:

Museum: The Stables Gallery is open daily

with capacity restrictions now lifted; the Barn Gallery will remain closed.

Avebury Manor: We are now able to go back to our pre-Covid free-flow offer with the popular guided tours running alongside this at the beginning of the day. The opening days of the manor are Thursday to Sunday. Garden: This is open daily and unlike in previous years, a garden-only ticket is now available.

Stone circle: By early August we hope to restart our popular and much missed volunteer-led guided tours of the stone circle.

Restaurant: This is currently open Wednesday to Sunday, but we hope to get back to daily opening as soon as we've managed to recruit a full team again..

Shop: The NT shop is open daily and Cobblestones second-hand bookshop has returned to daily opening, subject to volunteer availability.

Avebury residents have free access to all elements of our offer.

For our full offer and opening times please see [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/avebury](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/avebury)

### Summer activities at Avebury (24 July – 31 August)

During the summer holidays there will be daily activities for all the family at Avebury Farmyard, from 11am-3pm. Activities range from traditional play days, to exploring wild habitats, doing mini-digs or participating in healthy exercise. Some small charges apply. To find out more please visit our website.

We're looking forward to seeing the manor and the Old Farmyard coming back to life again and we ask everybody to be kind to each other whilst we all find our way back to normality.

Don't forget that everyone living in Avebury has free entry and we'd be delighted to see you. As usual if you'd like to get in touch please contact us on 01672 539250 or email [avebury@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:avebury@nationaltrust.org.uk); we always love to hear from you.

## Kennet Valley Parish Council

July 2021

### TRAFFIC SPEEDS

The Parish Council shares residents' concerns about traffic speeds through the roads in our Parish which appear to have increased in recent months. With the start of the school summer holidays there are likely to be more children playing and cycling in our villages.

Our Community Speedwatch Team will commence soon in Lockeridge and we are continuing our efforts with the neighbouring Parish Councils and Wiltshire Council Highways Department to address road safety concerns along the A4. More volunteers are required to support the team; please contact; [parishclerk.fyfield@googlemail.com](mailto:parishclerk.fyfield@googlemail.com)

The Parish Council has requested the re-painting of road markings in Lockeridge and the introduction of yellow lines to prohibit parking on the A4 near the Fyfield Filling Station which causes dangerous narrowing of the busy road at this location.

### VERGES

The Wiltshire Council has adopted a policy of minimal cutting of verges in many areas with the exception of junctions and main roads. The Parish Council is therefore suggesting that where possible and safe to do so local residents consider whether they can be a good neighbour by strimming any vegetation that is growing on our verges, overhanging the pavement or covering street signs near their property. Thank you.

### DOGS

In very hot weather it is important to keep dogs in the shade and not walk them in the middle of the day. Nor should they be left in parked cars.

*The next PC meeting will be at the Kennet Valley Hall at 7pm on Monday 13th September*

## News from Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council

### A4361 Speed Reduction 60mph to 50mph

For over 30 years there have been campaigns to obtain a speed limit reduction along the length of the A4361 within the Parish without success. Following a number of fatal and serious accidents Berwick Bassett & Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council initiated a campaign to reduce the speed limit contacting local press and local television. Furthermore, we fully researched UK and local Government Highways regulations together with the road's accident and incident history which enabled us to put together the most compelling case.

In 2019 we presented our case to Marlborough Community Area Transport Group (CATG) who allocate funds for road improvements on behalf of Wiltshire Council. It was immediately placed in the top five most urgent cases. At the last minute it was decided that as Broad Hinton and Avebury bordered our Parish they would also be included in the survey with the costs being split three ways. As traffic surveys can only be completed once every ten years it was fortunate that the last one was completed over ten years ago.

Following the road assessment by Atkins, BB & WM PC were successful in obtaining the speed reduction between Beckhampton roundabout and Berwick Bassett. This will now enable Police to carry out speed checks that were unable to be done before as it was deemed unsafe to

do so! Broad Hinton were unsuccessful along their stretch and are continuing their fight separately.

Recently notifications have been put up along the A4361 offering residents an opportunity to comment on the new speed limit. If we were to try to get the speed limit reduced further before we get the reduction to 50mph, we will have to wait another 10 years with the speed limit at 60mph and no guarantee that we could get the speed limit reduced further than we already have. An application for reduction to 40mph at this stage would contravene current government guidelines and would not succeed. It is hoped that the speed reduction will be implemented by the end of 2021

### Community Hall

The Parish Council has been offered a new Community Building as part of the new development by the church. The building will accommodate 60 people and have parking for 18 cars. It will have a fully functioning kitchen and toilets with disabled access. A survey has been distributed to local residents. Please return this as soon as possible or send comments to [bbwmipc@gmail.com](mailto:bbwmipc@gmail.com) so we are aware of your views

Councillors would welcome any members of the community to be co-opted onto the Parish Council. Should you feel strongly about any of our local issues and would like to help support the work of your Parish Councillors with our continued work to represent the interests of the community then please contact the clerk on [bbwmipc@gmail.com](mailto:bbwmipc@gmail.com)

Further information is available on our website [www.bbwmipc.org](http://www.bbwmipc.org) or from the clerk. Residents can join the council mailing list to receive significant notices by contacting [bbwmipc@gmail.com](mailto:bbwmipc@gmail.com)



## CURIOSITY COMPASSION COURAGE

Church of England,  
Voluntary Aided  
School

[www.kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk)

Ofsted 'Good school' – March 2020

### News from June/July 2021

We have had two extremely busy months at Kennet Valley and it has been joyous. We were very excited to welcome new children to the school, go on a school trip and residential, and hatch 9 wonderful chicks from eggs.

Our June adventures really started when Year 4 and 5 set off for their residential trip to New Barn Field Centre, which is near Dorchester. While they were on the trip, they took part in lots of team building games and activities, learnt more about the Romans and completed loads of sporty events too. They even completed a fun run to win a range of prizes. The staff that went with the children were so impressed with their mature attitudes and get up and go! Mrs Bushnell, TA, said "It is always wonderful to take children on a residential trip because they really grow on these trips. Every child pushed themselves in the activities to be the best they could be – it was fantastic".

The trips didn't end there though – a few weeks later the whole school set off for day visits to either Cotswold Wildlife Park or Go Ape.

The year 6 children were the only class to go to 'Go Ape' and were absolutely amazing! I was really lucky to go with them on this trip, although I didn't get to climb the trees as they did. The group started off the day working in teams to complete puzzles and group challenges, including an outdoor escape room! Then after lunch the group, accompanied by the Go Ape Rangers, Mrs McQue and Michelle, set off up the trees. We were all very proud of the children, as everyone completed the two lower circuits, which were about 7 metres up. This was really brave of them all, but especially 3 or 4 who were very nervous to begin with. Every child stretched themselves and pushed hard to make sure they achieved their own personal goals during the day. Most of the class also completed the highest climb where they walked over ladders and bridges at over 40 feet! They also all had several goes on zip wires to get down to the ground again.

On the same day the rest of the school went for a day trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park to see the animals there. It was a large group to take so they were accompanied by 10 adults – and two of our past pupils. The children loved their day out and talked in depth about the experiences that they had had at the park. Favourite animals were the red pandas, rhinos and meerkats.

### Welcome to Kennet Valley!

In June and July we were really delighted to welcome 4 new children to the school. Lawrence, Dominic, Joe and Isabel all joined the school and we all hope that they have enjoyed their time with us so far.

In September we are looking forward to welcoming 9 new Reception children to the

school, and 3 more children into higher year groups.

We are also looking forward to welcoming a new member of staff to the school – Miss Joanna Hogan will be joining the teaching team and will be working with our Year 4 and 5 children for the year. We were very pleased that she was able to join the class on Moving On Day and joined the sports day.

I am sure you will all join me in welcoming the new children and Miss Hogan to the school.

### Sports Day

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July we were delighted to welcome our parents to our annual sports day. We made a decision, following DfE guidance, to continue with our planning which meant that 98 of our parents joined in the fun. Although they all had to sit in groups of less than 30, there was still a great atmosphere to the afternoon.

Sanjay Chudasama, a governor for the school, was there to cheer on the school as well. He said *"Kennet Valley spirit thrives on sports day. It was a great pleasure to see parents being able to attend and support their children and the school in what has been a difficult time for us all. It was clear to see the unity the school has and that the 'small but mighty' spirit of KVS was out in force. A huge highlight for myself was seeing and experiencing the children's camaraderie. Watching them cheering and staying with other team members to support them in finishing the races albeit sacrificing their own chance of progressing in the races. This really shows what KVS is all about and that it is truly an amazing family to be part of. Hats off to all the staff for making this such a memorable event for all those in attendance and taking part."*

### Other new arrivals

After their successes at raising a HUGE amount of frogs earlier in the year, our youngest children in Reception and Year 1 have been in charge of hatching a looking after 9 chicks. These arrived in the middle of June, and have now left us to go to live in one of our teachers' gardens. All of the school fell in love with the delightful chicks, which started out as tiny fluffy balls before beginning to develop their wing feathers. They seemed to grow dramatically each week and also seemed to love being held and fussed over. We are hoping to have more eggs to hatch in the future. Mrs McQue and Mrs Alexander would also love quails too. Mrs McQue was quick to comment how kind and caring all of her class were towards these babies – "The children took real responsibility in taking care of the eggs and then the chicks. It was a lovely thing to see".

### 2021/22 School Year

As you will imagine all of the staff have begun to plan for the new school year. We will be continuing with our topic blocks which will start with science, history and geography before the holiday in October. I will write to you about these blocks as the term starts.

### Weekly Walks

Wrens class have been walking off around the village over the last term to explore it further. They have visited West Woods and the Dene to look at the animals and plants that grow and live there. They also looked at how these areas changed as the seasons moved

from late spring to early summer. Mrs McQue also invited the children who are joining in September to come for these walks and was very pleased that several of them were able to come with their parents. Mrs McQue and Mrs Alexander will be continuing their weekly walks in September and the rest of the school will be planning at least two walks a term

### Leavers Production

On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July we were thrilled that the year 6 children performed their Leavers Production of "The Next Big Step". They all took part in both the dress rehearsal and main performance which were held at the Kennet Valley Hall. They were joined by about 40 of their parents, who I know really enjoyed watching.

One parents said, "It was really moving to see this class work together to perform their play, especially after the year that they had been through. It brought tears to my eyes – especially the final song".

Both myself and the governors have worked hard to try and ensure that we have been able to give the current year 6 children the same end of primary school experiences that other children would have had in the past. The leavers' production is a big part of this. I am so proud of all of year 6.

### Leavers Service

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July, the Year 6 children also led their final church service. This was an important opportunity for the school community to say good bye and good luck to them all. The children sang together, read prayers and poems, and talked about the memories that they have of the school. It was a really beautiful service. Children received gifts of a reading book and bible.

I know that I speak for all of the staff when I say that we will miss every member of our year 6 class. They have been great role models to the other children, are funny with positive attitudes and we wish them every success in the future. I know that they will push themselves to smash any targets that are set for them in secondary school.

### School Places

We are delighted to be able to offer tours of the school again for parents looking for a school place, either for the coming school year or for a place in reception in coming years. If you would like to come for a tour and a chat about Kennet Valley, please do not hesitate to contact us so that we can arrange a time to show you around our lovely little school. You can do this by calling 01672861202 or by emailing Ruthie (our Admin Officer) on [admin@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk)

Many thanks -

Mrs. Emma Russell, Headteacher



## AVEBURY SOCIAL CENTRE

The AGM of the Centre took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021. There was one member of the public present and there were three apologies from Trustees. The Chairman, Tony Farthing welcomed every one and acknowledged how nice it was to have a face-to-face meeting after so many months. It was noted that two members of the Committee would be retiring, Jane Jennion who had moved, and Nicky Thomas and thanks were expressed for her time and effort on the committee; and replacements would be sought. Thanks were expressed to Maggie Lewis who had agreed to stand in as Booking Clerk for the time being, Michael Daley, who was unfortunately unable to attend but had sent a detailed report and a set of accounts to all members, was also thanked for his excellent work as treasurer – and in particular for his success in gaining grants to help cover the lack of income over the last financial year! This would be a great help in meeting the costs of the porch renovations which Ron Dobson who despite no longer being on the committee had agreed to help oversee which was much appreciated. Judy and Maggie were thanked for their detailed and time - consuming efforts meeting covid regulations and Judy for being secretary and keeping Tony organised. Sandra Hues was also thanked for her dedication in caring for the flower pots/troughs at the front of the building which all members agreed helped to give the hall an attractive frontage on the High Street. The current officers were prepared to stand another year and were voted in unanimously. Date of the next meeting to be notified in the near future. There then followed the normal committee meeting when various updates were given, it was noted the hall would remain open during the porch renovation, but care would need to be taken and there would be a need to keep the work tidy. Two music events were discussed and the desire to have folding small “café” style tables was being investigated. Maggie Lewis agreed to consider the situation with licences and there was an issue with tiles slipping on the rear roof and Judy highlighted the stone mullioned window would be in need of repair in the future. The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Judith Farthing  
Secretary

## MONKTON ‘(NEARLY) POST LOCK-DOWN’ LUNCH SAT 26 JUNE 21



A huge thanks to all those helpers, donors and attendees at our first party for ages to celebrate the (nearly) end of lockdown. The sun shone, some 50 people met up with old friends, made new ones and spent money generously on the cake/produce stall, the tombola and gave superb donations for the lunch. Thanks to the Avebury Community Shop for their kind and generous donation towards the ploughman's lunch and Enterprise Works in Swindon (Supporting people in Swindon with disabilities) for donating 2 large wooden planters which raised £90.

All in all it was a wonderful day and in addition to having a great time, we raised some £845! £200 each has been donated to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance and Combat Stress (it was Armed Forces Day!) and the remainder is for St Mary Magdalene Church which will go towards repair bills for the woodwork and guttering.

Our next fund raising event will be Lunches and Teas in the Avebury Social Centre on Sun 15 August and Bank Holiday Monday 30 August. Helpers and offers of cakes would be much appreciated! (contact Penny 01672 539158) and do come along for a lovely lunch and tea.



## The Avebury Players

are looking for a volunteer  
**SET BUILDER and STAGE MANAGER**  
to work on the pantomime, *Mother  
Goose*,  
to be performed in The Avebury Social  
Centre in early December

If you have carpentry skills and the ability to adapt them for use on stage and/or you are a well organised problem-solver with good communication skills, please email [aveburyplayers@gmail.com](mailto:aveburyplayers@gmail.com), specifying which role/s you are interested in.

## THE ART SOCIETY KENNET AND SWINDON (TASKS)

Please keep the date!

Here is the autumn programme for TASKS

September 20<sup>th</sup> OPERA AND DESIGN Simon Rees  
October 18<sup>th</sup> THE ART OF THE STEAL:  
NAZI LOOTING DURING

WWII Shauna Isaac

December 13<sup>th</sup> FOOD AND ART THROUGH THE  
AGES: FROM RENAISSANCE  
SUGAR SCULPTURE  
TO 3D PRINTING

Natasha Marks

Details of the meetings will be published monthly.

It is assumed that all these lectures will be live in the Ellendune Centre, Wroughton SN49LW. However it seems likely that we shall be able to develop ‘hybrid meetings’ with the lecture both live in the hall and available live streamed.

New members are very welcome indeed, and should contact Mrs Judi Ferries at [ianferries@btinternet.com](mailto:ianferries@btinternet.com) or 01793 84079. Guests are also welcome at any of our meetings.



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## 50 mile walk for MNDA THANK YOU LOCKERIDGE!

I would like to say a very huge thank you to all the fabulous people of Lockeridge and surrounding villages for their amazing support on the Bank Holiday Weekend at the end of May

On 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, I walked 50 miles in and around Lockeridge in aid of the Motor Neurone Disease Association (MNDA). Setting off for to walk a mile every half hour following one of two circular routes, the challenge saw me and some fantastic supporters walking through the day and night for 25h in total. Meanwhile my amazing support crew were stationed in the layby with supplies, collection tubs, posters and banners and literally standing in the road to stop and chat to those passing by about what we were doing.

Some special thanks have to be made to my Soggy Support Crew (Jo, Susan and Karen), to all those who walked with me (particularly those who joined me through the night so that I wasn't alone with the scary sheep in the dark!), to the guys at the Who'd A Thought It for their company, helping with publicity, collecting donations and for the fab chips and butties that came our way at regular intervals through the walk, to the lovely villagers who put our signs and bunting (which meant so much to me) and to everyone who came out to wave, chat to me or to add to the collection tubs as I went by. You are all amazing!

Together we raised over £800 on the day in cash and online donations. THANK YOU!

The walk was part of 50 challenges that I am taking on over the course of the year, to raise much needed funds for this very special charity. The challenges are ongoing and will continue all the way through to February 2022!! So far, they have included a variety of weird and wonderful things like Marmite bagels, swimming an Individual Medley with no pool, SUP Yoga, orange mini eggs and chopsticks, several fairly brutal workouts, impossipuzzles and a house of cards amongst others! All the challenges have been recorded so if you would like to see more and have a giggle, head over to my YouTube channel where you will find them all available to view.

MNDA works super hard to support individuals and their families affected by this horrible disease. They also fund vital research in the hope that one day a cure will be found for this disease which kills a third of people within a year of diagnosis. At present around 5000 adults are affected by MND in the UK, with around 6 new diagnoses, and sadly 6 deaths every day. Whatever we can do to support MNDA is so hugely appreciated by the charity and those it helps.



We're now at week 20 of 50 and our fundraising total is just over £1600 (not counting Gift Aid) and rising, so there's still time to support future challenges – or even suggest one of your own (as long as it isn't likely to get me hospitalised or barred from social media!). You can donate via Virgin Money Giving or get in touch via Facebook or Instagram. I'm easily found on YouTube and social media thanks to the uncommon name – Tamara Turchet

## Wiltshire walkers

One of the most attractive local places to walk is surely the Pewsey Downs, which afford stunning views from Milk Hill, Walkers Hill, Knap Hill and Martinsell Hill out over the green spaces of the Pewsey Vale towards Salisbury Plain. The Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership is now in the process of applying to gain Walkers are Welcome accreditation, and they need our help. They must prove to the WaW organisation that there is sufficient local interest in the scheme by obtaining 700 or so signatures of people living in and near Pewsey, and so far they have approximately 600. Becoming a Walkers are Welcome community brings many benefits to the economy and environment for both locals and visitors. Please help them to get over the line with the final 100 signatures by signing (electronically) the register at the website given on the attached flyer.

Achieving the national accreditation of Walkers Are Welcome status for Pewsey and The Vale strengthens the area as a walking destination, increasing footfall and benefitting shops, cafes, pubs, accommodation and other local businesses.

**visitpewseyvale**  
.co.uk

tranquil ~ spiritual ~ ancient

The scheme ensures that walking routes are maintained by local people for local people and for visitors.

You can help us demonstrate we have the support of local people at [www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/waw](http://www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/waw) - or scan the QR code overleaf.

THANK YOU!



<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/TamaraTurchet>

Many, many thanks to you all!

Tamara

## Kennet Valley 2022 Calendar

### Views from the Kennet Valley 2018 Calendar



### Views from the Kennet Valley 2019 Calendar



Don't forget to take local photographs for consideration for our next calendar to be published later in the year.

Send them between now and September to [graham@grahamkitchen.com](mailto:graham@grahamkitchen.com) or ring Graham on 01672 861798 and he will collect them.

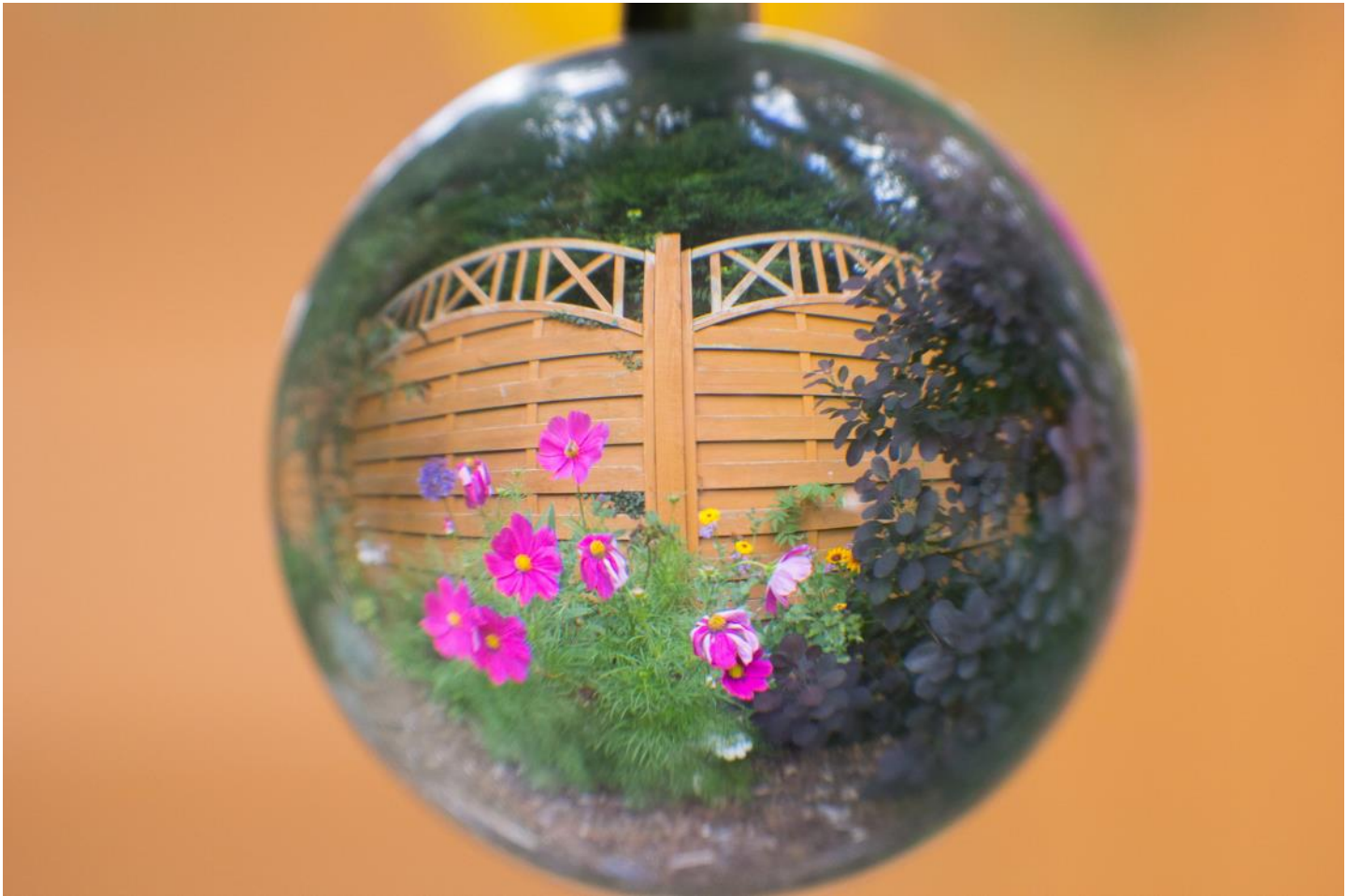
### Views from the Kennet Valley 2020 Calendar



### Views from the Kennet Valley 2021 Calendar









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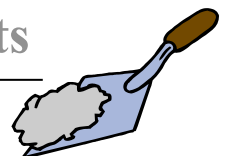
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