



UPPER KENNET NEWS

September 2021

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

Kennet Valley Lottery Club draw winners

£100 Number 43 Phyllida Joel
£75 Number 75 Robert Mann
£50 Number 20 Anne Rose

(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 August

1st	£48.00	10	Greg Hallam
2nd	£36.00	9	Mark Saunders
3rd	£24.00	24	Sonia Buxton
4th	£12.00	33	Nigel Fielder

(some winners prefer that their names are not published)

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

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

Lottery is licensed by Wiltshire Council

Notice Board

Weddings

Chloe Blackmore & Matthew Johns 23 July Avebury

Baptism

Max Johns 23 July Avebury
James Wathen 8 August East Kennett
Isabelle Feather 22 August Broad Hinton

Burial of Ashes

Margaret Randall 6 August Winterbourne Bassett
Paul Randall 6 August Winterbourne Bassett
Clarice Phillips 13 August Winterbourne Monkton
Cliff Pearce 13 August Winterbourne Monkton

Funeral

Mike Yates 24 July Winterbourne Bassett
Stanley Earle 3 August North Wilts Crematorium
John Kirby Taylor 19 August Broad Hinton

View from the Rectory

It is the middle of August and parish life is in full swing albeit with cautious consideration of the current state of the pandemic. On Sunday one of my stalwart Churchwardens announced that it was my last service at that particular church for three months and in that moment the long-anticipated research leave became a reality. The needs of the parishes have largely outweighed the preparations for 'going on the road' and my heart did a flip at the list of meetings, paperwork and conversations that needed attention for each of these strands of my life. It felt as if I had a foot in the 'now and the not yet' and had to be 100% in each in this short month of transition. Then I drew breath and relaxed. The 'now' and the 'not yet' is both familiar and challenging: it is where all of us are, all the time, and all we need to do is be fully present in the moment and keep one eye on the road ahead, and do what we can as best we can with that moment.

It struck me that this perhaps is when the most learning happens, when we are fully alive to and attentive to the vagaries of life; fully present, having paused to reflect and take stock and seek God's direction and guidance for the journey.

So what am I taking stock of right now? I found myself meditating on the story of the sending out of the 72 disciples (**Luke 10:1-1.**) To be a disciple simply means to be a 'learner'.

In the time of Jesus you learnt from people rather than books and I suspect I will learn a great deal about myself, about God, and about how people feel about being connected to the Divine as I hear their stories. Starting conversations with people, being invited into groups of people you have never met before can make one feel risky and vulnerable. Being willing to share my own story and in particular the deepest belief I have - that God is Love, and that this Love, that transcends all Love, simply wants them to know they are loved and are precious and valued - is also risky. Coming back to all of you changed by these encounters with others and challenged by what I learn about myself is risky too. But when we share stories of our faith in the context of vulnerability and weakness, with a sense of dependence on others, remarkable things happen: strangers become friends, bridges are built and barriers come down.

Jesus sent his disciples to 'all the places that he wanted to go' and I have a feeling that not only is Jesus doing this journey alongside me but he is also sending me to where he is already ahead of me and will also be here with all of you in your journey - in the 'now and not yet' of absence and change. Wherever we encounter the presence of God, we enter the meeting point of heaven and earth, and my prayer for you and me and all those I may encounter on the way is that in our story connecting with their story, we learn more about HIS story and, as we journey on, together and apart, with God alongside us, we make history. The 72 returned with joy to tell the story of those they encountered. I take heart in Jesus' promise that, whatever challenge or hardship we find in the task, we will come back together at Christmastide, to hear what happened and rejoice.

May God bless you all.

Views from the Kennet Valley 2022 Calendar

If you have any photographs you would like us to consider for inclusion in the 2022 calendar, please send them to Graham Kitchen at graham@grahamkitchen.com or telephone 01672 861798.



UPPER KENNET CHURCHES SERVICES

	St Nicholas FYFIELD	St Michael & All Angels WEST OVERTON	Christ Church EAST KENNETT	St James AVEBURY	St Mary Magdalene WINTERBOURNE MONKTON	St Katherine & St Peter WINTERBOURNE BASSETT	St Peter ad Vincula BROAD HINTON
Wednesday 1 September			No Taizé service	10.30 am Celtic Communion			
5 September Trinity 14	8.30 am Prayer book Communion				9.45 am Benefice Service Communion	10.30 am Morning Prayer	
Wednesday 8 September				10.30 am Celtic Communion			
12 September Trinity 15		9.45 am Benefice Service Harvest Festival Communion					4 pm Family Service
Wednesday 15 September			7 pm Meditation Service (Taizé)	10.30 am Celtic Communion			
19 September Trinity 16				9.45 am Benefice Service Harvest Festival Communion			
Wednesday 22 September				10.30 am Celtic Communion			
26 September Trinity 17			8 am Prayer Book Communion			9.45 am Benefice Service Harvest Festival Communion	
Wednesday 29 September			7 pm Meditation Service (Taizé)	10.30 am Celtic Communion			

“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 15th September, Wednesday 29th September &
Wednesday 13th October.*

Readings

**Sunday 5 September – Green
Trinity 14**

James 2.1-10
Mark 7.24-end

**Sunday 26 September – Green
Trinity 17**

James 5.13-end
Mark 9.38-end

**Sunday 12 September – Green
Trinity 15**

James 3.1-12
Mark 8.27-end

**Sunday 3 October – Green
Trinity 18**

Hebrews 1.1-4;2.5-12
Mark 10.2-16

**Sunday 19 September – Green
Trinity 16**

James 3.13-4.3,7-8a
Mark 9.30-37



FRIDAY 10th WE ARE BACK! FRIDAY 24th

Little Angels

10AM - 11:30AM

KENNET VALLEY SCHOOL, LOCKERIDGE

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



MONKTON PLANT AND PRODUCE STALL - RESULT!

Thank you to all those who donated plants and produce to the stall, the New Inn for hosting it outside their pub and those who donated money in exchange for goodies. The stall has now closed having raised a super £112. A donation of half will be made to the Trussell Trust and the remainder going to the church.

St James - Avebury
Churchyard Clearance

Please come and help us tidy the churchyard on
Saturday 18th September 9.30-12 noon
Bring your own tools
coffee and cake provided.



West Overton
Big Church Clean

After 18 months of lockdown the church needs a good clean. We aim to complete it before a wedding on 18th September. If you could offer an hour or two to help we would be very grateful.
Please phone Ruth on 01672 861550.



Fyfield Church
Church grounds tidy-up

SAT 11 SEPTEMBER

9.30am - 12.30pm

Please bring your own tools

All help welcomed!

Refreshments provided



COFFEE MORNING
AND
BRING AND BUY
at
WEST OVERTON CHURCH
on
SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER
from 10 am - 12 noon

which we hope to hold outside, weather permitting.

Any donations of cakes and/or items for our Bring and Buy stall, including books, bric-à-brac, produce, plants, etc will be very welcome.

Please contact Anne Robinson (861169)
for further details

We look forward to seeing you!

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

**MONKTON'S POP
UP CAFÉ IN
AVEBURY**



Our first Lunches and Teas in the Avebury Social Centre on Sun 15 August went very well. A steady number of tourists and visitors popped in for some delicious home-made soup, lunches and cakes. The produce and cake stall did a steady trade too with as great mix of home-made cakes, chutneys/jams and garden produce. The valiant team of servers and bakers did sterling work to keep the customers happy – a grateful thanks to all those who contributed to the success of the day. It was the first time we had been able to accept card payments and that was convenient for customers and less cash counting for us! The total raised, after expenses, was just over £870 for Monkton church – something of a record for our mid August day. We hope our next one, on 30 Aug – Bank Holiday Monday, will be equally successful. Do come and bring your friends/family for lunch or tea!

PET SERVICE

On Sunday 15 August The Rev Maria held a pet service in Anstice's field next to Fyfield Church.

The rain held off and 27 dogs, one pony, one hamster and 53 people (aged under one to over 90) attended. We had a short service which included some hymns (at last!) and Maria blessed each animal.

Afterwards we consumed much tea and cake – thank you to Vicky and her wonderful team of helpers, and those who kindly contributed cakes.

Everyone agreed that it was a very happy village occasion.

A collection of £84.70 was made in aid of our three churches, Fyfield, West Overton and East Kennet.

Many thanks go to the Bauer and Elks families who produced an immaculately poo-picked field for the occasion.



THE NEW INN PRESENTS

CABBAGE SUNDAY

CHARITY FUN DAY & AUCTION

Raising funds for



CHARITY
AUCTION

LIVE MUSIC

FACE
PAINTING
BY POPPY WILKINS

BBQ

CAKE STALL

BOUNCY
CASTLE

**SUNDAY 26TH
SEPTEMBER
12 - 4pm**

The New Inn, Winterbourne Monkton, SN4 9NW

Don't forget to tell us you're 'attending' on our Facebook event page! 

If you would be generous enough to donate a prize for our auction or something sweet for the cake stall please call or email Cody on 01672 539793 or thenewinn@elderbrookhouse.com.

News from the Tower

During a bell ringers' Zoom meeting, it was decided, after a discussion, that the ringing practices will start again on Tuesday, 24th August. They may be a bit shorter than before, at first, depending on how many attend. The ringing room will be ventilated and masks will be worn when not ringing. This is a massive step forward for everyone as we haven't all met in person since 16th March, 2020 although some people have been ringing for the Benefice Services recently.

We are so grateful to Jane Ridgwell who has run the Zoom meetings for us throughout, giving all of us an opportunity to 'get together' and especially for those who are shielding, many thanks Jane. Revd. Maria's lovely Zoom services, meant that we didn't have to miss church services and had two things to look forward to.

On a personal note, during the Pandemic, we have had so many kind people offering us help and support, cards, letters and e-mails with photographs, offers to shop from friends, neighbours, church and ringing friends, we would never have starved or run out of loo rolls!

We are so grateful to them all.

Mary Davidge, tel: 01672 513819,
Belfry Correspondent.

AVEBURY SOCIAL CENTRE

As many of you will have now noticed the entrance porch to the Social Centre has now been fully refurbished and is looking very smart. The work was a little more comprehensive than first envisaged due to problems with the fixing of the original roof tiles so that the entire roof of the porch had to be replaced rather than one or two tiles. The chairman has requested that any future users of the hall **refrain from pinning or sticking any posters or notices to either the external porch door or walls!**

There is a notice board that is unlocked and can be used for items relating to the hall and those who hire it.

The hall has been well used over the last month since the end of restrictions with art classes, meditation group, art and craft exhibition and Teas for Tourists to raise funds for Winterbourne Monkton Church. The Trustees hope that local residents benefit from many of these activities as well as those from outside the area and it is pleasing to see substantial funds raised to help the upkeep of our churches. It is certainly a welcome relief to have the hall back in use to the extent prior to the lockdowns and in September the WI resume their evening meetings in person and the first rehearsals take place in expectation of the Avebury Players presenting their Panto which is always a highlight.

Judith Farthing Secretary

Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council

The past year or more has been fairly busy for the Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council. We are now in the final throes of finalising the introduction of the speed limit between Beckhampton and Winterbourne Bassett from 60mph to 50mph (excluding Avebury of course where the limit is 30mph.) The task seems to have taken forever but I am told campaigns only started some 55 years ago! Additionally we have had elections and, of more immediate interest, a while ago we were "gifted" a Community Hall which will back onto the Church of St Mary Magdalene to be built within the Rivar development on The Old Dairy, Winterbourne Monkton.

During this time discussions have been progressing between Wiltshire Council, Rivar and the Parish Council to finalise the hand-over from Rivar to BBWMPC. Hopefully this will all be completed in September and a brand new Community Hall, which is earmarked for the benefit of

the Parish Community, will become a reality!

In the meantime work has been on-going. Although the Community Hall will be bare bones (i.e. still in need of tables, chairs, curtains etc.) there is already a steering committee in place putting together a plan that will cover the soft furnishings and other equipment to make the hall a viable and attractive asset to the two villages and, hopefully, also, garner interest from further afield for the benefit of both the parish, the church and, most importantly, the residents.

A recent local survey conducted within the two villages found that there was unanimous agreement that the hall would be an asset to the villages and a long list of possible ventures and activities that could be introduced to educate, entertain and even help maintain the fitness of the residents were suggested.

At present we are looking at a mix of Social, Educational, Entertainment and Fitness opportunities as well as offering the use of the hall for general meetings and get-togethers which will help cover the running costs of the hall and allow for re-investment into the hall and maintain a continuous programme of upgrading facilities and availability. The Community Hall has parking (albeit limited to 18

cars), toilets and a small kitchen area. The hall will be able to seat 60 people theatre style – but obviously less if tables or floor mats etc., are to be used.

From the survey conducted high on the wish-list from residents was Keep-fit (in a variety of options), Film Nights, Mother and Baby/Toddler groups, Coffee mornings, table sales and Art classes amongst many other suggestions. However these can only happen with help and assistance. So in addition to keeping you up-to-date on what is happening in the Parish this is also a *crie-de-coeur* for volunteers to help make the project a success, for anyone who would like to run classes (fitness, art, Zumba, Yoga, Pilates, music) in the hall, and any organisation who would like to use the hall for whatever reason. This could be a regular mother and baby/toddler group, Scout/ Guide Meetings the only limit is your imagination!

Over the next month we would hope to circulate/publish a list of charges and finalise the booking system but, in the meantime, if you are interested in hiring, helping or setting up a regular class please do contact the Parish Council through bbwmpc@gmail.com.



Wiltshire Council advice states no bonfires through the Covid 19 pandemic. Smoke and pollutants can damage health and aggravate other health conditions

Help protect those who are vulnerable to these factors in our community

Thank you for your co-operation.
Fyfield and West Overton
Parish Council

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/env-health-smoke-nuisance



Farmer Mark's Pumpkin Patch



**At Tan Hill Farm, West Kennett, SN8 1QF
(Just off the A4)**

**Come and pick
your own
pumpkin from
our pumpkin
field.**

**Prices start at
£2.**

Opening times

Oct 2nd/3rd,

9th/10th,

16th/17th,

21st-31st.

10am-4pm

(last entry 3.30pm)

**-Free admission & free
parking.**

**-Wellies/outdoor shoes
advised.**

**-Sorry no dogs allowed,
except Guide Dogs.**

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

**Take part in our
pumpkin trail, art
and crafts in the
pumpkin barn
(small charge).**



CURIOSITY COMPASSION COURAGE

Church of England,
Voluntary Aided
School

www.kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk

Ofsted 'Good school' – March 2020

News from August 2021

Hello from Kennet Valley School! As you can imagine all of the staff and children are currently enjoying their summer holidays – these are always well deserved but I feel that this is particularly true after our 2020/21 year with all the ups and downs of Covid! We were very pleased that, although the school closed at times due to lockdowns, we didn't need to close either of our bubbles at other times. I do believe that this was mostly down to luck in reality, but I am very grateful to all of the staff who kept our hygiene practices tight and to the children and parents who followed all of the guidelines that we gave to them. Throughout the entire year the children were amazing, and it was always great when we could have everyone in school.

Summer Plans

As many of you know, our Friends Association has been working for several years to raise money for our playground to be updated. Just before the summer we received news that our planning permission had been granted so we have been able to start the process of the rebuild. This started by the old equipment being taken away. I know that I speak for the whole school when I say a HUGE thank you to the Hues family, who came in the holiday to clear the site ready for the next step. We are really looking forward to this family joining the school in September and are incredibly grateful for the help that they have already given to us. We then had the new playground markings put down for the children to enjoy when they return to school on the 2nd September. These markings include a running path, a clock and games that the children can play. While the playground was being painted, the first of the new equipment was also put in. This is a wooden play train – especially for our younger children to use. It was all very exciting, and I am absolutely thrilled by these new additions. We are expecting the rest of the equipment to be put in during September and we cannot wait for this to happen. While writing I wanted to use the opportunity to say a massive thank you to everyone who has helped to raise the money for the school playground update. It is such an exciting prospect for the school, and I know that the children at the school will be ecstatic when the whole playground is finished. I would also like to say a enormous thank you to Mrs. Humphries (a parent at the school and local villager) who has been the

driving force in the whole process of the playground development.

Our Staff

Earlier in the year I wrote to you all about Mrs. Watts, our ELSA and TA. I thought that I would give you some information about another of our TAs – Mrs. Alexander. Mrs. Alexander is a trained primary school teacher and works as a Teaching Assistant at the school. Because she has a teaching qualification, she is also able to work as a HLTA (Higher Level Teaching Assistant) at times in the school too. This means that she does all the things that regular teaching assistants do but at times she has an increased level of responsibility - Mrs. Alexander can teach classes on her own, as well as cover planned absences and allow teachers time to plan and mark. When I asked Mrs. Alexander about her role at the school she said *"Before my children were born, I trained as a primary teacher but took time away from work to be a stay-at-home mum with my daughters. When my youngest daughter started school, I wanted to do something that would work around the school run so I volunteered at Kennet Valley. I started by listening to children read a couple of times a week but that quickly grew into helping across the classrooms when needed. Two years ago, I officially became a full-time member of the Kennet Valley team as a teaching assistant and have been in the reception/year 1 class ever since. As a qualified higher-level teaching assistant, I also cover PPA in Kingfishers class and if a teacher is away or on a course, I will cover their classes too. I have particularly enjoyed helping to set up continuous provision in Wrens class. This is a new way of teaching through play, small group work and structured activities which are all largely child led. Although it has been a challenge, it has been a huge success and I am looking forward to developing this further and extending the outside provision to broaden the children's life skills such as safely using woodwork tools as well as extending their academic understanding. Over the last year I have been working closely with teachers from other schools to deepen my phonic knowledge so that I can run booster groups to support children as needed with their early reading, writing, and spelling. I love working at Kennet Valley and being part of such a supportive team. The last 18 months have been tough for everyone, but the Christian ethos of the school teamed with the strong community spirit has enabled the children to thrive despite the challenges Covid has thrown at us. I hope everyone has had a fun, safe summer and I'm looking forward to hearing all about the children's adventures when we are back in September."* I am very lucky to have a great team at Kennet Valley and Mrs. Alexander is a very important member of this. I would like to take this opportunity to say a BIG thank you to Mrs. Alexander for all her hard work and commitment to this vital school role.

I will continue to write to you about the

staff at the school in the coming months so that you know more about us all.

New School Year

All of the staff have been busy preparing for the new school year and I know that they are looking forward to seeing their classes again on the 2nd September (1st September is a TD Day). We are very excited about welcoming new children to the school – not only in our reception class but in other year groups in the school – and we are welcoming a new member of teaching staff to the school. I am sure you will join me in welcoming everyone to our community.

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

THANK YOU!

Finally, I wanted to write to say the BIGGEST thank you to all of the staff at the school. They are truly a wonderful group of people who have the wellbeing of the children at the heart of everything that they do. They are all kind, generous, and thoughtful people and I am honored to work with them. This year has challenged all schools in many ways, but it has been fantastic to lead such a wonderful group of professional women, who have worked their socks off to help, support and teach our children.

Thank you to Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Hues, Mrs. Byford, Mrs. McQue, Mrs. Oliver, Miss Chalker, Mrs. Watts, Mrs. Bushnell, Mrs. Alexander, Miss Harvey, Suzanne, Ruthie, Michelle, and Mrs. Robinson – You are all AMAZING!

Many thanks -

Mrs. Emma Russell, Headteacher

BRONZE ECO CHURCH AWARD FOR MONKTON CHURCH

Monkton Church has been awarded a Bronze Eco Church Award for its work towards the environment. It was commended for achieving the standard required for Gold in the worship category and the Silver level in the land and building categories of the survey. Our next step will be to concentrate on our community and local engagement aspects and looking at our lifestyles so we can achieve an overall silver award.



THE ART SOCIETY KENNET AND SWINDON (TASKS)

Please keep the date!

Here is the autumn programme for TASKS

September 20th
October 18th

OPERA AND DESIGN Simon Rees
**THE ART OF THE STEAL:
NAZI LOOTING DURING
WWII** Shauna Isaac
**FOOD AND ART THROUGH THE
AGES: FROM RENAISSANCE
SUGAR SCULPTURE
TO 3D PRINTING**

Natasha Marks

Details of the meetings will be published monthly.

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

New members are very welcome indeed, and should contact Mrs Judi Ferries at janferries@btinternet.com or 01793 84079. Guests are also welcome at any of our meetings.

HOSPITAL SHOP & WARD TROLLEY SHOP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



If you have a couple of hours a week
(or more...) to spare, why not join us?

- Help the patients, staff and visitors at our special hospital
- Be part of a great team and meet lots of lovely people
- Give back to your community hospital
- Enjoy the excellent café at special rates

Contact Ian Philpott on (01672) 512302 /
(07789) 112298 or via shop@friendsofsavernake.org
www.friendsofsavernake.org Register Charity No. 262732.

UPPER KENNET PARISH COUNCIL

September 2021

TRAFFIC SPEEDS

The Parish Council shares residents' concerns about traffic speeds through the roads in our Parish especially as the pupils return to Kennet Valley School for the autumn term. The Lockeridge Community Speedwatch Team has commenced its work and will be patrolling at several sites around the village. More volunteers are required to support the team; please contact;

parishclerk.fyfield@googlemail.com

We are continuing our efforts with the neighbouring Parish Councils and Wiltshire Council Highways Department to address road safety concerns along the A4.

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

THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IS MONDAY
13 SEPTEMBER AT 7PM IN THE UPPER KENNET
HALL

Dates for the Diary

- Thursday 10th – QUIZ NIGHT IS BACK!
- Sunday 19th – Traditional Roast
- Sunday 26th September – Cabbage
Sunday – Charity Auction & Fun Day
- Thursday 30th – Supper Club

Email thenewinn@elderbrookhouse.com or
call for more information or to book.

The New Inn, Winterbourne Monkton

01672 539793



PANTOMIME PSYCHEDELIC CINDERELLA

The KVADS are pleased to
announce their next
pantomime

The performances will be on
Thursday the 27th, Friday 28th and
Saturday the 29th of January 2022,
at the Kennet Valley Hall.

Auditions will be held at the Kennet
Valley Hall Lockeridge at 7pm to
9pm on Thursday 9th Sept. 2021.
We are looking for Actors and chorus
members (9yrs and upwards), stage
crew, scenery builders, scenery
painters, people to help with the
costumes, front of house, hospitality
etc..

So if you would like to join us and get
involved please contact:

Sam Harvey :
sam.harvey.41@hotmail.co.uk

Louise McClintock:
loui.back@btinternet.com

Help us maintain our rights of way
and rebuild our economy
by supporting Walkers Are Welcome
status for Pewsey and The Vale

We can't do this without you!
We need to demonstrate we have the support
of local people which you can do at www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/waw
- or scan the QR code below.
Thank you!



image courtesy of Walk Wessex: www.walkwessex.co.uk
walkers are welcome: www.walkersarewelcome.org.uk

Wiltshire walkers

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

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

visitpewseyvale
.co.uk

tranquil ~ spiritual ~ ancient

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

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

THANK YOU!

We are delighted to let you know that this year's annual Marlborough Mound Lecture will take place at
8.00pm on Monday, 13 September 2021 in the Ellis Theatre at Marlborough College. Entry is free of charge.

The title of this year's lecture is

Marlborough as a Royal Castle

Introducing a new history of Marlborough Mound and Marlborough Castle
Speaker: Dr Richard Barber

Should you have any queries regarding this year's Mound lecture, please do not hesitate to
contact me on sslamb@marlboroughcollege.org or 01672 892390.

Kennet Valley Hall – the beginning

The history of Kennet Valley Hall is now on the Hall's website

www.kvh.org.uk/KVH%20History/History.pdf

For your interest here is a short extract from the early part of the document

Exploring the history of KVH takes us back nearly a Century, and on the way exposes major changes in the social history of the local villages. In the early part of the 20C life was hard with most people working on, or servicing local farms. An original Wages book of the farms operating in the local villages identifies that on October 2nd 1924 there were 80 farm workers employed locally. The working day was very long with little time for leisure. Even so, various social or religious organisations existed and invariably meetings took place in the homes of the gentry or ministers of local religious organisations, or the local schools. In due course the idea of creating a central meeting place for these organisations was conceived and as a result, the first "Kennet Valley Hall" was born.

Records show that "on 6th March 1931 Mr Frank Swanton of Overton, Nr Marlborough in the



County of Wiltshire donated a parcel of land forming part of South Overton Farm".

Quote:

"The land was for a "Parish Hall" to be used for the purposes of physical and mental recreation and social, moral and intellectual development through the medium of reading and recreation rooms, library, lectures, classes, recreations and entertainments or otherwise as may be expedient for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Overton-cum-- with East Kennett and its immediate vicinity without distinction of sex or political or other opinions subject to the provisions of these premises"

This statement became the basis of the hall's Constitution and remains the same today

The site referred to was a plot of land on the RHS as you walk from the centre of West Overton towards the church. There is now a modern house on the site aptly named "The Old Hall" Fourteen organisations banded themselves together as sponsors and a Committee of Management was formed comprising a representative nominated by each of them. Erection of the building was carried out by Messrs.G. Sprules and Son, of Lockeridge, and a loan debit on the project was finally cleared as a result of a fete held in 1934.

The total cost of constructing the Hall in 1931 was £475



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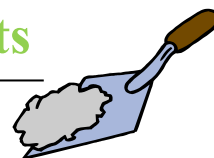
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