

UPPER KENNET NEWS

October 2022

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

Kennet Valley Lottery Club draw winners

£100 Number 32 Lorraine Perry
£75 Number 67 Jo Snape
£50 Number 15 Max Dissanayake

(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	24	Sonia Buxton
2nd	£36.00	13	Lyn Bennett-Nutt
3rd	£24.00	37	Brian Sterry
4th	£12.00	69	Sandra Elliot

(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

Baptism

Leonardo Kendrick Broad Hinton 25 September

Funerals

Norman Campbell West Overton 25 August
Rev. Gillian MacKichan West Overton 1 Sept

Thanksgiving

Betty Lewington Broad Hinton 3 Sept

"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 6.30 to 6.55pm: 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 12th October,
& Wednesday 26th October.

A View from the Rectory

By the time you read this article our much loved and widely respected late Queen, Elizabeth II, will have been laid to rest. Her family and the nation will have completed the formal period of mourning, and life as the cliché says 'goes on'. However, loss, grief, memory and the impact of losing someone we love lingers on. The last month has brought all sorts of things to the surface of our minds and emotions - unexpected things and no two people will experience loss and grief in exactly the same way.

Over and over in our prayers, privately, online and in church I have found myself deeply conscious of those who suffered a bereavement and who went through a funeral in these same few weeks. For some the public nature of the Queen's demise and the national period of mourning brought a sense of freedom - one lady said 'tears shed were not remarked on - even at work everyone was emotional. I could have a cry and no one even noticed - that was really helpful.' But a grieving son expressed it somewhat differently: 'I couldn't get there in time - I found I was very angry that some members of the royal family could travel to see the Queen before she died and there's a whole plan for managing her death, while my dad died suddenly and we had no warning and he was only 52. I mainly feel angry that the Queen (not at the queen) reigned much longer than my dad even lived.'

For others, losses of other kinds came to the surface, and I have found our conversations have turned once more to the various ways we have experienced loss over the last few years.

The spiritual impact of loss - loss of all sorts - on us, irrespective of whether we have an easily articulated faith or not, includes searching for meaning in the loss, change in beliefs, asking what might be the purpose of life.

We live in a culture where death and dying, loss of meaning and purpose, loss of confidence and even loss of identity is not discussed openly or very often even amongst people of faith. Except Christian Goths, of course, who might remind us that through death losing its sting through Jesus' resurrection it has become for us the ultimate healing as we are led through life to Life in the fullness of Heaven. Come to think of it, this isn't far from what Queen Elizabeth believed, is it, when she said in her Easter Pandemic message: 'As dark as death can be - particularly for those suffering with grief - light and life are greater. May the living flame of the Easter hope be a steady guide as we face the future.'

During the coming months we are inviting anyone experiencing loss of any kind to come to an evening of togetherness called Loss Café. With light touch, laughter and really good refreshments we will take these 'elephants' out from under the carpet and give them a jolly good shake out in the light. Do take the risk in coming - we are better and stronger dealing with these big things together. Whatever our paths, faith or none, we all need hope.

Upper Kennet Churches Winter Crisis Appeal Fund

This fund continues to operate to help those in really desperate need.

Obviously, we don't restrict help just to the winter time and we are, not surprisingly, now experiencing requests for help at this time of the year.

It would be helpful if we could top up our funds.

If you are able to help, please send a donation to Upper Kennet Churches, The Garden Room, 62 Lockeridge, Marlborough, SN8 4EL or by BACS transfer using sort code 30-92-63; account 01498496.

For any further information contact Rev. Maria Shepherdson (01672 539643) or Graham Kitchen (01672 861798).

Thank you.

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
2 October Trinity 16	<u>8.30am</u> Prayer Book Communion					<u>10.30 am</u> Morning Service	<u>10 am</u> Harvest Festival Communion
Wednesday 5 October				<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion			
9 October Trinity 17		<u>10 am</u> Morning Service		<u>10 am</u> Benefice Communion Service	<u>4 pm</u> Harvest Festival & Tea		
Wednesday 12 October			<u>6.30 pm</u> Meditation Service (Taizé)	<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion			
16 October Trinity 18		<u>5pm</u> Harvest Festival Songs of Praise	<u>8 am</u> Prayer Book Communion	<u>5 pm</u> Harvest Festival Service	<u>10 am</u> Benefice Communion Service		<u>10 am</u> Matins
Wednesday 19 October				<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion			
23 October Last Sunday after Trinity		<u>10 am</u> Benefice Communion Service	<u>6 pm</u> Harvest Festival Service				
Wednesday 26 October			<u>6.30 pm</u> Meditation Service (Taizé)	<u>10.30 am</u> Celtic Communion			
30 October 4 th Sunday before Advent						<u>10 am</u> Benefice Communion Service	

A Space to Breathe

Firepit Prayers

Under the Beech Tree

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
Meditation Space, 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 the
opportunity to chat.**

DATES:

Tuesday	11th October	5 pm
Saturday	15th October	4.30 pm
Thursday	20th October	5 pm



Readings

Sunday 2 October - Green
16th Sunday after Trinity
Lamentations 1.1-6
Psalm 137.1-6
2 Timothy 1.1-14
Luke 17.5-10

Sunday 9 October - Green
17th Sunday after Trinity
Jeremiah 29.1, 4-7
Psalm 66.1-11
2 Timothy 2.8-15
Luke 17.11-19

Sunday 16 October - Green
18th Sunday after Trinity
Jeremiah 31.27-34
Psalm 119.97-104
2 Timothy 3.14-4.5
Luke 18.1-8

Sunday 23 October - Green
Last Sunday after Trinity
Joel 2.23-end
Psalm 65 [or 65.1-7]
2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18
Luke 18.9-14

**Sunday 30 October - White or
Gold**
All Saint's Day
Daniel 7.1-3, 15-18
Psalm 149
Ephesians 1.11-end
Luke 6.20-31

Harvest Festival Readings
Deuteronomy 26.1-11
Psalm 100
Philippians 4.4-9 or Revelation
14.14-18
John 6.25-35

Views from the Kennet Valley Calendar

We hope to publish the 2023 calendar later in the year.
Meanwhile, do keep taking photographs depicting life
and views in our valley so that we have a good cross
section to choose from when we come to make our final
selection.

Send them to graham@grahamkitchen.com
or ring 01672 861798.

Upper Kennet Churches Autumn 2022 'Journey'



Talking Tuesdays – Talking Thursdays
Together we are invited to set out on a journey this autumn. Will you come for the whole walk or join us for part of it?

ALL WELCOME



Journey with Loss @The Loss Café
Tuesday 8th November Kennet Valley School, Lockeridge 7.30pm

Have you been left with feelings of loss post-Covid? Loss of confidence, sense of self, loss of job or role, and of course bereavement? We offer a safe space to explore, share, and meet together to offer our own wisdom and insights as we journey on in a new world.

Refreshments provided. Rev'd Maria/ Team with Guest Speakers.



Journeying with John: Explore the mighty Roman cities of the persecuted Seven Churches of Revelation, as you travel with us through the delights of western Turkey

Tuesday 11th October Venue Kennet Valley School Lockeridge 7.30pm

Led by Sibella and Stuart Laing.



Journey with Mary and Joseph - why then, why them?

Thursday 29th November and Friday 30th St James Avebury 7.30pm

A hands-on **Interactive Multisensory** experience as we explore the Incarnation story (45 minutes) followed by discussion. The church will be heated and refreshments provided.

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



Upper Kennet Churches



Harvest Festival Services

Broad Hinton	2 October	10.00 am
Holy Communion		
Winterbourne Monkton	9 October	4.00 pm
Harvest Service and Tea		
Avebury	16 October	5.00 pm
West Overton	16 October	5.00 pm
Songs of Praise		
East Kennett	23 October	6.00 pm
All welcome!		

Food donations are urgently needed for the Trussell Trust and you are welcome to bring items to the Harvest services. Alternatively, the Trust are accepting online donations.



Should you wish to make donations of food the most needed items are:

Tinned carrots, peas or sweetcorn
Tinned potatoes, instant mashed potato
Tinned fruit, tinned rice pudding
Tinned cold meat, tinned hot meat e.g. stewing steak
Tinned tuna, Long life sponge puddings, long life juice, long life milk.

FROST FAYRE

Winterbourne Bassett, SN4 9QF

Saturday 26 November 2022,

10.00 till 3.00

Would you, or a friend, be interested in having a stand at the Frost Fayre to be held in the candle lit parish church and surrounding grounds?

*We are looking for quality crafts and affordable gifts
Crafters and independent retailers welcome*

Only £15 per table

Interested? Contact for further details.

Claire Stiles c.j.stiles@hotmail.co.uk

The Yoga Circle – Day Retreat with Joanna Brant & Stefanie Young

Saturday 22nd October at Kennet Valley Hall
(9.30am to 4.45pm - exact timings tbc)

A day of Yoga including Elemental Mandala, gentle heart-opening Hatha, and beautifully restorative Yin, interwoven with Mantra. This will include a delicious vegetarian lunch and afternoon sweet treats.

We hope to hold these retreats every quarter, so this will be the first of our Yoga Circles, as an Autumn offering, focusing on much-needed **Self-care** as we come to the midway point in the Autumn season.

VISIT OF BISHOP DATA FROM SOUTH SUDAN

Bishop Data and his family, wife Agnes and 8 month old daughter Esther, visited our Benefice in August. After attending the Lambeth Conference he and his family were hosted by the Marlborough Deanery where they were able to meet many people and visit the local area. They enjoyed a morning tour of the Avebury Stones and then met Rev Maria in St James' Church, Avebury.



They were then entertained to lunch at the Waggon and Horses, Beckhampton where we had a chance to find out more about their lives in a refugee camp in Uganda, having been forced to flee the violence in South Sudan. He cycles some 50 miles back into South Sudan to minister in his Diocese of Morobo, where his 11 Archdeacons share 2 bibles and only 1 computer is available. Currently in Morobo there are no hospitals, clinics, schools or water supply as the rebels have destroyed everything. A huge re building programme will be required as they gradually try and return home. It is hoped that Marlborough Deanery and the Diocese of Morobo will establish a link and can support each other in prayer and practical ways. The Marlborough Deanery meets on 27 September to see if we wish to take this forward and work out how we can best support Bishop Data and his people.



AVEBURY & DISTRICT WI

SEPTEMBER 2022

Until 6.30 on the 8th of September I was all prepared for a 'normal' WI meeting. Our speaker was booked, we'd had our committee meeting and sorted out birthdays and so on. Hearing the news that the Queen was unwell and under medical supervision was worrying but not concerning, the rumble of thunder as we discussed it at a meeting in the afternoon should have been a sign. As I browsed my iPad a little box popped up (courtesy of my online paper subscription) with the shocking news of Her Majesty's death. This rather threw me as I wasn't sure what to do and couldn't stop our speaker from leaving to come to the meeting so I decided we should keep calm and carry on.

We did gather, the few that turned out, and held a minute's silence before a very brief bit of business and some refreshments as those who had been asked had already brought them. Her Majesty was a member of the WI and had been president of Sandringham so we felt she'd understand.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 13th October and our speaker is Wafaa Powell on 'Life of women in Lebanon', the flowers are an arrangement of berries and the competition is 'A hint of the Middle East'

At this meeting there will be a questionnaire for you to complete, please help your committee by completing it and giving us your frank and honest views

Maggie Lewis
President,

The Marlborough Players present

'Table Manners'

a comedy

by Alan Ayckbourn
Marlborough Town Hall
Thursday 20th to
Saturday 22nd October



Social Centre Avebury **Soup Lunches**



(homemade soups, bread & cheese)
(and a piece of cake!)
(and a chance to meet and chat)
will start again on

++ Monday 3rd October ++
12 noon—2.00pm

**Looking forward to seeing you &
others from Avebury & villages nearby.**

£1 on the door
Any additional donations welcome
(*first Monday of the month*)

November's Lunch:
Monday 7th November

NEWS FROM THE TOWER



Many of us will have been shocked by the sudden death of Her Majesty the Queen. We knew that she was frail but somehow imagined she would always be there.

The powers that be, in the ringing world, had planned when and what should be rung on the death of the Monarch, the bells were to be muffled on both sides of the clappers with the tenor, the heaviest bell, muffled on one side. Brian Vickers and Andy Miller did this. There were eight ringers, for the Queen, at Avebury, Michele Lomas, Kathryn and Andy Miller, Brian Vickers, Sean, James and Samuel Tye and Jonathan Stubbs. This was the first time that the Avebury bells had been double muffled because they were unfit to ring when the last Monarch, King George VI, the Queen's father died.

Mary Davidge. Correspondent.



Farmer Mark's Pumpkin Patch



At Tan Hill Farm, West Kennett, Marlborough, SN8 1QF

(Just off the A4)

Come and pick your own
pumpkin from our pumpkin
field.

Prices start at £2.

Tiny, Small, Medium, Large, Giant.

Variety of Pumpkins & Gourds

Lots of fun for the family!

- Halloween scavenger hunt
- Halloween arts/crafts
- Halloween games in the pumpkin barn & bale maze
- Photo booth

NEW FOR 2022!

Tractor/Trailer rides around the pumpkin patch
Bale Maze

Opening times

8th /9th Oct, 15th/16th Oct,
20th -30th Oct
10am-4pm
(last entry 3.30pm)

- Free admission.
- Free parking.
- Outdoor shoes/wellies advised.
- Sorry no dogs allowed, except Guide Dogs.
- Cash or card payments
- Small charges may apply to some activities

Follow us for updates of opening times/weather conditions
on Facebook or Instagram @farmermarkspumpkinpatch.

Email farmermarkspumpkinpatch@gmail.com



Dates for the Diary

14th October

Quiz Night - 7pm

Speak to a member of the team to book your table - £1
per person to enter and all money raised goes to St
Mary Magdalene Church

16th and 30th October

Traditional Sunday Roast - 12-3pm

Enjoy a delicious roast from locally sourced meat and
all the trimmings. We recommend booking and we
encourage pre-orders to help minimise wait times.

New Opening Hours and Reduced Menu

Due to the rise in energy bills, we have
had to make the decision to amend our
hours and menu to ensure that we can run
sustainably throughout the winter
months.

We will have an exciting new burger and
salad menu and a variety of delicious
dessert options.

The New Inn will be closed from Thursday 6th - Sunday 9th October
reopening on Thursday 13th.

Thursday and Friday
5-9pm
Saturday
8.30-11am 5-9pm Sunday
12-9pm



THE NEW INN, WINTERBOURNE MONKTON

01672 329 992

Avebury Community Shop

Shop Phone Number: 01672 539200
Opening Hours 10am – 4pm every day



Meet the Volunteer – Rowan



Rowan is one of our Duke of Edinburgh Scheme volunteers. She has completed her Silver award and is now working towards Gold. Rowan is 16 and goes to Kingsbury Green Academy, studying for A levels in Geography, Biology, Psychology and Physics. She has been volunteering in the shop for nearly a year. She was encouraged to volunteer at our Community shop by a friend of her dad. Rowan's favourite products are Magnum Billionaire Ice

cream and crisps.

Rowan usually helps with stocking up the shelves and labelling produces, but has just started to be trained on the till. In her spare time, Rowan is very keen on cricket and helps to train youngsters at Avebury Cricket Club.

She can usually be found working in the shop on Saturday afternoons between 3pm and 4pm and says that it is a very nice place to work, and that she will continue to work in the shop after she has completed her Duke of Edinburgh scheme.

Volunteers Urgently Needed

The Community Shop relies on volunteers to remain open. We are currently very short of volunteers and would welcome enquiries from anyone, young or old, who would like to help us. Without more volunteers, we might have to consider drastic action such as reducing our opening hours. Please consider volunteering and making a difference to the community as well as making friends and having fun. Ours shifts are normally approximately 3 hours long and we will provide full training and support. We don't expect you to volunteer every week, although if you can do that it would be brilliant.

If you would like to consider volunteering, please contact one of our shop managers, Lyn or Martin, on 01672 539200.

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)

MONKTON CAFE POPS UP AGAIN IN AVEBURY



The Monkton and Berwick Bassett team popped up again in Avebury to serve Lunches and Teas in the Social Centre on the August Bank Holiday Monday. Avebury had a bumper number of visitors and luckily a lot of them chose our 'cafe' for lunch and tea. The weather was perfect (not too hot this time) and the customers came in their droves from 11.40 with numbers only slowing down after 4pm. We had to nip to the shops a couple of times to replenish stocks and our left overs were very little (nearly zero waste). As ever the

food on offer was superb with home-made sausage rolls, quiches, soups, scones and a huge variety of cakes. Thank you to our bakers. Our produce stall did extremely well and people had been very generous in their donations. The star of the show was Ziggy, the barn owl, who perched on Tanya's arm and was stroked, admired and photographed. Nearly £100 was raised by Ziggy from her new found fan club. The servers, washer-uppers and clearer-uppers did a terrific job with little let up. Thank you all and our wonderful customers. Our total was our record of over £1400 profit raised for the church - a truly wonderful amount.

.....AND MORE FUNDRAISING

The Ride and Stride Event on 10 September saw team of 10 cyclists from within the Benefice and Swindon complete a cycle ride around the Marlborough Deanery area – some 50 plus miles. They had been sponsored as part of the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust annual fund raising. With over £1,000 raised by our cyclists and 50% of the money going back to our church our grateful thanks go to the very generous and numerous sponsors and intrepid cyclists. Well done everyone – a long and tiring day!



Rev Gillian MacKichan

1934 – 2022

The church in West Overton was filled to capacity on Thursday 1st September for the funeral of Rev Gill MacKichan who died in Lockeridge on Saturday 20th August.

Gillian MacKichan, always known as Gill, was born in 1934 in London. Her early years were dominated by the Second World War, with evacuation first to Yorkshire and then to a boarding school, where she became Head Girl. She was passionate about sport and chose a career in Physical Education, training at Bedford College. Shortly after qualifying she met Alan MacKichan and they married in 1959. Alan was teaching at Marlborough College and Gill taught PE at Marlborough Grammar school until their sons Ian and Andrew were born.

In 1965 Alan became Housemaster of Summerfield House at the College, where Gill flourished in her caring role as Housemaster's wife. Their house was chosen to welcome girls when the school pioneered co-education. Former pupils remember with fondness and gratitude an elegant woman who put you instantly at ease and was always ready to listen and advise when necessary. During this time Gill decided to change career. She trained as a Samaritan and then became a social worker, based at the Princess Margaret hospital in Swindon, specialising in foster care.

In 1982 Alan moved to Haileybury College in Hertfordshire as Deputy Headmaster. Gill then worked in Harlow in the Essex child guidance team. In 1992 Alan retired and they returned to Wiltshire living at West Bailey in Lockeridge. Gill worked in adoption placement in Swindon. Since the late 80's she had been contemplating ordination as a priest in the Church of England. She trained part-time while continuing her social work and was ordained as a deacon in Salisbury Cathedral in 1993 and then as a priest in 1994, one of the very first women to be ordained in the Church of England. She served the Kennet churches for the next 20 years. Gill was always well informed about politics and national and international

events. She was a voracious reader particularly of novels, poetry and history. She loved art. Her strong social conscience was played out particularly in her support of the Trussell Trust. Equality in all its forms was an important issue for her. Gill had a lifelong passion for horses and she was never without one from her teenage years until her late 70's when her hips got the better of her. She was regularly seen around the parish on her beloved Rosie. Dogs were also an important part of her life. Gill was a colourful character; she loved bright dramatic clothes. She was an enthusiastic, lively and interesting woman. Above all she was a kind and loving friend to all she met.

Alan died in 2003. Gill is survived by Ian, Andrew and her three grandchildren, Millie, Alexander and Hugo.

Granny

Your laughter and chatter still echoes since you have been gone, Your faith and love will forever continue on.

Your advice and kindness, I cannot compare, Your bright personality perfectly matched with your artistic fashion flare.

From Jigsaw to Westwoods, always with friends to meet, To sitting quietly reading with Larry at your feet.

Always smiling, never complaining and strength like no other, An inspiration to us all that was my grandmother.

You really were magical and we couldn't have asked for more, You may have left us, but you'll never close the door.

Your spirit will still be with us as we continue on with our days, It will shine bright through the windows in the morning rays.

You're now with Papa in heaven, for a new adventure starts, Whilst down here we are celebrating you with love from our hearts.

written and read by Amelia





CURIOSITY COMPASSION COURAGE

Church of England, Voluntary Aided
School

www.kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk

**Ofsted 'Good school' – March
2020**

News from August and September 2022

I hope that everyone reading this had a wonderful summer and enjoyed the warmer weather. I know that all of the children and families in the Kennet Valley School community enjoyed their school holidays and that the staff enjoyed it as well. The staff worked through the summer holidays to plan for the coming year. This included a new reading reward scheme and a new maths reward scheme. Both have been launched now that the children have returned to school and were explained to the parents and carers at a school meeting on Tuesday 13th September.

End of 2021/2022

The end of term was lovely, with an emotional goodbye to the year 6 children. This year they are all going to St Johns school, and I know that they will be amazing while they are there.

Leavers Service

Before the end of term, we held our annual Leavers Service. This year we held it in school because it was far too hot to walk up to West Overton church. It was lovely to hear the children talking about their experiences and memories of being at Kennet Valley School. We were delighted to welcome parents to this event too.

Year Six Residential

For the last 3 days of the summer term the wonderful Year Six children set off for their residential. This year they went to Kilve Court in Somerset and took part in a wide range of activities, which included raft building, archery, climbing and a visit to the beautiful beach there. The children were accompanied by Mrs McQue, Miss Hogan and Miss Harvey, and I know that this team were incredibly impressed by the children and their attitude to each activity.

At the end of the residential (and the end of the children's time at Kennet Valley) we asked them to give one word that they would use to describe the school. They described Kennet Valley School as ...

MAGNIFICENT
CARING
COMMUNITY
UNIQUE
FRIENDLY (x2)
THOUGHTFUL
WONDERFUL
MEMORABLE

SUPPORTIVE
EXCEPTIONAL
ALWAYS HAS YOUR BACK.
I could not be prouder to be the headteacher of a school that is described with these words by the children that have spent the start of their educational journey with us.

Start of 2022/2023

We were really pleased that eleven new reception children started at the school this year. We also welcomed five older children who started in year 2 – 6. I know that I speak for the whole school community when I say a huge welcome to them – we all hope that they really love being in and learning in our lovely family school.

The three Rs and the three Cs

As a church school our values are really important, and as the headteacher I am passionate about 'living these values' as much as I can. The three overarching values for Kennet Valley are Curiosity, Compassion and Courage – the three Cs. We talked to the children about these and reflected on them in many lessons. I hope that we demonstrate these in the everyday work that we do, and when we do unique events such as fund raising for charities. Currently we have a food drive for Love Marlborough Kids Meals called the £2 challenge.

This year we have also introduced the three Rs! These are the three 'golden' rules that we ask children to observe when at school (and at home). These rules ask the children, and staff, to be Responsible, be Respectful and be Resilient. Again, as with the values, we have explored what these words means and how we should demonstrate that we are living by them in everyday life.

Our children are all amazing, but we hope that the three Cs and Rs will make their lives even better both within and out of school.

Reading at Kennet Valley!

In my April article I wrote about reading at the school and that we were working to achieve at least a silver award in the Wiltshire Year of Reading. I am delighted to announce that we have achieved this goal and that we plan to continue to build on this in the coming year.

I have previously written about our summer reading party, which was to celebrate how much reading children had completed throughout the year. This year we have launched a new reading challenge for the children, with new prizes.

At the end of the last school year, we awarded a prize to one child in each year group who had completed the most reading at home. Well done to Rupert, India, Jessica, Annie, Jacob, Milo, and Toby. They all received a £10 book voucher to spend in the White Horse book shop in Marlborough.

Stay and Play

As you will know we run a Stay and Play session each month. These sessions are for any children aged 2, 3 or 4 years old who are yet to start school. They are a terrific opportunity for families to come in and get to know our little school better. We know from past experience that this really helps children to feel comfortable in a school environment. Each session runs from 9.30am to 10.30am

The dates for Term One and Two are as follows ...

Thursday 29th September

Monday 17th October

Tuesday 22nd November

You do not need to book for these sessions, just come along to the school office and Ruthie or Suzanne will help you to sign in and show you to the classroom.

COMING SOON – Kennet Valley School Art Fair!

By the time you read this we will have held a new school event – The Kennet Valley School Arts Fair. This was held on 24th and 25th of September.

We were delighted that eleven artists showed their art at the fair. These artists included Chris Dunn Illustrations, Vibrant Art by Ellen, Heidi Nardoni, SnugPumpkin, Sofie Baker, Becky Borthwick, Jo Corbett, Ruth McGrady, and Catherine Wade.

There was a tea shop there, which was run by our marvellous Friends Association, and all our children showed a piece of individual unique artwork too. I hope that many of you came along and supported this new event. I will write about this in my October article.

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

With Kind regards,

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

#SmallButMighty #SmallSchoolBigHeart

KENNET VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.kvparishcouncil.org.uk

clerk@kvparishcouncil.org.uk

Tel: 07897 797208

MYWILTS ONLINE REPORTING

For reporting streetlights, potholes, fly tipping etc. we have added a link at the bottom of the home page of our website to take you straight to MyWilts reporting. Wiltshire Council also has a MyWilts app you can download onto your computer, mobile phone or smart device, more details can be found at www.wiltshirecouncil.org.uk/mywilts-online-reporting

HEDGES & TREES

Now the evenings are getting darker earlier, and the leaves will soon start to fall please can you remember to cut back hedges & tree branches. This is vitally important on land bordering roads and pavements as the leaves become very slippery when wet and the overhanging hedges force pedestrians into the road where they may not easily be seen by oncoming vehicles. Please do not be surprised if you receive a letter from the Parish Council making this request but we hope by giving you a gentle reminder now this can be avoided.

HI-VIZ

Dog walkers and cyclists please remember that you are much safer wearing Hi-Viz on dark autumn evenings.

LOCKERIDGE SPEEDWATCH PATROLS

The Lockeridge Speedwatch Team is pleased to report that the number of

vehicles speeding through the village has reduced since the patrols began in 2020. Patrols will continue through the autumn and winter at a variety of locations and at different time of the day and week. Additional volunteers would be welcome to join the Team. Please contact Clerk@kvparishcouncil.org.uk

BONFIRES

Complaints are continually being received about bonfires and this is now viewed by many as antisocial and harmful to health. Although we appreciate at this time of year there is a lot of garden waste, please consider making use of your green bin, composting, or taking it to the household recycling centre. The current advice from Wiltshire Council is to not have bonfires. There are many people still working from home and the smoke can aggravate respiratory conditions so please be considerate to your neighbours. The Wiltshire Council website provides comprehensive information and advice and information about bonfires and smoke pollution and can be viewed at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/env-health-smoke-nuisance

FIRST AID TRAINING 9th OCTOBER 2022 KENNET VALLEY HALL – SOME PLACES LEFT

Kenet Valley Parish Council has organised first aid training at Kenet Valley Hall on Sunday 9th October 2022 to provide an introduction to basic first aid skills and use of a defibrillator. No previous experience is required and there are no written exams or certificates. Two sessions are available:

10.30am – 12.30am (session 1)

1.30pm – 3.30pm (session 2)

The training will be provided free of charge by the British Red Cross and donations to the charity are invited. Some places are still available and booking is required.

Please reply to jill.turner@kvparishcouncil.org.uk with your name, which session you want to attend and confirmation that you live in the Kennet Valley Parish.

AVIAN FLU – THIS AUTUMN

The number of cases of Avian Flu amongst domesticated and wild birds is rapidly on the increase and already some protective zones are in place. IT IS HIGHLY LIKELY THAT THE REQUIREMENT TO HOUSE ALL BIRDS MAY COME INTO FORCE EARLIER THIS SEASON.

Meanwhile all poultry keepers are requested to be vigilant with bio security - details are available on

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu>

Do not touch any infected birds.

WATER RESTRICTIONS

A gentle reminder the hosepipe ban is still in place, please help to save water. The Thames Water website has the latest information <https://www.thameswater.co.uk/help/water-restrictions>

NEXT MEETING

The date of the next full Parish Council meeting is **Monday 7th November at 6.30pm** in the **Kenet Valley Hall**. As always members of the public are most welcome to attend – we look forward to seeing you there.

AVEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Headlines from Avebury Parish Council's meeting on 6 September 2022

A4361: The SID will soon move to its location at the entrance of the community Sports and Social Club. We are buying new batteries to provide more reliable operation.

B4003: A member of the public asked about a notice relating to the road. This concerns statutory public consultation about a small extension to the primrose lining designed better to define the lay-by, which may be remodelled soon.

Community Exhibition Space (the Chapel): We agreed to sign the National Trust's lease, which becomes effective from 1 October and runs for three years.

Defibrillator: We heard that donations will help fund the proposed additional

defibrillators in Beckhampton and Rawlins Park (the latter being subject to support from the site's new owners).

Flooding: It was agreed to ask Wiltshire Council to clear the drain outside the Red Lion and the ditch along AVE22.

Great Chalk Way: We heard that the Ramblers Association was looking for a place to install an information board detailing the route of the Great Chalk Way. It was agreed that the Chapel would be the ideal location.

National Trust: The monthly update underlined the Trust's road safety concerns given increased footfall from the ASSC/pay and display car park. It was decided to ask ASSC to consider posting signs inviting pedestrians not to walk unsafely along the A4361 but safely through the henge. The Trust said that it would like the PC to consider setting up a commercial/business group consisting of local businesses as a forum to discuss upcoming events and

other matters of interest. On request of a member of the public, the council agreed to raise concerns about trespass/camping in the beech copse that runs along the southern edge of Rawlins Park with the Trust.

Parish Steward: Wiltshire Council has responded positively to the Council's request for an increase in the number of hours the steward spends each month on work in and around Avebury. The allocation has been doubled to eight.

Ridgeway: A member of the public asked why so many vehicles were camping on the Ridgeway close to Overton Hill. We agreed to ask Wiltshire Council for an explanation.

Date and place of next meeting: 4 October at 19h30 in the Social Centre. As always, residents wishing to participate in these meetings are most welcome to do so.

A Time To Rejoice

As a very young woman Elizabeth became our queen, making vows with no real idea of all it would mean to follow these vows for so many years - but follow them she did with her strong Christian Faith giving her the strength.

During these years she had a family who would grow, marry, have children. There were problems at times within the family. A closeness with Elizabeth remained. At times it must have been difficult for her, carrying out public duties especially with the families problems widely spread throughout the country and

the world.

She supported many, many charities. Was greatly loved within the Commonwealth, with many visits to them showing her concern and interest in their countries.

It is hard to imagine how there were enough hours in the day at times for her to carry out all her duties. Somehow she still enjoyed and followed her own interests, especially her love of horses and racing.

Elizabeth was blessed with a husband who loved and supported her throughout her reign until sadly he died. But still in her grief she carried on with her duties. As the Father God watched her becoming

more frail He opened the doors of Heaven to welcome His faithful servant into His Arms and to be reunited with her husband.

Our prayers are with members of her family now left with a very empty gap in their lives.

Our new King Charles not only loved his mother but has great respect for the values she lived by, I am sure he will do his best to follow her example.

An example we all can follow.

God Bless King Charles

And let us Rejoice in the life of our now departed Queen Elizabeth and Rejoice that she was called home without long weeks of suffering.

The Summer of 2022

The summer of 2022 with the sun blazing down
Causing a drought and the grass to turn brown
Firemen and farmers racing to get to the blaze
Together they are fighting the flames in the haze
Passengers waiting for trains that never arrive
Summer of strikes, picket lines and trying to survive

Strawberries, ice creams, picnics and fun
No sign of rain still the harvest is done
Castles built of straw stacked high in the fields
Crops stored in the barn with all that it yields
Where are the lush meadows, daisy and buttercup

Gone are some wildlife as the rivers dry up
We are off to the cricket and trips to the sea
Traffic jams and sandy sandwiches for tea
As the scorched earth yields to the gentle rain
Will we ever see such a hot summer again.

Julia Butler



Angharad Hughes

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Update from the National Trust - October 2022

And just like that ... it was Autumn! The children have been back at school for a few weeks now, and we've returned to a more tranquil Avebury. Once again, we've been welcoming visitors to the annual Sculpture Exhibition in Avebury Manor Garden – now an established event with a delightfully relaxed atmosphere. The exhibition runs until 9 October, so if you haven't visited yet, there's still time to have a look.

We're constantly trying to find ways in which to make people's visits easier and more enjoyable and the National Trust is working towards making all its places more accessible for everyone. Over the next few months, you'll see further improvements across the site to be able to share this special place with people of all abilities.

Our trial of the 'Lost' tours has been working very well, with visitors really engaging with the attic rooms and the story of the underfloor excavations. Tours

are running daily at 12noon and 2pm (subject to volunteer availability on the day).

With harvest displays in the dovecote and the manor, and the nights drawing in, getting outside when possible, seems to be even more important for people. This autumn we offer some gentle outdoor family activities including Apple Celebrations in the manor garden, a Dark Skies family walk and a children's trail for October half term.

Looking further ahead to Christmas, we're very excited this year to showcase the manor on the theme of 'The Nutcracker', with each room telling the story of Clara and the Prince as they journey from an enchanted forest, along the lemonade canal and to the Sugar Plum Fairy's castle of sweets. Children will also be able to book to take part in 'Meet the Sugar-Plum Fairy' in the Dovecote.

Invitation: Once again, we'd like to invite residents of Avebury Parish along to a preview of Christmas at Avebury Manor on Friday 18 November, either at 3-4pm or 6-7pm where you can see the beautiful hand-crafted decorations telling the story of The Nutcracker in

the rooms of the manor, while enjoying a mince pie and spiced fruit drink. If you'd like to come along please RSVP with your preferred time slot to lauramay.bailey@nationaltrust.org.uk

This Christmas we're also offering wreath-making workshops, winter warmer walks, and a Christmas Market with a late opening event on Saturday 3 December, 4-6pm in the Old Farmyard.

It would be great to welcome members of the local community to some of these events; for our full programme of activities and further details please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/avebury.

And finally, we're undertaking a visitor survey to get a better understanding of how visitor demographics have changed through the pandemic, what people expect from a visit to Avebury and what we could improve on, going forward. If anybody locally is happy to share their thoughts and be interviewed in this context, please email avebury@nationaltrust.org.uk.

We'd love to hear from you, so if you'd like to get in touch with us please contact us on 01672 539250 or email avebury@nationaltrust.org.uk

A Message from the Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson

I've now been 'in the job' of PCC for a year, and if there is one thing that's been made abundantly clear to me, it's that your confidence in policing is not where I want it to be.

Whilst there are clearly some exceptional individual officers, overall, there have been gaps in the service you receive. In the past year, I have made practical steps to address them, such as the purchasing of effective technology such as drones and ensuring more officers are deployed to the rural crime team.

The damage done by crimes such as hare coursing, criminal damage and theft have a massive impact on the rural community and history shows that at times of recession, farms become targets.

I regularly speak to farmers and I'm all too aware of the reasons why you feel that reporting crime is not worthwhile. In my Police and Crime Plan, I've committed to

ensure Wiltshire Police takes these crimes seriously and deals with them effectively.

This is why I've taken steps to ensure the rural crime team has the capabilities and staffing it needs.

As part of this commitment, Wiltshire Police has introduced online crime reporting specifically for rural crime. The form takes about ten minutes and is picked up by the same people who answer 101 calls.

It's vital that to build up an overall picture and identify patterns of criminal activity, all crime is reported, no matter how small it may seem.

As this has only recently been introduced, I welcome your feedback about how the system is working. It's only through working together that we can stop these crimes from happening and make Wiltshire a safer place to live and work.

<https://bit.ly/reportruralcrime>



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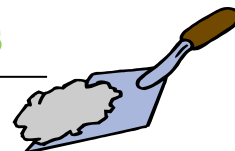
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