

Kennet Valley Lottery Club draw winners

£100 Number 90 TM & LA Conway

£75 Number 88 Alex Hay

£50 Number 63 Louise Elkington (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 April

1st	£48.00	95	Barry Jago
2nd	£36.00	30	Wendy Bowring
3rd	£24.00	13	Lyn Bennett-Nutt
4th	£12.00	39	Mark Wightman

(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

John Brian Hutchings Broad Hinton 1 April Thomas McKeown Winterbourne Monkton

11 April

Burial of ashes

Wayne Gardiner East Kennett 31 March Margaret L Blake Avebury 8 April

."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 27th April, Wednesday 11th May, Wednesday 25th May & Wednesday 8th June. I thought I might share a story I wrote years ago for the children I was teaching at a school in Dublin. It felt appropriate as the weather warms and we begin to notice the promise of summer in the burgeoning of spring. The story goes like this:

A pilgrim encountered St Bridget, sitting looking intently at a money-spider working its way across her right hand, from one finger to another. After sitting alongside her for what felt like an eternity, the pilgrim broke the silence and asked 'What are you looking for?' St Bridget said 'a glimpse of God'. 'What? In a spider?' Bridget nodded and gently moved the spider out of the sleeve of her tunic and back onto her hand.

'Well... any sign then?' The pilgrim smothered a snort of laughter; it came out of his mouth and went up his nose all at the same time. Bridget, casting a slight glance at him, said 'It is happening right now'.

'Oh really - so why can't I see this glimpse of God then?' he replied. 'Because' said Bridget, her voice becoming quieter, so he had to lean close to hear, 'you are not really looking'.

The pilgrim noticed her stillness, her attention focused on the tiny creature, and yet he later said he felt as if he had a bucket of water thrown over him. To make him wake up, just like his Father had done once, when he'd overslept and let the fire in the forge go out.

'And what' responded the pilgrim, 'exactly... should I... be... looking... for, pray tell?'

'Nothing... just look.'

'At what?'

'Anything your eyes really notice.'

'And should I look at it in any special way, should I prayer or fast or light a candle?' Bridget laughed, ignoring his sarcastic tone, if it helps you to look properly, then

knock yourself out, but it all sounds a bit too much like hard work to me. Just look...

'But I always look - I'm looking at the road, you, the spider, my boots... I really must go to a cobbler!' His finger poked at the cracked leather.

'You do not look, not really' said Bridget, carefully releasing the tiny creature onto a broad, shiny, deep green ivy leaf.' To look deeply you must be here, now, fully here, to really see and catch a glimpse of the wonder that is God, and mostly you are elsewhere'.

'So where exactly have I been if not right here with you watching that spider?'

'You looked at the sun several times, wondering if you might get to the Pilgrim House in time for supper - I heard your tummy rumbling. You fidgeted with the hem of your cloak, wishing you'd brought a needle and thread to mend a rip, and then you decided your feet needed a wash, your boots needed a cobbler and all that time you never noticed this...'

Bridget held up her right hand, and there, gossamer-light, steel-strong, and fairy-delicate, suspended between her thumb and forefinger was a perfectly spun web. 'The secret, you see, to glimpsing the wonder of God is to truly 'be' in the moment'.

May YOUR month of May be filled with moments of truly being present and may you catch a glimpse of God.



Fortnightly group for bumps to pre-schoolers.

All welcome!



Talking
Tuesdays/Talking
Thursdays
The Rectory
Avebury
7.30 pm

WELCOME BACK!
The Theme for the summer is 'Telling Stories of Faith and Love'.

Come and hear some surprising people speak about their faith journeys. Bring a favourite story of a faith journey that has inspired you Four Sessions:

Tuesday 31st May Tuesday 28th June **Thursday 21st July** Tuesday 23rd August

UPPER KENNET CHURCHES SERVICES

	St Nicholas FYFIELD	St Michael & All Angels WEST OVERTON	Christ Church EAST KENNETT	St James AVEBURY	St Mary Magdalene WINTERB'RNE MONKTON	St Katherine & St Peter WINTERB'RNE BASSETT	St Peter ad Vincula BROAD HINTON
1 May Easter 3	8.30 am Prayer Book Communion				10.30 am Benefice Service Communion	10.30 am Morning Prayer	
Wednesday 4 May				10.30 am Celtic Communion			
8 May Easter 4		9.45 am Benefice Service Communion					9.45 am Morning Service
Wednesday 11 May			7 pm Meditation Service (Taizé)	(No Service)			
15 May Easter 5		10.30 am Morning Prayer		9.45 am Benefice Service Communion	<u>12 noon</u> Else Baptism		
Wednesday 18 May				10.30 am Celtic Communion			
22 May Easter 6		2.30 pm Sherman Baptism	8 am Prayer Book Communion			9.45 am Benefice Service Communion	
Wednesday 25 May			7 pm Meditation Service (Taizé)	10.30 am Celtic Communion			
Ascension Day Thursday 26 May	Ascension Day Deanery Service St Mary's Church, Marlborough						
29 May Easter 7						12 noon Gibbons Baptism	9.45 am Benefice Service Communion

A Space to Breathe The <u>BIG CLEAR UP</u> SATURDAY 21st MAY, 11am Coffee/Tea & Cake provided

Have you an hour to spare? if so come and help prepare the Meditation Space at the Rectory for our afternoon Space to Breathe Open Air Meditation Sessions starting again in June Please bring tools if possible!



Tuesday 24th May, 5pm
Saturday 11th June, 5pm
NEW **Sunday 26th June, 4pm,
Space to Breathe on a Sunday
Wednesday 6th July 5pm
NEW **Sunday 17th July, 4pm
Monday 2nd August, 5pm

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 1 May – White 3rd Sunday of Easter Acts 9.1-6 [7-20] Psalm 30 John 21.1-19

Sunday 8 May – White 4th Sunday of Easter Acts 9.36-end Psalm 23 John 10.22-30

Sunday 15 May – White 5th Sunday of Easter Acts 11.1-18 Psalm 148 or 148.1-6

John 13.31-35

Sunday 22 May – White 6th Sunday of Easter Acts 16.9-15 Psalm 67 John 14.23-29 or 5.1-9

Sunday 29 May – White 7th Sunday of Easter Acts 16.16-34 Psalm 97 John 17.20-end

Sunday 5 June – Red Pentecost Acts 2.1-21 Psalm 104.26-36,37 John 14.8-17

Time Out Together in West Overton

Thursday 19 May 12.30 – 2 pm The Old Manor

Come and join us for our next meeting at which we will sum up and finish the "Living in Love and Faith" Course which we have been following over the last few months. As usual it will be an informal time together to discuss and tease out some tricky questions for our faith and relationships, over a simple lunch with others.
Everyone of all ages is very welcome at: The Old Manor (on the west side of the church), West Overton, SN8 4ER. Please contact me if you would like more details and directions to the house.
Sibella Laing — 01672 861600;

Sibella.laing@outlook.com



Christian Aid Big Breakfast

In Avebury church Saturday 21st May 10.30- 12.30

Please come and help us raise money for Christian aid, who work with countries in need throughout the world including Ukraine.

COFFEE MORNING PRODUCE SALE WEST OVERTON CHURCH SATURDAY 14 MAY

from 10 am - 12 noon

Any donations of cakes, home-made produce and plants will be very welcome.

Please contact Anne Robinson (861169) for further details

The proceeds will go towards keeping West Overton, East Kennett and Fyfield churches open.



Saturday June 18th **St James Church Avebury**

Tickets on Sale from 13th May (conc. £6) (Book in advance) Doors 7.15pm Music 7.30pm Tickets include refreshments From: Rev Maria 01672 539643

An evening with The Sweet Sorrows always promises to be highly entertaining, provocative and moving. Their intimacy, transparency and strength of passion on stage has won them many fans.

Sammy Horner, born in Belfast, founding member of Celtic Rock combo The Electrics. He made seven albums with the band and toured extensively in Europe and the USA. As well as touring The Electrics, Sammy has had a successful solo career as a producer, writer and performer. He has played bass for Buddy & Julie Miller, Phil Madeira, Mitch McVicker and Glen Kaiser. He has shared stages with Motorhead, Cliff Richard, The Alarm, Bob Geldof, Bruce Cockburn & Martin Joseph, and had songs covered by numerous artists including Buddy & Julie Miller.

Kylie Horner A South Australian native, Kylie has a background in dance, modelling and radio/tv/voice over work and ultimately as a vocalist in bands from the Middle East to the USA. Her silky vocal harmonies complement her husband's Irish tones.

"You've heard of Robert Plant & Allison Krauss, Mark Knopfler & Emmylou Harris, Glen Hansard Marketa Irglova, now listen to The Sweet Sorrows. The rugged Celtic edge of Sammy Horner joins the dreamy sounds of Kylie Horner to produce something new indeed. Something...Different."

Clive Price, UK Music Journalist and Author

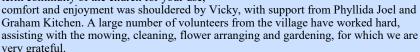




FYFIELD CHURCH

As you may know, Vicky Evans has stepped away from being 'warden' for St. Nicholas, Fyfield after many years of faithful and committed stewardship. We are enormously

for all that she did and for her love of the church. Much of the work ensuring the longterm continuity of the church for your use,



In addition, Vicky through her work on the PCC, ensured that the church was safe, heated, lit and ready for when you most needed it, and for worship.

Her absence leaves a large gap to fill and if Fyfield is to continue to be there for you in the future, much needs to be done. I have consulted the Diocese on options available to us and await a response, after which we will write with further news.

Please see separate article giving a general overview further on in this magazine. Revd. Maria Shepherdson, Rector

MONKTON CHURCH SPRING CLEAN

A huge thanks to the stalwarts who turned up for the Monkton church and churchyard Spring Clean the Saturday before Easter. It was a lovely sunny day and the outside team did a great job at tidying around the graves and the paths. Meanwhile inside, the pews were polished and dusted the floors swept and hoovered and the windows cleaned 'painstakingly' by one of our more athletic number. It all look beautiful as a result and we are very grateful for you giving up a couple of hours on the Saturday morning.



BISHOP ANDREW'S BENEFICE WALK

Sunday 3rd April

It was a beautiful day as over twenty people left Broad Hinton Church soon after 9:00am. We reached Winterbourne Bassett Church a little before Maria's Benefice Service Communion there, in time for Bishop Andrew and the walkers to hear a little of the church's history, in particular the fact that it had been on a pilgrim route.

Berwick Bassett Church was next. The interior is especially beautiful because of its pure simplicity. Penny Gold joined the walk from her home and spared time to give the walkers some information about Winterbourne Monkton Church.

Walkers had joined and left along the route by arrangement and by the time we

reached Avebury Church there seemed to be more people than we had started with! The reward on arrival was refreshments provided by Sandra Hues

and her excellent team. Were we dreaming of her bacon butties as we approached or did we really get the smell?! Bishop Andrew's warmth and friendship



permeated the group from the outset with his obvious interest in the beautiful countryside that we passed though and the variety of ancient churches visited. We are very grateful to him for sparing the time to be with us.

As mentioned in previous notices, this was part one of the Bishop's Benefice Walk. Our second Sunday walk with the Bishop will be from Fyfield Church via West Overton and East Kennet Churches. finishing at Avebury. Details to follow.

Should you wish to make a donation towards the work of all the churches in our Benefice we would be most grateful. Donations may be made to Mark Wightman on the day or by **BACS** to the Upper Kennet Churches Council. Sort Code 30 92 63 Account Number 01498496 **Reference Walk Donation**

Avebury Vocal ENSEMBLE

Concert in St James's Church, Avebury Sunday 26th June 7pm

The Avebury Vocal Ensemble (AVE) will be performing the Faure Requiem on "home territory" in solidarity with the situation in the Ukraine. It is planned that the programme will also contain items in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, such as coronation anthems, "Oriana" madrigals and music from royal weddings. We are pleased to be accompanied in this concert by Simon Dinsdale.

AVE is a chamber choir based in North Wiltshire and South Gloucestershire

Further details may be found at www.aveburyvocal.org





THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II WINDOW BROAD HINTON CHURCH

Bishop Andrew of Ramsbury will dedicate the window

Thursday 16th June 2022 at 6:30pm

The Vice Lord Lieutenant, William Wyldbore-Smith, representing the Queen, Deborah Lowe, the designer of the window and Danny Kruger MP will also be present.

This is a celebration for all in our community.

The time has been deliberately chosen, with an anticipated duration of approximately half an hour, to be as helpful as possible to whole families.

Please contact Mark Wightman 07801666130 with any queries.

AVEBURY SOCIAL CENTRE

The Trustees and helpers were very heartened by the village response to the first locals luncheon held on the first Monday April 4th. There was a lovely selection of three different soups, bread and butter, and plenty of cheese with pickle too all for £3.00. The Social Centre was prettily laid up and it was lovely to meet with village members from Rawlings Park, Avebury Trusloe, Beckhampton and Avebury High Street. There was much chatter and laughter as people mixed and moved around in order to meet and greet each other. Many thanks to those who made soup and to the Community shop for sponsoring the bread and butter and to the helpers who did a sterling job of preparing the room and food-table and served it and did all the washing up and clearing down too. The next date is **Monday 2nd May, 12 - 2pm** please let Mike Polack know if you intend to come so we know how many to cater for!

When you read this the Quarterly meeting of the Trustees will have taken place on the 21st April where issues such as hirers charging their cars from the Hall (not welcome!), general maintenance and finances and the governance of the Hall will have been discussed. The AGM will be scheduled for July and is an open meeting.

Judith Farthing Secretary

NEWS FROM THE TOWER

The good news is that there is a new recruit at Avebury – and maybe another one too. A lot of people think that bells are rung by machines, but that couldn't be further from the truth. The art of bellringing is based on a skill that requires one person to ring each bell, using mostly 17th century technology. Each person has a rope to control their bell; the bell is mounted on a wheel to enable it to be moved more easily. The sound that you hear outside is made when the clapper strikes the bell as it moves. The bells at Avebury are classed as being very light, the smallest bell weighs about one hundredweight and the largest – known as the tenor- weighs four hundredweight. A hundredweight is about 50 kilograms. The new recruits at Avebury are taught using a system developed by the Association of Ringing Teachers by people who have been trained to train others. The process of ringing a bell is broken down into simple steps, which are taught and practised over a period of weeks or months, depending on the ability of the trainee and the nature of the bells being used. Once the basic bell handling has been conquered, then the recruit can embark on a lifetime of ringing, and there is always something new to learn. All bells are different and some bells are much more difficult to ring than others, or much heavier. The good news is that the bells at Avebury are relatively friendly and not too difficult to ring.

We look forward to reporting good progress!

This article was written by Jane Ridgwell who rings at Calne and Avebury.

Mary Davidge, tel: 01672 513819



JUBILEE FLOWER FESTIVAL, WINTERBOURE MONKTON CHURCH THURSDAY 2 JUNE 2022

We will be holding a flower Festival at St Mary Magdalene Church on Thursday 2 June 2022 to

celebrate HM The Queen's Jubilee. The theme for the festival will be the jubilees of HM The Queen throughout her reign. The church will be open from 11-4pm, entrance £3 per adult, children under 12 free.

Refreshments will be served in the Community Hall/or alongside the church. There will also be a tombola stall and bric a brac stall. Something for all the family!

Do put a note in your diary and come and start the Jubilee week-end off on a high!

BROAD HINTON

GARAGE/CAR BOOT/TABLE-TOP SALESaturday 21st May from 10am – 2pm

Cancelled

AVEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Headlines from Avebury Parish Council's meeting on 5 April 2022

A4361: We agreed to move our Speed Indicator Device (SID) from the bus shelter on the southbound side of the Swindon Road to the entrance of the Social Club on 1 May, keeping it at each location for about eight weeks. The first dataset showed that a majority of vehicles approaching the SID did so at speeds in excess of 30mph (and in one case at 80mph). We will be downloading data every month, sending it to the Police and Crime Commissioner's office. The PCC collects data from the county's SIDs to prioritise locations for police speed checks.

Beckhampton roundabout: We heard that a meeting had been arranged with the local road engineer to consider rewilding the roundabout. We will also take the opportunity to discuss verge cutting generally, especially in the run-up to the summer solstice.

Bus stop: Damage to the bus stop on the A4361 has been reported to Wiltshire Council.

Community Exhibition Space: We agreed to sign the National Trust's declaration document and draft lease with effect from 1 May 2022. A group to clean the chapel will be organised in good time for the opening.

Community litter pick: There has been a very successful litter pick with seven members of the public taking part. Eight sacks of rubbish were collected.

Electricity cables: Low hanging cables through the trees outside the Old Vicarage have been reported to SSE.

Planning applications: We decided to hold an onsite planning committee meeting at 18h on 21 April to review the Butler Partnership's application, to which residents are welcome.

Play area: We heard that residents' views would be sought through a questionnaire to be issued after Easter.

Rights of Way: Wiltshire Council had responded to APC's report about the condition of AVE14 by saying that they hoped existing signage encouraging voluntary restraint by owners of recreational 4x4s will prove effective.

Date and place of next meeting: 3 May at 19h30 in the Social Centre. As always, residents wishing to participate in these meetings are most welcome to do so.

SUMMER SOLSTICE

As in previous years, APC will set up a residents' car permit scheme to allow access to roads closed by Wiltshire Council over the period in which the solstice falls. Permits will be available from the Social Centre on days and at times soon to be advertised.



Wiltshire Buildings Record, a charity that has a growing and very detailed database of the county's vernacular buildings – and which is based at Chippenham's History Centre – is seeking new members. For further details please go to https://www.wiltshirebuildingsrecord.org.uk/

membership/ Organisations such as local history groups are charged £25 per annum, whilst individuals pay £14.

Please help us identify and study historic buildings throughout the county.

Update on FYFIELD CHURCH March 2022

Here is a general update on what has been, and has not been, happening at Fyfield Church to let you know where we are at present. Church warden duties

Vicky Evans has carried out these duties for very many years but now feels it is time to stand down.

Our attempts at finding a replacement have fallen on stony ground so far, so our Rector is seeking advice from the Archdeacon and Bishop as to what avenues are open to us in order to try and keep the church open and functioning, or whether we have to consider other options, including closure.

The tree removal and wall rebuilding:

We managed to raise sufficient funds to repair the front wall following the removal of the tree roots that were affecting the gates — and we have had new gates made. Unfortunately, the stone mason was delayed in completing the rebuilding of the wall due to personal circumstances, however, he assures us that the memorial stone will be replaced on top of the wall, and new gates hung, very soon.

The Bat problem:

During their Bat survey over the last couple of years, *Bats in Churches* have advised that the Bat population at the church has reduced substantially. That doesn't mean the Bats have permanently gone away and those that remain (or continue to breed) will still cause a problem with droppings etc.

Bats in Churches have been very helpful generally and have offered us a new

Bats in Churches have been very helpful generally and have offered us a new cupboard for the cleaning materials, vases etc. and perspex covers to protect the bookcase.

Wilding an area in the churchyard:

We are looking at various options as somebody has shown an interest in managing this.

Further rectification and maintenance problems:

We had the drainage problem investigated and some plans drawn up by our architect to put in a new drainage system, and down pipes etc.

We have had Rentokil survey the church and give us a detailed specification and quote, with a view to them spraying the entire woodwork to kill the woodworm and general infestation.

There needs to be more investigation into the safety of the tower floor and other parts which may need to be replaced. Again, for safety reasons, we have been advised not to ring the bell at the current time.

So, we are continuing to get estimates, opinions and advice but it's time consuming, not helped by Covid, and we have very few helpers.

Can you help?

The cost of all the work that will need to be done will be considerable and we are looking for somebody who would be willing to manage the preparation and liaison of quotes (under the advice of our architect). Once we have identified the total cost we will then need to organise fund raising and apply for various grants from institutions and charities.

If we want to keep the church open and functioning in a safe environment, then we need somebody willing to manage the overseeing of our plans.

Please contact Revd. Maria Shepherdson, Rector, or Graham Kitchen Lay Chair of the PCC (graham@grahamkitchen.com) if you are interested in volunteering or have any ideas.

UKRAINE EVENT

On the afternoon of Saturday 9th April, West Overton Church and churchyard was transformed into a bustling activity café – children playing, dozens of people consuming superb home-made scones and cakes and refreshments and chatting happily, under blue skies and warm sunshine (but with a brisk wind!). All proceeds were being earmarked to help support Ukrainian refugees, and we raised the staggering sum of just over £1,500.

Thank you to everybody who baked, who helped out, and to all who contributed in raising this significant amount of money on the day.

West Overton Coffee Morning

A big thank you to all who attended or helped at the coffee morning on 19th March.

We raised £280 which will go towards keeping West Overton, Fyfield and East Kennett Churches open.

The West Overton church clock

Although there has already been a brief UKN notice on this, we felt that some within the sight or sound of Ponting's fine Victorian tower might like some further details.

At the back of the church nave there is a former clock, paid for by parishioners and erected in about 1920 in memory of a former Rector. Since the tower itself had only been completed at the very end of the nineteenth century, it seems likely that this was the original clock. Many years later it was taken down from the tower & replaced by an electric clock; the reason for this change is unknown now, but it may be that the task of regular winding had become too onerous. This second clock, of ingenious but rather idiosyncratic design, was made under the aegis of, and probably to a great degree personally by, Capt. Mansfield Robinson, R N, who lived at Overton House. It originally had a striking mechanism and a facility for coping with power cuts, but these, their original progenitor in due course no longer being around, gradually failed & were taken out of use. Then the clock itself became increasingly unreliable, seldom showing the right time, to such a degree eventually that in the summer of 2020 a small group of us decided to do something about it. We found fortuitously that the leading UK Tower Clock firm, Cumbria Clocks of Dacre in Northumberland, were restoring the clock face of St. Peter's in Marlborough, & we arranged for them, on one of their visits, to inspect our situation here. We had some ambition of equipping the original clock with a modern automatic electric winding mechanism & restoring it to the tower, but Cumbria Clocks told us that this would have been inordinately expensive, & that the best solution was to install another, modern electric clock. This we have now done, assisted by many generous benefactions. The new clock is controlled by a 'master' electronic box fixed on the wall adjacent to the clock. This box also controls a separate tolling device, which in its turn actuates, via a cable, the restored but original striking mechanism, with a hammer on the outside of the tenor bell: the electronics are set to silence the chime at night.

There is at least one interesting footnote to the above. This relates to the bells. At the time that the new clock was being fitted it was believed that the bells had become unsound & would never be rung again, at least without great expenditure, something hardly likely to be forthcoming. Therefore we did not think to have fitted a mechanism which must have originally existed in some form, but of which no trace remained, to allow the striking hammer to be lifted off the

tenor bell during full ringing, when the bell is swung. Very surprisingly, however- somewhat excitingly- this seems to have become a possibility









The Social Centre, Avebury



2nd Social Centre Lunch

Monday 2nd May / Noon-2.00

Join other local residents from Avebury and nearby villages for a Soup, Bread & Cheese Lunch

After 2 years of lockdowns, isolations & quarantines:

a chance to meet, eat and chat.

Soup, Bread, Cheese & Tea/Coffee: £3.50 Cake: £1.50

Not essential, but we would be grateful if you could ring: 01672.539253 or email: michaelpolack@btinternet.com to let us know you are thinking of coming along.

Looking forward to seeing you!

once again; & we have therefore now commissioned Cumbria Clocks to come back & fit one. There will be a handle on a cable coming down into the ringing chamber; the handle will be able to be pulled down & hitched when the bells are to be rung. Hopefully therefore the final words in this piece have to be 'watch this space'...

Martin Northmore-Ball





Integrating conservation with farming

On Manor Farm, Avebury Trusloe we have always been keen on conservation integrating with our normal farming practices to encourage wildlife.

Since 1981 we have planted woodland and hedges and during this winter we have planted more hedges with trees included. We also have 6 metre margins of grasses and wild flowers around many of the arable fields with some large fields divided by beetle banks. Some areas have been taken out of production just to grow wild flowers. These all help provide habitat for ground nesting birds and the flowers provide pollen and nectar for butterflies, bees and other insects.

During the winter months we provide extra food in giant bird feeders for the song birds as well as special bird food mixes planted in May on certain parts of the farm.

Over the years Wiltshire Ornithological Society have been carrying out bird counts on the farm and without their input we would not specifically know the numbers of birds we have. Very recently they have organised a bird count and ringing session and informed us that they estimate we have 100 Tree Sparrows, 100 Corn Buntings, 600 Yellowhammers and 300 Linnets as well as many other species. In their words 'it is very impressive'.

It is very pleasing for us to know that we are helping the wildlife and prove that farming can and should work 'hand in hand' with conservation.

We thought this would be of interest.

Robin and Ben Butler



Jubilee celebrations at Avebury

Next month will be the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and together with the Parish Council, the benefice and the WI, we have some lovely celebratory plans for this historic day.

The official day of the Jubilee is Thursday 2 June and our schedule will begin in the early evening with a service of celebration at St James's Church at 6.30pm with refreshments to follow in the Social Centre.

At approximately 8.30pm everyone will then be invited to join us as we walk to Waden Hill where there will be a beacon lighting ceremony.

This will take place at 9.45pm which is the exact time that other beacons will be lit across the country and commonwealth. We hope that many of you will be able to join us on the day and we look forward to celebrating together. No RSVP needed.

National Trust

Avebury & District WI

April is the month we hold our AGM and, after 2 years of no or virtual meetings, I had hoped to be there in person to preside but...I came back from a brief trip away with Covid! Hey ho

I am very grateful to Judy and Charlotte who took over at very short notice and ran the meeting impeccably. After the AGM business (I gather I was reelected in absentia!) our speaker was David Throup who told the meeting about his volunteering work at Crofton Beam Engines which I believe was very interesting and I'm sorry to have missed it having never visited (sorry David, I will try and make up for it by visiting soon!). We had several visitors in the form of husbands of members who were very welcome and who also enjoyed the evening.

Our next meeting is on 12th May and is our Resolutions meeting. This year the WI Resolution to be debated is **Women and Girls with ASD & ADHD - under-identified, under-diagnosed, misdiagnosed, under-supported**

Women and girls presenting with autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) are going undiagnosed. The NFWI calls on the government and funding bodies to fund research into the female presentation of ASD and ADHD, and for action to be taken to improve the diagnosis process for women and girls, to ensure that they are equipped to better manage these conditions and do not suffer in silence. The NFWI further calls on WI members to raise awareness within their WIs of the issues facing women and girls with ASD and ADHD.

Our competition is 'Jewellery you have made' and the flower is 'pink and red blooms'

This is our last formal meeting of the year as our June meeting is a garden visit to Broadleas Gardens in Devizes and July is our outing to the Milestones Museum in Basingstoke.

Maggie Lewis, President. Avebury & District WI.



CURIOSITY COMPASSION COURAGE

Church of England, Voluntary Aided **School**

www.kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk

News from April 2022

I know that Easter will have passed by the time you read this, so I hope that you had a wonderful time over the long Bank Holiday weekend. The weather was lovely, so I am sure that many of you were able to take advantage of this. The children and staff were looking forward to the Easter holidays as the school had been hectic in the weeks before.

Easter Service

On the last day of the term our community gathered at West Overton church for our Easter Service. Every child took part in this special service and I, and all the staff, were incredibly proud of them all. Because of Covid over the last 2 years, we have not been able to use the church as much as we would have liked, so it was marvellous to be back there. The children sang songs, read poetry, showed their Easter artwork, and retold the story of Easter. I know that Rev. Maria Shepherdson was also extremely impressed by the children and their hard work.

Thank you to all the parents, carers and family members that were able to join us at the service.

Jumble Jamboree

The last day of term was also busy because we held a 'Jumble Jamboree' at school. This was a mixture of a book sale, a jumble sale, and a second-hand uniform sale, with teas, coffees and cakes also being served. It was so lovely to see so many of our parents attending this after school – we were even visited by 4 or 5 of our past students who popped in as well.

I would like to say a HUGE thank you to the staff members who helped at the sale, and to our Friends Association who ran several of the tables, especially the popular tea and cake stall. We raised an amazing £290 - Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

Reading at Kennet Valley!

This school year reading has been on of the areas that we have really focused on. We have taken part in the Wiltshire Year of Reading and are delighted that we have already achieved the bronze level, with ambitions of achieving Silver and Gold by the end of the year. A key member of the staff in this reading development is Mrs. Sarah Byford, who is our school reading lead. She is passionate about reading and wanted to ensure that all of our children have developed a real joy of reading before they leave for secondary school. Mrs. Byford said "I love reading myself, as do many of the staff team, and we want the children to get lost in books too. Reading can take you to different places and times, without leaving your room, and we want all of the children to experience this wonderful feeling' We have been lucky enough to take part in several virtual author talks this year. In March we were lucky to join a talk by Joseph Coelho, who is published poet. The children found out about Joseph's career and how he writes his

join these events.

While writing about reading I would like to say an ENORMOUS thank you to volunteers that come into school to hear our children read. It makes such a difference to them and helps build their skills and confidence. If you are interested in being a reading volunteer, please do not hesitate to call the school to find out more.

It is also important that I also say a MASSIVE thank you to all of the parents, families and local community who have sponsored books for us this year. We have received donations of just over £1000, which has enabled us to buy class reading book sets, recommendations, new dictionaries and we are beginning to buy story bags for our youngest children to take home.

Multiskills festival

On the 5^{th of} April, our Year 2 children (plus two Year 1 children) took part in a small school multi-skills festival. Mrs. Hayley Alexander supported them, our HLTA. She was extremely impressed by the children and said "I want to give a HUGE well done to all the children who went to the sports festival. They gave their all in every activity and worked together as a team to come second overall against seven other small school teams. Once again, the Kennet Valley team spirit was amazing to witness, they were supportive and encouraging to each other and I was proud of them all.

Three of our Year 5 children also went to this festival - but they weren't there to join in, they were 'Sports Leaders' who helped to run the festival. Well done to Miles, Nell, and Erin for being great role models and leaders during this day.

History at Kennet Valley School - The Merchants House

At the very end of March, the children in Wrens class (reception and year1) had a special visitor from The Merchants House in Marlborough. She came in to talk to the children about The Great Fire of Marlborough as this links with their terms work on The Great Fire of London. The children loved the visit as they found out more about the history in our local area.

Clubs List

In the coming term, we are excited to be able to extend our after-school clubs further so that more of our children can attend.

We have always been proud of the range of clubs that we offer on top of the popular Dragon Club which runs until 5.30pm.

This term we have Drama Club, Art Club, Cooking Club, Sing and Sign, Board Game Club, Gymnastics Club, Calm Kids, Athletics Club and Little Big Thinkers. We are also delighted that our children in Years 3-6 can join our new Choir which will be run by The Sing Space.

Stay and Play

Every term we have a Stay and Play session for children aged 2, 3 or 4 years old and their parents or carers to come to. The children join Wrens class to play and discover more about the school, while parents can sit and have a cup of tea with a member of our Friends Association. We love these sessions, as they allow children and parents to really get to know us and our school.

The next Stay and Play is on 16th May from

poetry. We are incredibly grateful to be able to 9.30am. You do not need to book a place just turn up and join in the fun. We then have two more Stay and Play sessions before the summer holidays – Friday 10th June and Friday 8th July. After these two Friday sessions, children and parents/carers can join the Little Angel or KV Toddlers groups which use our hall.

COMING SOON - Maths Week!

We are looking forward to the first week of Term 5, as we have a hectic Maths Week planned. The children will be focused on various aspects of maths with our literacy work also being linked to this. The whole school are dressing as a number on one day and walking to West Woods to have a day of maths outside. We are also looking forward to welcoming our parents and carers into the school to join some maths activities. More news next month!

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 #SmallSchoolBigHeart



Kennet Valley Superbloom
The Kennet Valley Parish Council invite you to plant wildflower seeds in Celebration of the Queens Platinum Jubilee year. You will shortly be receiving a small package of native wildflower seeds, please sprinkle these in your front gardens or in pots and make our villages look even more beautiful this summer.

LOCKERIDGE COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

The Lockeridge Community Speedwatch Team has continued to patrol at different times of the day and from several locations in the village.

Details of vehicles that exceed the 20mph limit are sent to Wiltshire Police for further

Wiltshire Police will be supporting local Teams such as ours by joining the patrols and taking immediate action to issue speeding drivers with tickets.

Please drive <u>carefully</u> through our villages and lanes and observe the speed limits. **POLITE REQUEST**

The Parish Council has received complaints about young people gathering in the evenings/ early mornings around the swings at Lockeridge Dene and disturbing local residents.

Please respect the tranquillity of the village and ensure that this anti-social behaviour does not continue.

LAMBING

Please be aware that lambing has started and dog owners need to be especially careful

to keep dogs on leads and pick up after your dog.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE KENNET VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL is on Monday 16th May at 6.30pm in the Kennet Valley Hall, this will be the Annual Meeting.

clerk@kvparishcouncil.org.uk

Marlborough Artists 2022 Exhibition

Friday May 27th - Sunday May 29th In the Church of St Peter and St Paul Marlborough 10am to 5pm In aid of the Red Cross Ukraine Appeal And the Wiltshire Air Ambulance Tea Coffee and Cake Free entry



Job Vacancies

The staff team of Kennet Valley C of E Primary School are looking for 1 or 2 people to join us.

We have two part-time positions available and are seeking energetic, committed and interesting people to join our friendly and happy community.

Mid-Day Supervisor Assistant

10 hours per week (11.30am to 1.30pm Monday to Friday)





After-School Club Assistant 11 hours per week

> (3pm to 5.45pm Monday to Thursday)

If you would like to find out more, please contact our headteacher, Mrs Emma Russell.

01672861202

office@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk

#smallschoolBIGheart #smallbutmighty







Kennet Valley Cof & VA Primary School

Lockgridge, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 48L

Children aged 2, 3 or 4 years old are welcomed to join our current Reception/Year 1 class to stay and play!

9.30 - 10.45am

Monday 16th May

Friday 10th June (followed by Little Angels)
Friday 8th July (followed by KV Toddlers)

While your children are playing, please join other parents to have tea and cake.

For More Information please call Mrs Russell or Mrs McQue on 01672861202 or email office@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk



Forthcoming activities in Broad Hinton, Winterbourne Bassett and Uffcott

On Saturday 4th June, there is a Ceiladh (Barn Dance) with a professional caller at the Village Hall in Broad Hinton, 7.00pm through until 11.00.

Children welcome. Ploughman's Platter included, licensed bar , tickets available from Gill Crabtree (07774424125) or Joy Reynolds (07973875750)

On Sunday, 5th June, Winterbourne Bassett are holding their Platinum Jubilee Celebrations which will include live music from The Kings of Knowing, a big Jubilee Lunch and a commemorative tree planting service.

Also on that Sunday, Broad Hinton & Uffcott will be celebrating the Platinum Jubilee with a picnic lunch and games at the White Horse Cricket Club.

Refreshments will be available but please feel free to bring your own.

Gathering from 12.00ish

There will also be a marquee available should the weather be too hot (ha ha) but as in the past many have bought their own easy ups/gazebos.

On Thursday 16th June, as part of the Jubilee celebrations, Bishop Andrew will be attending Broad Hinton Church to perform a dedication service (18.30) on the

wonderful Commemorative Window that was installed in St Peter ad Vincula in 2020 to salute the Queen's Sapphire Jubilee reign. Due to Covid restrictions, this dedication has been unable to take place until now, so fitting that it coincides with her Platinum Jubilee.

With easier movement now, the PCC in Broad Hinton have reinstated the Safari Supper event which has been running for over 25 years now.

This is scheduled for the 25th June, a perfect opportunity to be entertained and meet new people.



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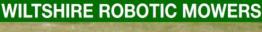
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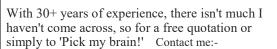




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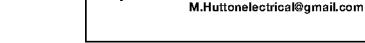
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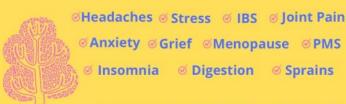
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