

UPPER KENNET NEWS

February 2022

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

Your usual magazine is inside

CAUGHT ON THE HOP?

THEN TRY

AVEBURY COMMUNITY SHOP

- Providing you with all your household needs
- Locally produced cakes, milk, butter and cheese
- Pop in for a friendly chat, a stamp for the post
- A treat of what you love most
- And free delivery if there is a need!

ALL ABOUT US

HOPE COTTAGE
HIGH STREET
AVEBURY
SN8 1RF
TELEPHONE
01672 539200

OPENING HOURS:

Daily 10am - 4pm

Providers of locally sourced butcher's meat, fresh or frozen and orders can be taken for cuts of your choice

The shop is fully licensed providing local beers, wines and spirits and tobacco products

We also cater for dietary needs such as gluten free and vegan

Come and visit for a friendly service
And a great social experience



Kennet Valley C of E Primary School

Book Sponsorship



Could you sponsor a book, story sack or set of class books?

We are hoping that many of you in our school community will be able to sponsor some books for the school.



Choose one of the three levels of sponsorship ...

Single Books

Sponsor a single book for **£7**



These books will come from a list of Wiltshire top 100 children's reads.

Story Sack

Sponsor a Story Sack for the children in Reception/Year 1 / Year 2 for **£40**

Story Sacks will include books, games and puzzles for children to read and play with at home.

Class Set of Books

Sponsor a Class Set of Guided Reading books for **£90**

These books will be added to our developing Reading Spine for class teachers to use each year.

If you would like to support the school in this way please drop a cheque or cash into Ruthie or Suzanne in the office or pay directly into the School Fund account

Sort Code: **30 92 63** Account Number: **38636960** Please use Reference **BOOKS + your child's initials**



When you sponsor a book, story sack or set of books we will ensure that there is a book plate in each copy, with your child's or family name on to thank you for your help and support.

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Kennet Valley Lottery Club draw winners

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

£100 Number 3 Phil Davies
£75 Number 48 Peter Patmore
£50 Number 61 Tim Verity

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 January

1st	£48.00	27	Sandra Elliott
2nd	£36.00	77	Rob Edgel
3rd	£24.00	95	Barry Jago
4th	£12.00	37	Brian Sterry

(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

Funerals

Francis John Skull

20 December Broad Hinton

Bryony Jane Fuller

21 January 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 2nd February,
Wednesday 16th February
& Wednesday 2nd March.

A View from the Rectory

In February 2019 Phil and I used up the last of his airmiles and chose to visit Trondheim in Norway. Well - choice didn't come into it much as it was the only destination that matched our dates and points allocation. We had dreams of snow and culture, of fjords and firepits, and eagerly ploughed through lists of where to go, what to see and how to do it cheaply in a country notorious for being expensive. It isn't our style to plan every last item on the itinerary with military precision, leaving no room for the surprising, the unexpected or an urge to wander unmarked paths. A bed for our heads, a rough idea of some of the delights of a new place and a sense of wonder and we are off, keeping our expectations free from as much baggage as possible. Arriving in a new place, even late at night, is exciting and we never could resist dumping our bags and heading straight out again for an orientation, a stretch of the legs, perhaps to pick up something to eat, or simply to soak in the sounds and smells, the 'sense' of this new place. Occasionally in a new city we would come across a local 'what's on' guide and Trondheim had an excellent one - it even mentioned the 'Bacon Bus' to Sweden, departing at various hours on set days, carrying penny-minding Norwegians and ex-pats to the less expensive supermarkets in Sweden to stock up the larders. It carried too a full listing of every church service in Trondheim, including a Sung Evensong at the Anglican Church that same day. Off we went to Evensong ... in *Norwegian*, and we found comfort in the familiarity of this old liturgy and coped with the language barrier each in our own way. Phil downloaded Evensong on his mobile phone and placed the two scripts side by side. I immersed myself in the new sounds of the language relying on my memory of the liturgy to carry me close to God, and attempted to join with responses and singing (quietly). attentive to the pronunciation of words around me. We both emerged refreshed and at peace. I think we were being made ready for what was coming less than a month away: the pandemic.

February 2022 and the idea of simply hoping on a flight is out of the question, as is any expectation of spontaneity in travelling, here or overseas. Hotels, meals, events, entry to historical sites, visiting family, even going to the cinema have acquired a set of rules of preparation and engagement to rival a military battle. Face covering: check; Covid Test result: check; anti-viral spray: check. Have I booked? - Yes. Gone are heady days of 'Oh, shall we just pop across and see Mary-Jane?'. Our world is changed and our language to match and our daily caring for others is expressed as much in Lateral Flow Testing, masks, and hand spray as in calls, emails and medication runs.

However, in the midst of all this runs a steady stream of love and LOVE is what we are made for. Not airy-fairy Valentine schmaltz but the Love that will not let us go, that encourages us to step out, face covered, and go the extra mile in looking after others; the sense that in doing so we are showing not only what it means to be human but also children of the divine Heavenly Presence that suffers through all of this with us. Spring time is coming, St Bridget's day marks the seeing off of winter - let it be too the marker of hope as we journey onwards.

Maria

Upper Kennet Churches Winter Crisis Fund Do you need help?

If you:

- live in one of the Upper Kennet Parishes
- are worried about where the next meal is coming from
- have to choose between heating and eating
- are facing a sudden financial emergency

we might be able to assist with a week's food supply, or fuel support, or just general advice.

Contact Rev'd Maria Shepherdson on 01672 539643, or a Lay Pastoral Assistant on 01672 861786. Your call will be treated in total confidence.

This is not a substitute for Social Benefits or the Food Bank. It is a gesture from people who understand what you are experiencing.

UPPER KENNET CHURCHES SERVICES

	St Nicholas FYFIELD	St Michael & All Angels WEST OVERTON	Christ Church EAST KENNETT	St James AVEBURY	St Mary Magdalene WINTERB'NE MONKTON	St Katherine & St Peter WINTERB'NE BASSETT	St Peter ad Vincula BROAD HINTON
Wednesday 2 February			7 pm Meditation Service (Taizé)	10.30 am Celtic Communion			
6 February 4 th Sunday before Lent	8.30 am Prayer Book Communion				10.30 am Benefice Service Communion	10.30 am Morning Prayer	
Wednesday 9 February				10.30 am Celtic Communion			
13 February 3rd Sunday before Lent		9.45 am Benefice Service Communion					9.45 am Prayer Book Matins
Wednesday 16 February			7 pm Meditation Service (Taizé)	NO SERVICE			
20 February 2nd Sunday before Lent				9.45 am Benefice Service Communion			
Wednesday 23 February				10.30 am Celtic Communion			
27 February Sunday before Lent		10.30 am Morning Prayer	8 am Prayer Book Communion			9.45 am Benefice Service Communion	

Morning Prayer 8.30-9am daily



Join us by zoom for half an hour to start the day in an atmosphere of quiet prayer and reflection with others, from the comfort of your own armchair. We are a small group who value this wonderful opportunity to gather ourselves for the day, to focus on what lies ahead and to enjoy silence together. For more details, the service sheet and the zoom link, contact:

Rev'd Maria Shepherdson:
01672 539643 or revmariashepherdson@outlook.com

Readings

**Sunday 6 February – Green
4th Sunday before Lent**
Isaiah 6.1-8[9-end]
1 Corinthians 15.1-11
Luke 5.1-11

**Sunday 27 February – Green
Sunday next before Lent**
Exodus 34.29-end
2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2
Luke 9.28-36[37-43a]

**Sunday 13 February – Green
3rd Sunday before Lent**
Jeremiah 17.5-10
1 Corinthians 15.12-20
Luke 6.17-26

**Sunday 6 March – Green
First Sunday of Lent**
Deuteronomy 26.1-11
Romans 10.8b-13
Luke 4.1-13

**Sunday 20 February – Green
2nd Sunday before Lent**
Genesis 2.4b-9,15-end
Revelation 4
Luke 8.22-25

Watch this space for
Talking Tuesdays
and
A Space to Breathe

FRIDAY 9th FEBRUARY DATES 18th FRIDAY



Little Angels

10AM - 11:30AM

KENNET VALLEY SCHOOL, LOCKERIDGE

Fortnightly group for bumps to pre-schoolers.
All welcome!

The Very Reverend Stephen Lake, Dean of Gloucester, nominated for election as new Bishop of Salisbury



The Diocese is delighted to announce that the Queen has approved the nomination of the Very Reverend Stephen Lake, Dean of Gloucester, for election as the next Bishop of Salisbury, succeeding the Right Reverend Nicholas Holtam who retired last July.

Stephen trained for ministry at Chichester Theological College and is returning to his roots with this appointment. He grew up in Poole, held his curacy at Sherborne Abbey with Castleton and Lillington and was ordained Priest in 1989.

He became Vicar of St Aldhelm's, Branksome, Poole from 1992 and was additionally appointed Rural Dean of Poole in 2000. In 2001, Stephen was appointed Sub Dean of St Albans, and took up his current role as Dean of Gloucester in 2011.

Stephen is a Church Commissioner and Lead Dean for Safeguarding.

He is married to Carol, and they have three adult children.

Acting Bishop of Salisbury and Bishop of Sherborne, the Rt Rev Karen Gorham, said:

'I am delighted that Stephen has accepted the invitation to be the 79th Bishop of Salisbury. Stephen brings significant creative gifts of leadership to the diocese at an important time in our life as we continue to encourage the local church to be the best that it can be, bringing hope to our local

communities in sharing the love of Jesus Christ. Stephen knows the diocese from the past and understands the challenges and opportunities for both our urban and our rural contexts. Bishop Andrew and I are very much looking forward to working with Stephen and welcoming him and Carol into the diocese later in the year.

Following this announcement there will be plenty of opportunities to get to know Stephen as he plans to make some further visits into the Diocese before his consecration. We anticipate that Stephen will be consecrated as Bishop sometime after Easter and will be enthroned in Salisbury Cathedral late in the summer'.

Gillian Clarke, Chair of the House of Laity and a diocesan representative on the Crown Nominations Commission, said:

'I am delighted that Dean Stephen Lake is to be our new Bishop of Salisbury. During the discernment process he radiated warmth, good humour, and an engaging confidence that together, in our churches and communities, we can achieve great things.

'I was struck by his boldness, his vision, and his passion for sharing God's love with all people, everywhere. Stephen brings energy, experience, and a deep-rooted love of Salisbury Diocese.

I am excited and encouraged as we face the future, challenging and often uncertain, with such a caring and inspiring leader and pastor, who can enable and empower us to build and grow in confidence, hope and common purpose.'

In responding to his appointment Dean Stephen, said:

'It is such a privilege and a joy to be called back to the Diocese of Salisbury as Bishop. To be able to serve in the places that formed me will be something rare and special. I will enjoy visiting Dorset and Wiltshire today and look forward to meeting as many people as possible on this announcement day.

Coming from leading a major cathedral I have a clear sense of the importance of great organisation, of good culture and rootedness in place. I hope to lead a confident diocese as we move out of the pandemic together.

After today, preparations can begin for this new ministry in the Diocese and in due course, with the Channel Islands, and I look forward to arriving just as soon as possible.

LENT LUNCH WINTERBOURNE MONKTON WEDNESDAY 16th MARCH



Please drop in for a chat and bowl of homemade soup, bread and cheese

At Old School House (by courtesy of Alex and Simon Mellor)

Winterbourne Monkton,

on Wednesday 16th March anytime from 12 noon until 2.30pm.

Any donations raised will be divided between Cancer Research and Monkton Church.

Disabled parking available outside, other

parking in layby or New Inn pub carpark. Lifts available, ask if required!



More information from Penny 01672 539158

goldpennygold@aol.com

AVEBURY SOCIAL CENTRE

The chairman and Committee's grateful thanks are expressed to Vic Paradise for very kindly refixing the damaged inner door window that had to be replaced over the festive period; due to his excellent work the door looks as good as new.

The Chairman and secretary erected and then took down the Christmas lights that decorated the hall inside and out over the festive period – it has to be said that the High Street had a lovely display of lights down its length which made it look very attractive!

Current infection rates are of concern and we do remind all users to be vigilant with hand sanitising and social distance along with wearing masks as an extra precaution.

Finally the Committee request that hirers (and their clients) of the hall only park outside the hall to undertake unloading or loading up, equipment/artwork/supplies etc. and then park in the little central car park for the duration of the event to ease congestion in the High Street. This is particularly important if there is an event in the church or building work happening in the High Street or in the vicinity of the area.

Judith Farthing Secretary

Avebury Community Shop

Shop Phone Number:

01672 539200

Opening Hours

10am-4pm every day

Volunteer Profile – Annie



Annie is a retired practice nurse who lives in Burbage. She agreed to help in the shop when an appeal was made at Avebury WI (of which she is a member) for more helpers in the shop. Initially Annie worked occasional shifts whenever she was available. When the first lockdown happened and so many regular volunteers were not able to help, she thought that she would do a shift every week. She has continued to do this, usually on a Wednesday afternoon. She says that working in the shop has kept her sane during lockdown because it was an opportunity to get out and meet people. It was also lovely that so many people were grateful and really appreciated the shop during the pandemic. Annie encouraged her husband Andrew to help in the shop and now he also works every week.

Annie's favourite products are Vicarage Lane Cakes and the homemade preserves. Annie is a really good baker, and frequently brings in homemade treats for the shop volunteers – another incentive to volunteer

if you were thinking about it! She loves to try out new recipes and her delicious cakes are always welcomed by our volunteers. If Annie has inspired you to volunteer, please get in touch with one of the shop managers on the shop phone number at the top of this article.

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 people or small family groups, and also asking customers to continue to wear face masks in the shop.

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.

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)

Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council News.

Following the elections in the Spring there remained vacancies for councillors on the Parish Council. The vacancies available for co-option due to insufficient candidates have now been filled - by Mr Neil Kirk and Mr Ben Woodward. Another vacancy arose due to one of the elected councillors resigning before taking up office. This final vacancy is now advertised. Residents may request an actual election. If an election is called and more than one candidate stands then a public vote will be held. If one candidate stands they will be elected unopposed. If no candidate stands or if no request for election is received then the vacancy is open to co-option by councillors with no further input from the residents. For further information please contact the clerk below or see notice boards or website

This year the Council hopes to have again the Annual Parish Meeting where residents can discuss matters of local interest with Councillors. This will take place in April.

The defibrillator that was on a house wall at the end of the main village road in Winterbourne Monkton has been relocated to The New Inn. In the Spring all three defibrillators will be renewed. The 2nd Winterbourne Monkton defibrillator will move to the Community Hall. The Berwick Bassett defibrillator will remain at its current position just inside Manor Farm yard

Janice Pattison bbwmpc@gmail.com

Avebury & District WI

December 2020 and January 2021

In the run up to Christmas I forgot to do a report on our Christmas lunch, apologies, here it is now.

On 9th December 14 members gathered at the New Inn, Winterbourne Monkton for our much anticipated Christmas lunch. Christmas cards and Secret Santa gifts were exchanged, a delicious 2 course lunch was much enjoyed and much catching up was done amongst the attendees. We had a new honorary member in the form of Cody and Ben's little daughter, maybe when she's a bit bigger she will join the WI!

Thank you Ben and Cody for a lovely lunch, it was just what we needed after such a difficult year.

Sadly we decided to cancel our January meeting as there had been several cases of the virus in Avebury and the committee felt it was not worth the risk of meeting. Karin Meek, who was to have given us a class on sugar paste flower making, has kindly agreed to come to our birthday meeting to do the class instead.

Virus permitting our next meeting is on Thursday 10th February at 2 p.m. in the Social Centre when Jo Gay will be sharing her memories of nursing in the 1950s and 60s and comparing it with nursing today. The competition item is a nursing artifact and the flower arrangement is snowdrops in a green or purple container.

I hope to see you all then.

Maggie Lewis
President.

Thank you for
all your support
in 2021!

FROM EVERYONE AT
THE NEW INN, WINTERBOURNE MONKTON

We will be closed from Sunday 2nd - Sunday 23rd
January - re-opening on Thursday 27th.

We are excited to be using the time to redecorate,
upgrade our Bed and Breakfast rooms and make
improvements to some of our outside space.



Burn's Night Supper
Thursday 27th January

Join us for a fantastic evening including
a welcome drink with live bag-piping
and a 3 course meal. Call or email now
for more details and to book your place.

THE NEW INN, WINTERBOURNE MONKTON
01672 539793 thenewinn@elderbrookhouse.com

KENNET VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

CONTACT DETAILS

The telephone number and email address for the Parish Council is due to change on February 1st. The Council now has a dedicated mobile which should be used for all Council related calls, if your enquiry is not urgent, please endeavor to use the email address:

clerk@kvparishcouncil.org.uk

Tel: 07897 797208

BOOKS IN THE BUS SHELTER

Thank you to our wonderful West Overton ladies who kindly once again cleared and tidied the West Overton Bus Shelter. Please be mindful when placing books to only do so when there is space on the shelves, they need to be in reasonable condition and appropriate. Just before Christmas several bags of books were dumped on the bus shelter floor. We hope this will not become a regular occurrence as our volunteers and the Council simply do not have the time and resources to constantly dispose of them, it would be such a shame to have to remove the book facility due to the actions of a few. If you have an excess of books and there is no space on the shelves there are plenty of charity shops in town, including one dedicated to taking books.

PARISH PRECEPT

The parish precept for 2022-2023 has increased by 3.5%, this is inline with inflation and in response to a number of increased costs. These include works to trees and the felling of 2 trees on the Dene which sadly have succumbed to Ash Dieback and could not be saved. The Council will look to replace one of them as a commemorative tree for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The other expenditure is in response to a general increase in costs, additional grass cutting

requirements and the upcoming renewal of the lease of the defibrillators.

QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE – JUNE

To date we have only received one offer to help with the organisation of some kind of event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee taking place on the weekend of 2nd June 2022. This event can only take place if there is enough support and willing volunteers. Please contact the clerk clerk@kvparishcouncil.org.uk if this is something you would be willing to help with.

COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Kennet Valley Parish Council currently has one vacancy for the West Overton & Lockeridge Ward.

Do you have the desire to help and become involved in your community?

Do you have time to give?

Do you like a different challenge every day?

...If so, it might be time for you to apply to become a local councillor.

A parish councillor is immersed in the local community, and it can be a really rewarding role. Find information and videos from parish councillors about their experiences with the National Association of Local Councils [Elections](https://www.nalc.gov.uk) — [#MakeAChange \(nalc.gov.uk\)](https://www.nalc.gov.uk), or get in touch with your local Parish Council clerk@kvparishcouncil.org.uk

Getting Started - to be eligible to apply to be a local councillor you must be:

- a UK or Commonwealth citizen (which includes a British subject) or be a citizen of the European Union.
- at least 18 years old.
- an elector of the local council; or in the past 12 months occupied land or other premises in the area the local council serves (as owner or tenant); or work in the area local council serves (as your principal or only place of work); or

live within three miles of the local council boundary.

For an application form and further details please contact Sophie Roberts:

clerk@kvparishcouncil.org.uk

LOCKERIDGE YOUTH CLUB

We are mindful that the Youth Club has remained dormant for some time and would love to be able to bring this popular and well attended club back in the spring. In order for this to happen the Council desperately needs a volunteer to attend at the start and end of each session (this will be once a month on a Wednesday evening) in order to take the register for Track and Trace and to check at the end of the session that everything has been put away and bins emptied.

We also require an enthusiastic helper behind the scenes to assist in organising bi-monthly activities and assist with organising some fundraising. Please contact Sophie Roberts clerk@kvparishcouncil.org.uk if you are able to help.

PRESCRIPTIONS UPDATE JANUARY 2022

Are you self-isolating and no one to help?

Are you concerned about getting your prescription?

If you are in self-isolation because of the virus and have no one able to pick up your prescription from the GP surgery dispensary please telephone Jill Turner on 07900 223345 who will make arrangements for it to be collected for you.

The prescription must be ordered by you 2 days in advance as per the normal process. We require your full name and address in order for us to be able to collect on your behalf. The Dispensary requires a bulk collection if at all possible, therefore we would expect to make collections on Monday, Wednesday and Friday after 5pm.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE KENNET VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL is on Monday 7 March at 6.30pm in the Kennet Valley Hall.

THANK GOODNESS FOR DEFIBRILLATORS!!!

Swimming is Safe in the Marlborough Leisure Centre

Four years ago, I had open-heart surgery at the John Radcliffe Hospital to replace an aortic valve. Most medics were concerned with my 40 beats per minute pulse rate, which I have had for at least 20 years. During last summer, it became obvious that my pulse rate was becoming erratic and would drop as low as 25bpm. This was concerning since it meant swimming was becoming difficult and limited. I had a follow-up meeting with Dr Gubran of the John Radcliffe Hospital and it was suggested that the fitting of a pacemaker would reduce the arrhythmia and help the heart to maintain a good pulse rate. The fitting of the unit took place on 23rd November 2021 and it was suggested that I would not be able to swim for 6 weeks. This meant I could start to swim gently between Christmas and New Year. My first swim was to practise overarm crawl and after 10 lengths I had to stop and rest before swimming another 6 lengths for a second rest followed by a final 4 lengths. The following day I easily swam 20 lengths and carried on to complete 30 lengths in total. Monday was a Bank Holiday and therefore an enforced rest.

Tuesday was a day, which showed the Marlborough Leisure Centre swimming pool community as a friendly, welcoming group. I had explained that I was not at normal swimming speed to the users of lane 2 as well as the lifeguards. As I came up to 20 lengths, I was

feeling fine but thought that maybe only doing a further 2 or 4 lengths would be sufficient. What follows is the evidence of others:

Apparently, I was ahead of Sus and approaching Emma from the opposite direction when I just stopped swimming and was lying in the water face down. Both ladies stood up, turned me over so I was face up and, together with a swimmer from the fast lane, got me onto the poolside at the shallow end. At the same time, the pool attendant sounded the alarm and the pool manager brought the defibrillator machine. I was not breathing and there was no pulse. After a single shock from the defibrillator, a pulse was detected and CPR was commenced to get the breathing going, and, shortly after, the paramedics arrived from Marlborough and took control of the situation. I was then loaded into the ambulance and we headed for the resuscitation unit at Great Western Hospital.

I became conscious in the ambulance and wondered how on earth I had got there. I had been swimming, and then materialised in the ambulance. I consider this a surreal experience worthy of a place in a Douglas Adams adventure. I asked the paramedic if I was part of a reality I did not comprehend! Fairly quickly I realised they were discussing my details; date of birth, next of kin, telephone number, address, etc. So I tried to answer these questions, which I hoped would be helpful, and would let them know that I was conscious and part of the world

again. I may have slipped into unconsciousness because I cannot recall the major part of the journey, only being parked in a bed at the end of the 'resus' unit.

I was then able to answer questions of a similar sort to those raised in the ambulance.

After a short while, Sus appeared by the lenient ruling of a hospital administrator, and described what had happened. A bit later on, one of the part-time pool attendants, Fiona, appeared in her 'Trainee Paramedic' uniform and explained that her supervisor, David, was the paramedic who had taken over the situation from the Leisure Centre and explained that I was lucky that such quick, determined and decisive actions had been taken. So quick, in fact, that Doctor Dan, who examined me on admission, said there was no water ingress into my lungs.

My thanks go to all at the Leisure Centre, the Paramedic Team, and all staff that have looked after me at the NHS Great Western Hospital.

In Lockeridge, we have defibrillators available at several locations including the Kennett Valley Hall, "The Who'd a thought it" pub and some red telephone boxes. Perhaps it is worth reading the instructions for use, and maybe, you could save a life – Mine was!

Reg Eyre

AVEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Headlines from Avebury Parish Council's meeting on 7 December 2021

Defibrillator: We heard that £745 had been raised by Beckhampton residents and we hope to install a defibrillator there next year.

Planning: We approved applications for a replacement garage at Bannings, Bray Street and for four interpretation boards at the National Trust's car park.

Signage: Members reported that they had received several comments and some complaints about new signage on verges and elsewhere advertising commercial activities in and around Avebury. We agreed to review our draft policy on signage. This is designed to uphold the approach taken in the WHS Management Plan to declutter wherever possible whilst allowing businesses reasonable opportunity to advertise themselves.

B4003: Wiltshire Council will set up meetings early in the year to review the agreement reached in January 2019, which when implemented will see the informal lay-by redesigned so that it accommodates only three cars and the adjacent verges reconstructed to prevent vehicles using them. The double yellow lines (more precisely, the double primrose lines) will be extended as soon as possible in the next financial year. Occasional enforcement is promised.

Dog waste: The National Trust has reported that the rubbish bin collector had commented on the use of the bins for dog waste. We agreed to consider whether and how bins might be provided for dog waste, noting that they are expensive to buy and to empty.

Danny Kruger MP: A presentation on the Avebury WHS Transport Strategy, focusing on the need to improve road safety on the A4 and hosted in the Manor by the National Trust, had been given to our constituency MP by the chairs of Preshute, Kennet Valley, and Avebury Parish Councils. Mr Kruger had been urged to raise the issue with the relevant ministerial colleagues.

Community Exhibition Space in the Chapel: We heard that a number of organisations had committed to exhibit.

STOP PRESS: It was confirmed at the Community Area Transport Group meeting on 9 December that next financial year Wiltshire Council will reduce some speed limits on the A4361. The sections between Beckhampton and Avebury and from Avebury towards Winterbourne Monkton will see their speed limits brought down from 60mph to 50mph. APC had campaigned for reductions to 40mph. Data from the Speed Indicator Device (SID), when installed by Ringway, may allow this campaign to be renewed.

Dates of next meetings: an ordinary meeting on 1 February 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.

NEWS FROM THE TOWER

The ringers had a busy time before and after Christmas, ringing for the extra services. Being able to ring the bells for these special occasions is always a pleasure and this year it must have been even more so. Masks are still worn and the tower window and door left open, but they have become used to these restrictions and the cold. Our friend from Darlington, Philip Parks, rang on New Year's Eve as he traditionally does when staying in Avebury. The late Jane Lees always had a party on New Year's Eve for her friends in the village and the ringers. We would all go over to the church as it drew near to midnight and after ringing the old year out and the New Year in we would go back to Jane's to join the party again. Michele has carried on with this tradition but this year, because of the virus, it wasn't possible.

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers would like the bells to be rung on Sunday, 6th February, 2022, for HM the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The 6th marks the actual day that the Queen will have reigned for 70 years. Other celebrations will take place later in the year.

Mary Davidge, tel: 01672 513819,
Belfry Correspondent.



The poster features a grey wheelie bin on the left and a yellow calendar icon on the right. The text reads: 'Your general waste collection day is changing'. Below this, it says 'Please note: this only affects your general waste, your recycling collection dates won't change!'. The Wiltshire Council logo is in the bottom right corner.

Your waste collection day will change from 28 February

From Monday 28 February, household waste collection days for nearly all Wiltshire properties will change.

This change will only affect your general household waste collections – there is no change to recycling or garden waste collections, which will still take place on their usual day.

You do not need to do anything at the moment.

To ensure you're informed about your new collection day, you will receive a personalised letter that explains how your collection day will change and what you need to do. You'll also have a hanger label placed on your general household waste bin on your last collection under the old schedule that will give you more information.

Letters will start landing on doormats from 31 January and for the following two weeks, so if you don't get a letter straight away, don't worry.

Please do not contact us about the changes – all the information you need will be in your letter, and you do not need to do anything until you receive your letter.

Find out more about waste collections <www.wiltshire.gov.uk/waste

NHS hearing aid batteries

Replacement NHS hearing aid batteries can now be obtained from the shop at Savernake Hospital.

The shop is open from Monday to Friday between 10am and 1pm.

Ian Philpott

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www.kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk
News from January 2022

Happy New Year from all at Kennet Valley School – I hope that everyone had a really lovely Christmas and are looking forward to the adventures and opportunities that 2022 may bring.

Little Wandle

In April 2021, the DfE asked all school to move to one of their validated Phonics programs. This meant that Kennet Valley had to make a change to how we teach phonics to our younger children. The program that we are now using is called Little Wandle. This program helps to teach children how to read and write, using games and challenges to help them. Mrs McQue and Mrs Alexander from Wrens class having been working incredibly hard to start the new program in their class, and have enjoyed the training that they have been part of. Kingfishers' class will also be using this new program.

Reading across the School

Every year we set 5 objectives as part of our School Development plan. This year 3 of these objectives are new priorities for the school and 2 are objectives that we have had before but are keeping in the forefront of our work.

One of our priorities is to ensure that as well as children learning to read, that they also develop a real joy of reading. We know that it is essential to have both the skill of reading and to understand that books can take you to new places, show you emotions and give you time for peace and reflection.

Mrs Byford, our reading leader, is passionate about books and making as many high quality books available for our children. This term Mrs Byford has started to produce a Reading Newsletter, so that parents and families know what books we are looking at in class. She has also included recommendations for each year group. These books have been purchased so that children can start to borrow them. Kingfishers, Harriers and Kites all take part in a daily class guided reading sessions. This means that they read a book together, in their class, and discuss each chapter. This term the classes have chosen; The Middler, Pugs of the Frozen North, and The Butterfly Lion. It is really lovely to be able to see children exploring these fantastic texts together.

As I have written to you about before, we have a book sponsorship scheme at Kennet Valley. This allows parents, grandparents, family members and the local community

to sponsor a single book, a story sack or a class set of books. We have been amazed and delighted by the response so far, and I would like to say thank you to everyone who has already helped us. If you would like to sponsor books in our school, please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

Lending Library

You may have seen in the Gazette and Herald or on the Marlborough News Online that we have had a new Lending Library placed into our school grounds. This is for our children, parents, staff and governors to use, and we would invite local residents to pop in to visit this too. We would ask you not to come into the playground when the children are outside.

After School Clubs

This term we have continued to offer a wide range of after school clubs to our children. As well as our popular Dragon Club, which provides our wrap-around care, we have 3 sports clubs (Basketball, Hockey and Multi-sports), a science club and a Calm Kids club, where children find out more about having good mental health. Other clubs that we have already offered this year have included Netball, Football and tag Rugby, Cookery and Crafts, and a Friday Thinkers club, where children are encouraged to ponder the world in which they live.

Note from our Governors

We have a busy, active group of Governors at the school, who work exceptionally hard with the school. Each governor has link subjects and link classes. It is really lovely when a Governor comes into see the children in the class. They often come along on our educational visits and trips as well.

When I asked Lizzie Daley, one of our Co-chairs, what she enjoys about being a Governor at the school she said "I have found it very interesting to discover how our local school works and to be part of the team giving both support and challenge. I have learnt a lot and it is rewarding to be part of the KVS community. As a Foundation Governor, I have also worked with the school to further develop the Christian values and ethos within the school".

Thoughts of the day

As with many local schools, we have had several cases of Covid-19. This has meant that for the short term we have had to change how we are having our Collective Worship, as we cannot currently meet as a whole school. Instead of the usual worship, each class is gathering together to share a thought for the day and to have some time for reflection. The children are always respectful of this time and seem to enjoy having a few minutes of quiet in their, very busy, days.

Miss Harvey

Just under twenty years ago both Miss Harvey and I joined Kennet Valley School. As one of the longest serving members of the staff team, Miss Harvey is well known in the school and within the local community. Miss Harvey was my Teaching assistant for many years, before I became the Headteacher and I enjoy working with her a great deal.

When I ask her for her thoughts about working in our lovely little school, she said "If you had said to me 20 years ago that I would still be working at Kennet Valley School in 2022, I wouldn't have believed you -but here I am - still here and still loving it!

I feel blessed to work in such an amazing place, surrounded by supportive colleagues whom I am privileged to also call my friends.

The school has changed a fair amount in the last twenty years, moving from two sites to one, being the most notable physical change, but also, largely due to Emma's leadership, by becoming much more family and community orientated.

My three children attended Kennet Valley and my daughter is determined that my one-year old grandson will come here too.

I predominantly assist in Year 6, and I relish the challenge of preparing the children to 'fly the nest', in their last year before senior school. I love going on residential courses with them however wet and cold!

I'm lucky enough to also help out in the other classes from time to time and I work at lunchtimes, so I get to know all of the children across the whole school. Being at Kennet Valley makes me happy. I love the fact that we are an integral part of the community and I have made many friends during my 20 years at the school. I laugh every day, both with the staff and the children - what more could you want".

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

Many thanks -

Mrs. Emma Russell,
Headteacher Kennet Valley C of E VA
Primary School
#SmallButMighty



**National
Trust**

Update from the National Trust February 2022

This is the first of our bimonthly reports for this year, and we hope that 2022 has started well for you. We're looking forward with optimism to a year when Covid relaxes its grip and allows a bit more freedom for everyone.

Avebury Manor: Following a busy Christmas period, the manor is currently closed for its annual conservation clean; a time when our team of staff and volunteers go through each room in depth and assess, clean and repair everything in time for re-opening to visitors on 19 February.

Erosion Control: As is usual at this time of the year, we have some of the henge cordoned off to allow the ground to recover from wet weather, high footfall, and to prevent damage to the underlying archaeology. This is regularly assessed, and areas are opened up and closed off on a rotational basis to mitigate localised damage and spread footfall across other areas. Closed off areas are opened to the public again as soon as is sensible to do so.



INVITATION - Art installation: With the Great Barn now cleared of the former museum infrastructure we are very excited to launch the building as a multi-purpose space, with the exhibition of a stunning piece of art by Tom Lawson, called *'Wonder'*. This is a unique piece of constantly rotating sculpture, designed to "bring an ethereal and calming presence to space, creating an atmosphere and focal point for relaxation, contemplation and mediation". The exhibition runs from 5 March – 3 April.

Residents of Avebury are invited to the 'Wonder' preview event on Friday 4 March, 5pm-6pm, to meet the artist and enjoy some refreshments. If you'd like to come along, please RSVP to avebury@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Raffle projects: Over the last few years, our volunteers have been raising money through our property raffle, to carry out some specific projects to improve visitor experience at Avebury. Following a two year break due to the pandemic, we've finally been able to start on three of these projects, with the aim of completing them within the next few months. The re-instatement of Alexander Keiller's Drawing Office has been close to completion for a while and is currently receiving some finishing touches before opening to the public; the Potting Shed – a derelict building next to the exit of the manor – is currently being renovated to its former glory; and the re-thatching of the wall between Avebury Manor Garden and St James' Church is also well on its way. To all of you who've purchased some raffle tickets a huge thank you for your support.

Car Park: In response to visitor feedback, we will be installing four interpretation panels along the main visitor route from the car park to the henge and stone circles, to improve interpretation and understanding of this outstanding prehistoric site. In addition, we will be carrying out some maintenance work in the car park to improve the surface of the main driveway.

If you'd like to get in touch with us please contact us on 01672 539250 or email avebury@nationaltrust.org.uk; we always love to hear from you.



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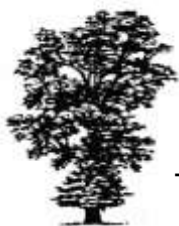
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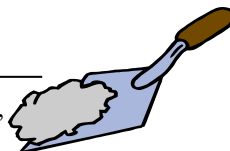
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