

June-July 2021
Edition no. 139

Kilsby Kronickle

Also available on the Kilsby Village Website
www.kilsbyvillage.co.uk

Dates for your diary

Thursday 3rd June

Walking Group walk

Friday 4th June

Closing date for entries to Gardens competition

Sunday 6th June

Opening of the Yarn Bombing

Saturday 19th June

Judging of Gardens Competition

Sunday 20th June

Kilsby Open Gardens

Formal Launch of Heritage Boards

Sunday 27th June

Walking Group walk

Thursday 1st July

Walking Group walk

Thursday 8th July

WI Meeting

Friday 9th July

Oil Club Order Point

Sunday 18th July

Walking Group Walk

Early Notice

Sunday 29th August

Village Fete

Sunday 5th September

Garden and Produce Show

Friday 10th September

Oil Club Order Point

Saturday 11th September

Historic Churches Ride and Stride



The picture above is of the installation of the lovely sunflower sculpture to mark the 100th anniversary of Kilsby WI (see more on page 10). By the time you read this the WI will be well under way with decorating the village with their Yarn Bombing which will be opened early in June (see page 5), making Kilsby look very colourful indeed. Just the thing to cheer everyone even if the weather remains disappointingly grey.

Then on Sunday 20th June Kilsby's wonderful Open Gardens will return and on the same day the Heritage Boards will be officially launched with a trail for you to follow and quizzes about the information on the boards (see page 8). We hope that the sun shines and everyone has a lovely afternoon.

It is good to see plans in this edition for opening up the village after the long period of lockdown, As well as the events above, the Village Hall is open again, the WI plan to meet in July, and the chapel and cafe also hope to start up again that month. Looking further ahead there are details of the plans for the Village Fete (see centre spread) and Garden and Produce Show, as well as the annual Ride and Stride later in the summer.

We have an article on page 4 from one of our three new Unitary Authority Councillors, Rosie Humphreys. We hope Rosie will write regular updates for us about what is happening at Unitary Authority level. We also have the Annual Report of Kilsby Parish Council as well as the Chairman's regular update on Parish Council matters, and we welcome a new member of the Council, Alex McVicker. Details of Parish and Unitary Authority Councillors and their contact information are on page 2.

Opportunities to get involved in the community this time include the role of shop Treasurer, winder for the church clock, Governor roles at the school, a Church Warden post, joining the Parish or Parochial Church Councils, and helping with the village fete. And the Guides and the Tennis Club are looking for new members. Kilsby is getting back to normal and we are delighted to see it.

Finally, we have two interesting items on shopping in Kilsby in past years, and a fascinating piece (page 25) looking back at Kilsby in the 1970s when Chris and Tom Clay first came to live here. There have been lots of changes but most of the things that made Kilsby a great place to live back then are still those that make it a great place now. We hope you enjoy our village this summer.

KILSBY PARISH COUNCIL May 2021

COUNCILLORS

CHAIRMAN

Howard Gibbs

11 Fishers Close
Kilsby
CV23 8XH

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hgibbs@kilsbyvillage.co.uk

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VICE CHAIRMAN

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Budget

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Planning Committee
Highways Warden
Speedwatch

TWO VACANT SEATS

WEST NORTHANTS UNITARY

COUNCILLORS

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BURIALS OFFICER– Please contact

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DEFIBRILLATORS

Mrs L Loader (Phone Box)
Mike Dowson (Village Hall)

01788 822246
01327 22 07 22

KILSBY PARISH COUNCIL

(From the Chairman, Howard Gibbs
hgibbs@kilsbyvillage.co.uk)

With the local elections over and lockdown easing the newly elected council meet for the first time on the 18th May 2021 around the table and face to face, still wearing masks of course and remaining socially distanced.

As there were only nine nominations for the council, there are two vacancies remaining and we need to fill these, which we can do by co-opting two Kilsby Parishioners, so if you are keen to get involved with what goes on in your village, please contact our Clerk Mrs Catherine Camp by emailing her at parishcouncil@kilsbyvillage.co.uk
It would be great to see you.

Our new councillors are:

Howard Gibbs
Clive Thompson
Ian Massey
Mike Margetts
Ian Weston
Bob Gent
Caroline Haycock
Robin Nicholls
Alex McVickers

Alex McVickers is new to the council and we welcome him and thank him for joining us, I'm sure he will be a great asset to the council and once settled in will help with the ongoing things the council is trying to do to improve our village.

Councillor Catherine Lomax

As previously reported, Catherine, after over 20 years of service to the community decided to retire at the end of March. We would like to thank her for all the work she has undertaken on behalf of the community. We will miss her but I'm sure we would all like to wish her a happy and long retirement.

Internal Audit

Each year the Parish Council's arrangements for the management and control of its business in the areas of book keeping, compliance, risk management, budget setting and monitoring and year end procedures are examined by an internal auditor. This helps to ensure that public money is being safeguarded and spent legally.

The process has been completed for Kilsby and the Internal Auditor's Report and end of year bank reconciliation can be found on the Village Website.

Annual Parish Meeting

This was held on the 27th April remotely by zoom and a copy of the Annual Report is on pages 18-20 of this Kronicle and also on the Village Website.

W.I.

To mark their 100th anniversary, the W.I have commissioned a sculpture of a sunflower on the Malt Mill Green amongst the wild flowers. It looks absolutely great and will add to the beauty of the wild flowers.

(Eds: See article on page 10 and picture on cover)

Heritage Boards

All of the boards are now in place and look really great. A trail hunt is being organised to coincide with Kilsby Open Gardens and there will be an opening ceremony that day at 1.30 pm (**see page 8 for more details**). Please come along and take part in the trail hunt. It will be fun as well as informative.

Malt Mill Green Bus Shelter

It is pleasing to be able to report that the shelter has been lowered and a new surface laid to enable easy access for all Parishioners to use when waiting for a bus.

Butts Lane

As reported previously, improvements to Butts Lane are due to take place in the near future. The work has been delayed because of the wet conditions and the council is awaiting a start date, I am sure this will be very soon.

A361

Traffic safety issues are being discussed with the Highways Authority to explore if there are any measures that can be put in place to make crossing the road safer and also to slow the traffic down. We will report back once the planned meeting has been held. In the meantime lighting will be improved in the near future.

I hope everyone has a good summer with more freedom than last year and I look forward to reporting on new improvements to our village as the year progresses.

Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust - Ride and Stride

(From Gill Mason, Tel: 822658)

The annual Ride and Stride will take place on Saturday 11th September.

If you wish to take part, sponsorship forms will be available from the website www.nhct.org.uk
I hope to have some paper copies available in due course.

For further information please contact me.

FROM WARD COUNCILLOR ROSIE HUMPHREYS

(email: rosie.humphreys@westnorthants.gov.uk Tel: 07890112504, 43 West End West Haddon NN6 7AY)

The beginning of an Era

Following on from the goodbye in the Kronickle's last edition from District Councillor Catherine Lomax I am delighted to say hello as one of your three new Ward Councillors. I am one of 5 Liberal Democrat councillors elected to the new West Northants Council on 6th May. Your two other elected Councillors for the Braunston and Crick Ward, Malcolm Longley and Alan Chantler, are among the 66 seat large majority held by the Conservatives. (The other 93 council seats are made up of 17 Labour, 3 Labour and Co-operative and 2 Independents.)

The first ever Annual Meeting of West Northants Council is being held on 20th May, when the Leader, Chair and Portfolio holders will be elected and appointments to Committees will be confirmed etc. All councils, including parish councils, have had to return to in-person meetings since 7th May and our West Northants Council has no building of its own to accommodate 93 councillors. The Saints Rugby Ground at Franklin's Garden is being hired at a cost of £8,360 to hold the Annual Meeting. The Government is currently consulting local authorities

and parish councils on their experience of running meetings remotely, as there may be a case for allowing remote meetings on a permanent basis (particularly if it avoids the significant expense of hiring large venues).

At your Parish Council meeting on 18th May certainly all your Parish Councillors looked pleased to be back in the Village Hall, even if socially distanced and I also look forward to getting to know more readers of the Kronickle, assisting in your concerns and representing your views. While I am getting my feet under the councillor's desk and completing a lot of necessary training, I will await your instructions as to how I can help with the problems with the A5 layby, speeding and lighting on the A361 and any other village issue. Kilsby seems a very strong community and the number of village organisations and events (now we can look forward to these again at long last) is impressive. I am really pleased that I am also part of your community now.

My contact details are at the top of this article.

Kilsby Neighbourhood Development Plan Review – Report on Progress

(From Councillors Clive Thompson and Ian Massey)

Revisions to the plan are continuing and the current draft has been supplied to West Northamptonshire Unitary Authority. Their comments have been reviewed by the steering group and will be incorporated into the next revision. It now seems likely that the revisions are sufficient to need to be put to an examiner before finalisation, but it is hoped that they will not need to be put to a village referendum.

As reported in the last issue, a key change from the current Plan is the incorporation of Design Codes which will give guidelines for proposed future developments. A representative of the organisation which is providing these has visited the village and taken numerous photographs of buildings and the surrounding area. These have been incorporated into a draft of the first part of the Codes document which has been circulated to the steering group for comment. The Plan revision is now sufficiently advanced that it will soon be possible to put a draft for consultation onto the Village website.

As reported previously, the process for review of the Plan is necessarily slow and we will continue to report progress through the Kronickle.



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Police Liaison Representative

(From Cllr. Clive Thompson
clivethompson@kilsbyvillage.co.uk)

Northamptonshire Police have announced a new strategy called 'Place-based Policing'. Each neighbourhood area will have clearly identified officers who will have responsibility for dealing with the crime and anti-social behaviour in their area.

As part of this new policy the police, in conjunction with Northants County Association of Local Councils, are to establish a new approach to liaison with parish councils. Each parish is to appoint a person to act as a single point of contact, and this person is to be known as the Police Liaison Representative (PLR). The idea behind the appointment is to improve communications between the police and local government, all to the benefit of the community they serve.

Police Liaison Representatives will not be involved in operational policing and will not be an appropriate person to receive reports of incidents or crimes from members of the public, who should use 101 or 999 as appropriate.

Kilsby Parish Council has appointed me as the PLR for Kilsby. As many of you will know, I'm already the Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Co-ordinator. There is no crossover of roles between this new appointment and the existing NHW role. On the contrary, this will strengthen communications all round without affecting the NHW function in any way.

I expect to be invited to discussions with Northants Police on the new structure and arrangements and I look forward to being able to provide more information to Kilsby residents once I know more.

Kilsby Speedwatch

(From Ian Weston, Speedwatch Coordinator,
iweston@kilsbyvillage.co.uk)

We have been informed that, unfortunately, due to Covid-19, the Community Speedwatch will not take place this year. However it is hoped that we can resume in 2022.

If you have any issues regarding speeding/dangerous driving within the village, including the A5 and A361 please contact me, preferably by email, with as much information as possible, including location and vehicle details.

We are still hopeful that some form of traffic calming measures will be implemented, as discussions are still ongoing regarding this.

Kilsby WI 100th - Yarn Bombing

(From Vicki James: vicki.james7@outlook.com)

We're just about there! The last few stitches are being frantically knitted, and teams assembled to help put it all up from 22nd May, and then we hope that you can spend the summer enjoying the colours and inspirations of our work. You may have seen the posters that are up around the village, which hopefully have intrigued you! All will be revealed on June 6th.

On that day, our MP – Chris Heaton-Harris – is coming to officially open the celebrations and we are keeping all our fingers crossed that the day will be fine for his walk around some of the wonderful things that have been knitted. He will be ending his tour at the Village Hall at around 12.45 pm and anyone who has contributed to our knitting festival is very welcome to come to the opening. Obviously, due to the current Roadmap Rules, we cannot celebrate with you all, but we would love all the knitters to be there and enjoy some tea and cake with us.

Warmer weather is supposed to be with us by then, but just be aware that we will be outside in the car park so dress appropriately for the weather (the universal British cry!!!).

There will be leaflet dispensers around the village which will contain information about the installations, so do please help yourselves, and invite your friends and families to come and celebrate with us. Hopefully after June 21st you can host some summer parties and take HUGE groups around to show them our handiwork!!

Looking forward to seeing the knitters on June 6th.

FREE HONEY BEE SWARM COLLECTION



Contact Laura or Steve to get a swarm collected or for advice on wasps' nests.

Phone 07904 012128

Kilsby Guides Wants You!

Kilsby 1st Brownies & Guides has just reopened on a Wednesday evening at Kilsby Village Hall.

Currently our Guide numbers are critically low & without more girls we will have to close the Guides 😞

If you have a daughter aged 10-14 who may be interested in joining our little group please contact Jo on 07985797539 ASAP.

We also have a couple of spaces in our busy Brownie pack for girls aged 7-10

Thanks for reading!

KILSBY GARDEN AND PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

(From Robin Nicholls, Tel: 07807 694524)



It's beginning to look a bit like summer, and, with the Garden Competitions and Open Gardens just around the corner, it's time to make the most of our own wonderful gardens. By the time this is published, we will have held the annual plant sale, and we'll be looking forward to seeing village gardens flourishing. Last year, we saw some beautiful gardens around the village, and, hopefully, that will have encouraged many more people to enjoy their bit of nature.

A reminder to everyone that the judging of gardens and planters will take place on 19th June, the day before Open Gardens. This is open to all Association members, and if you want to take part but are not members, a fee of £3 will get you entitlement to enter the competitions, together with the added bonus of a year's membership, and all of the benefits that brings: An absolute bargain!!! Entries are by contacting Diane Graham before 4th June, please.

Members should note that a local visit is being arranged for early July, but numbers will be limited, so early booking will be necessary once details are announced. A possible additional local visit is being considered for later in the summer. More details will be disclosed as and when it materialises.

The Produce Show will take place on 5th September

in the Village Hall, with schedules being distributed to all households in the village in July, so that you can prepare your entries for whichever categories you choose. This year, in addition to the Flavoured Gin class, you can practice your design skills, and come up with your version of a label for use on a gin bottle. Alternatively, there is still plenty of time to produce your photographs of UK Wildlife or Street Furniture, or, in the children's categories, even a drawing of the wonderful new sunflowers commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the WI in Kilsby.

So, Covid restrictions allowing, there is plenty to be looking forward to this summer. Let's make the most of it!

WALKING GROUP

(From Lesley Loader, lloader@btinternet.com or Tel: 07783521052)

The dates for the next walks are:

Thursday 3 June 9.30 am
 Sunday 27 June 10.00 am
 Thursday 1 July 9.30 am
 Sunday 18 July 10.00 am

We meet by The White House next to the Chapel and often go by car to the start of the walk. The walks are typically 6-8 miles long with a stop at a pub for a sandwich, drink and use of the facilities if possible.

For more information contact me (details above).

THE
RED LION



- KILSBY -

26 Main Road, Kilsby CV25 8XP

Call: 01788 822265 / Email: info@redlionkilsby.co.uk

Facebook Page: The Red Lion, Kilsby / Website: www.redlionkilsby.co.uk

WE ARE NOW FULLY OPEN!!

We are so happy to be able to welcome you back inside as well as out. We would like to reassure all our customers that all Covid procedures and protocols are in place to keep you all as safe as we can. We are also still offering a Takeaway Service on food. To book a table or takeaway, please call, email or send us a Facebook message.

Opening Hours from May 17th

Bar

Sunday & Monday 12pm-10pm

Tues to Saturday: 12pm-11pm

Kitchen

Monday: Closed

(except bank holiday Mondays when we will be serving 12pm till 3pm)

Tues to Fri: 12pm-2.30pm & 6pm-9pm

Sat 12pm-3pm & 6pm-9pm

Sunday 12pm-4pm

Upcoming Events

FATHERS DAY SUNDAY 20TH JUNE

All Dads get a free Drink* with their meal!

LIVE MUSIC!

Friday 25th June from 9pm till Late

THE BLACK CATS

*A Pint from any of the pumps or a small house wine

THANK YOU

(From June Bridges)

To all our friends for the care and support given before and after Bill passed away. Also for the letters and cards I have received and have very much appreciated.

Donations given to the Air Ambulance by family and friends has raised £622.50

Thank you all so much.....June Bridges

Note from the Editors.

The 'thank you' notice above should have appeared in the last (April-May) edition. We are very sorry that it was mistakenly omitted.

Kilsby Heritage Boards Official Launch

(From Robin Nicholls, rnicholls.@kilsbyvillage.co.uk)

It seems a long time since the Heritage Boards appeared in the village, and the public response has been very complimentary. Now, with the relaxation of some of the Covid restrictions, we are finally able to launch them officially, and recognise the Heritage Lottery Fund, who have sponsored the project, together with all of those who have contributed to the translation of Gren Hatton's original work on this into a set of interesting and informative displays of which the parishioners of Kilsby can be proud.

The official launch has been set for Sunday 20th June, coinciding with the Open Gardens event in the village. There will be an unveiling of the Board on Malt Mill Green at 1.30 pm to mark the official opening by Catherine Lomax, who has recently retired from her role as our District Councillor, after 23 years of service to the village.

Whilst most of us will have already seen the Heritage Boards, this is an opportunity to properly celebrate their arrival. It gives everyone an additional reason to walk around again, and an opportunity to learn about the history of the village, as well as appreciating the displays erected by the WI in celebration of their 100 years in Kilsby.

Leaflets with lots more detail of what can be seen on the Heritage Board Trail will be available from the Village Shop, The Red Lion and the telephone box. To add further interest on the day, there will be quizzes for adults based on the content of the boards, and for children about an item in the vicinity of each board, with prizes for the first correct entries drawn. Quiz sheets will be available from the Village Shop on Friday 18th and Saturday 19th June. Each of the Open Gardens will have both leaflets and quiz sheets available on the day, and they will also be at the Village Hall, where a pop-up tearoom will be operating. Completed quiz sheets can be returned there, or to any of the Open Gardens.

Whilst following all the sensible guidelines which may still be in place, let's all take this chance to celebrate Kilsby, past and present, and recognise the wonderful environment we enjoy.

* * * * *

KILSBY OPEN GARDENS

20th June 2021

1 - 5.30 P.M.

Just some of the charities you would be helping:

Macmillan Cancer Support,
Marie Curie, Hospice U.K.

Queen's Nursing Institute,
Carers Trust, Parkinson's UK, Mind.

£6 per person, children free

*Please help us to help them by
visiting 9 village gardens.*

Tickets and maps from Rainbow's End,

7, Middle Street.

Refreshment hatch at the Village Hall

* * * * *

GARDENERS' CORNER

Did you enjoy the rain?

Last year I asked if you enjoyed the sunshine as there was no rain in May. What a difference a year makes. We are at nearly twice the normal monthly rainfall so the ground is waterlogged. Still, it does make the weeds grow!

It's time to prune your forsythias

Prune your forsythia as soon as the flowers have finished. This gives it time to grow 3 to 5 ft of strong new branches that will flower next year. Just completely cut out the flowered branches back to a strong looking side shoot. If you want to keep the bush down to 6ft tall, then you are looking for a bud only 2 ft from the ground!

If you don't want to lose the screening effect, then just cut 1/3rd of the branches right back like this each year, just lightly pruning the dead flowers off the others. This should keep it under control with a nice arching shape

Summer prune your wisteria

If you have a wisteria that makes too much growth and is shy to flower, then now is the time to do summer pruning. Cut the new side shoots down to about 4 to 6 inches. This will encourage the formation of flower buds in the rest of the summer ready for next year.

If it's hot and dry (remember?)

Mulch your raspberries. They have roots near the surface and can suffer in dry spells. Raspberries and other soft fruit will benefit from a good watering followed by mulching with a good 2 inch layer of compost to keep the moisture in.

Jobs to do in June

Dead head flowers
Sow perennials
Regularly sow salads for succession

Jobs to do in July

Weed and mow again!
Sow a last crop of french beans.
Thin apples and pears to 2 or 3 fruits per spur.
Get the barbeque out.

Times past...

In 'Directions for the Gardiner', John Evelyn, 1686:-
"Gather herbs in the Full to keep dry: they keep and retain their virtue and sweet smell better dry'd in the shade than sun, whatever some pretend".

Good Gardening!

Ron Kickle

NATURE NOTES

(From Caroline Grey, caro.grey@btinternet.com)

We have had hedgehogs visiting every evening and through the night (seen on camera!) which has been most exciting. It is hard to identify specific individuals but we reckon we've seen at least four. The males are much larger than the females, in fact nearly twice as big. Sadly, the one hibernating in dried plant material in the border didn't emerge and on further investigation, we found it had been dead for some months. We presume it had entered hibernation ill-prepared, with insufficient nutrition to sustain it.

The most exciting thing we have witnessed has been 'hedgehog carousel' - a general term for their courting ritual which started at the end of April. The small female faced off the male nose to nose making a loud grunting noise. He tried to get behind her and as she avoids him doing that, they both go round and round in circles rather like a carousel! On one night, the male rushed off in big circles round the garden several times and then came back to her again - strangely she was still there crouching down as if waiting for him! We even have this whole event caught on camera including one of the local cats (you know who you are!!) all fluffed up in surprise at being faced with a prickly creature at the food plate! Whilst watching for 'hogs' one night, we caught sight of a bat flying low over the pond - all these things going on whilst we've got the curtains drawn!

Lots of newt activity in the pond too - we hope 'newtlets' will emerge in time. Any tadpoles sadly have just been part of their daily diet! The snails are increasing rapidly too.

Moths have been hard to see this spring as the nights have been so cold - I'm hoping for greater numbers to write about next time - ones I've seen so far are Hebrew Character, Shuttle-Shaped Dart, Common Quaker, Early Grey & Brindled Beauty. Aren't the names amazing - all from the Victorian era!

On the bird front, we had a brief visit from a ring-necked parakeet! Since the 60's, they've colonised many large urban areas and are common sightings in the London area in particular but I've only ever seen one before in Kilsby, about twenty years ago, and that might have been an escaped cage bird. I would love to know if there have been others seen locally.

I have just seen a swift soaring in big circles round the church (swift nest boxes would be a great idea!). I've seen both house martins and swallows too - Swifts have a sickle-like shape and make a slight screaming noise; martins have a more flappy flight and have a white rump; and swallows have a more steady flight and have two long tail feathers.

Sunflowers

(From Vicki James, Vicki.james7@outlook.com)

If you've been walking around the village you will probably have seen the new sculpture on Malt Mill Green. This is a permanent commemoration of Kilsby WI's 100 years. Our yarn bombing will be disappearing in September, but this delightful sculpture is here to stay. The artist, Tony Davies, created all the amazing figures in Rugby – the rugby players and the family on the Houlton roundabout on the A426. He has developed two beautiful flowers in wire which, over time, will start to colour with exposure to the elements. All apart from one section! If you look carefully, you will see a bee on one of the flowers! This has been created from stainless steel, so as the sunflower changes colour the bee will stay bright silver and contrast beautifully with the flower.

The flowers are angled so that whichever way you drive past, one flower will be gently nodding in the breeze at you.

Tony brought our flower up from his studio in Brighton on May 6th and it took four strong men to lift it out of the van, and stand it upright! It has been cemented down into the ground, far enough below the surface so that the wild flowers will grow around its base.



If you haven't walked or driven along that way, do go and see this delightful addition to Kilsby.

(Eds. See also picture on cover of this edition)

KILSBY CHURCH 100 CLUB

March Winners

£40 (27) J Mieth; £30 (28) R Gibbs;
£20 (97) J Ayton; £20 (12) S Dobson;
£10 (58) A F Biles

April Winners

£40 (3) J Donovan; £30 (61) W Clarke;
£20 (95) J White; £20 (47) P Lewis;
£10 (26) A Lewis

New Time Lord of Kilsby Required

We are in need of a new clock winder for the village church clock. Greg Wurr, who has looked after the clock for many years, has decided it is time to hang up his winder. We are most grateful for his efforts over the years and we would like to thank him for his service.

If anybody would be willing to take over this duty once a week we would be most grateful. They must have a head for heights and be happy with ladders as the mechanism is half way up the bell tower.

If you are interested, please call Rev Nigel on 07854 810588.



Playtime

Kilsby Village Hall 9.45 – 11.45am every Monday
(during Northamptonshire term time)

Toys, books and activities for all ages, babies up to school.

Drinks and chat for mums, dads, grandparents, and childminders.

Each session £2 per family

Everyone welcome to join in the fun!

For further information, please don't hesitate to call:

Faye Jones 07815 618890

Kilsby Village Hall is situated on Rugby Road where it joins the A5,
there is plenty of parking available



Yayyy! We were over the moon to reopen our doors on the 19th of April after another lockdown, bringing a little bit of normality back in to our lives on a Monday morning. It's been so lovely to see all the children playing and given us adults the chance to have a socially distanced chat and cuppa!

We've got a few spaces left so if you'd like to join us on Monday morning from 9.45 am - 11.45 am please get in contact through our Facebook page Kilsby Playtime.



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 admin@rugbyphysio.com

CRICK MEDICAL PRACTICE

(From Eddie Taken, Tel: 822068)

Covid 19 Vaccinations

The vaccination programme is going extremely well and as of 14th April 23,000 vaccinations had been done at the Weedon Vaccination Centre. During April most of the vaccinations were second doses for those initially vaccinated in January. They have also been vaccinating the 40- 50 group and currently they have just started on the under 40's.

Staffing

On 27th May Nurse Practitioner Sharon Brown will be retiring after over 20 years in the practice. We wish her every happiness in her well-earned retirement. Her position will be filled by Jill Meridith who is also a Nurse Practitioner, and we welcome her to the practice. She will start on 1st June.

Late Night and Saturday Surgeries

Late Night surgeries will continue to be held on Mondays and Wednesdays and a practice nurse is also in attendance at one evening practice. Saturday morning surgeries will continue to take place once a month. These are telephone consultations, not face to face at present. The dates for this year are:

12th June, 3rd July, 7th August, 11th September, 2nd October, 6th November, 11th December.

Waiting room

Because of the limited space in the surgery, you will be aware that patients have had to wait outside or in their car under current circumstances. The old waiting room has been used to service the delivery of prescriptions through the front window. The practice has realised that this is not an ideal situation and has decided to make some changes. The current waiting room will be divided to make a smaller waiting room and a separate area (accessible from the dispensary) for the distribution of prescriptions through the window.

This work is currently underway, and the new layout will be useable shortly. The waiting room will then be available for vulnerable patients while prescriptions will continue to be delivered through the front window.

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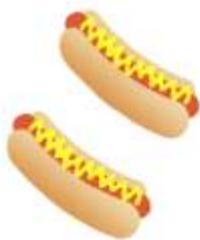
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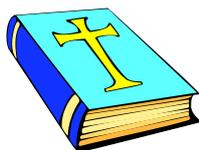
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**KILSBY UNITED
REFORMED CHURCH -
JULY NEWS**



Services (at 11.00 am)

July

4th	Pat and David Biddle
11th	Rev. Geoff Townsend (HC)
18th	Pastor Cecil Gill
25th	Mr Wally Mular

Everyone welcome!

Community Café

The café will be re-opening in July but the date is not yet settled. Look out for notices.

Scrabble

Scrabble sessions will also re-start in July.

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Kilsby Women's Institute

(From Karen Gilmurray, Tel: 823939)

Almost there! Our first meeting is planned for July with strawberries and cream and a bit of fizz to wash it all down! Our speaker is the highly recommended Glennys Grimshaw who will tell us about the history of those fascinating Russian Dolls.

By July the yarn bombing will be in full swing - hope you will all enjoy the wonderful creations. Our fantastic sunflower memorial is attracting lots of praise - hope she brings a smile to your face as you pass by.

Her Majesty Queen Victoria, her lady in waiting and her favourite servant, Mr Brown have graciously agreed to reschedule their visit for August... And if you love the TV show 'CSI' September brings you the opportunity to find out what really happens at a crime scene!

Meetings are at 19:30 on the second Thursday of each month in the village hall - visitors are always welcome - it's just £4.

KILSBY HISTORY SOCIETY

(From Diana Smith, Tel: 8229217), Photographs courtesy of Gill Mason



SHOPPING IN KILSBY

Rugby Co-operative Society opened a branch in Kilsby in the 1890's. Mrs. Lowe is recorded as the manageress in 1895. The original building was an old cottage which stood on the pavement inline with the cottage next door. Some time in the early 1900's this was demolished and the building shown in the photograph erected. The photo shows Eric Lintern and his assistant Joyce in the 1940's. Eric became manager in the 1930's and continued well into the 1950's when Ron Jewsbury took over. The Co-op continued to trade until the late 1970s or early 1980's.

This building was the Post Office and was situated in Main Road. It became the Post Office in about 1915 and was kept by Mr. Arthur Sargent who, with his sons, also farmed. The building was part of Boxwood Farm. It remained the Post Office into the 1950's when the office moved to Ward's Stores. Gill Mason remembers it being rather dark inside with a Grandfather clock standing in the room. The telephone box still occupies the same site.



This view of Kilsby Post Office was photographed in 1959. It was originally kept by Mrs. Maloney and then from the 1950's until the early 1980's by Dennis Ward. Following his death it was sold to Owen and Kath Jenkins. Owen died and then David (Charlie) and Margaret Wright had the business. In October 1999 it was sold to Paul and Diana Humphries.

Eds. See also article on page 27 about shopping in Kilsby over the years.

Kilsby Village Summer Fete and Live Music

Sunday 29 August 1pm – 6pm

Kilsby Recreation Ground

From the fete organisers

Thanks to financial support from Kilsby Parish Council, plans are well progressed for Kilsby Village Summer Fete on August Bank Holiday Sunday.

So now it's time for us to ask everyone in the village to put the date in the diary, put a circle round it on the calendar, and invite family and friends along to the village as we celebrate the lifting of lockdown.

As we reported in the last issue of KK, the fete is built on plans that were scuppered last year to run a mini-music festival in the village, so a whole host of live music acts will be central to the day.

... sun, music, picnic
space, stalls, games,
food and drink available
is going to make for a
fantastic free family
summer's day ...

The event will also feature a martial arts display, dancing, a dog show, tug-o-war competition and more. The Rugby based charity Rugby Area Talent Trust (also known as RATT!) will be providing a stage, sound system, technical support and a number of musical acts.

We will be involving as many Kilsby community groups as possible, so do get in touch if you would like to run a stall or a game, we are open to ideas and the more that is going on the merrier.

We have booked the sunshine in advance, and we will be leaving plenty of green space so that you can bring your picnic chairs and blankets.

The Red Lion will be operating a beer tent (with all profits going to charity!), and what's more, thanks again to the financial support from KPC, entry to the fete will be totally

free (but do bring your change to put into the charity bucket!).

Event Co-ordinator David Head said, "This will be such a boost after the grief, stress and frustration of the last year and more. We are excited at how the plans are coming together and so looking forward to the day".

Get involved now!

Firstly, please put the poster opposite in your window, the more people that know about the event the better. Please also share our posts on local social media groups and tell all your friends about the event. Your help promoting the fete is key, hugely appreciated, and an easy way to support us and your community.

Also, the committee would love to hear from you if

- ♥ you'd like to run a stall or game
- ♥ you can get together a tug-o-war team
- ♥ you can volunteer to help on the day
- ♥ you want to enter the dog show
- ♥ you can donate a Grand Raffle prize
- ♥ you can sell Grand Raffle tickets for us
- ♥ you run a charity that could benefit from the event
- ♥ you can offer flags, cones, bunting, gazebos, poles, ropes, tape and other equipment to make the day safe

If you would like to get involved please contact David and the committee by email at kilsbyfete@ratt.org.uk. Please contact us as soon as possible because stall space will soon fill up and it really helps the organisers if we hear from volunteers soon.



Kilsby Recreation Ground
Rugby Road

FREE ENTRY
(DONATORS
INVITED!)

KILSBY

SUMMER

FFFF

SUN 29th AUGUST 2021
1PM - 6PM

STALLS FOOD & DRINK

BOUNCY CASTLE RAFFLE

LIVE MUSIC

DOG SHOW BEER TENT

COMPETITIONS AND GAMES

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – TUESDAY 27TH APRIL 2021

ANNUAL REPORT FROM KILSBY PARISH COUNCIL

April 2020 to 31 March 2021

(From Howard Gibbs, Chairman of Kilsby PC, hgibbs@kilsbyparish.co.uk)

In normal times every English parish is required to hold an Annual Meeting of its Parishioners between 1st March and 1st June. This is not a Parish Council meeting but a meeting of parishioners, although if the parish has a Parish Council then the Chairman is required to chair the meeting.

Last year (2020) due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Central Government brought in temporary legislation to help Parish Councils operate in a Covid secure way with socially distanced remote meetings. (The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020) came into force on 6th April 2020. This legislation allowed Parish Councils to meet remotely via video conferencing and removed the requirement to hold the Annual Parish Meeting.

Most people are now very familiar with 'zoom' and other forms of video conferencing, but it was all very new in April and May last year, so the Parish Council decided not to hold an Annual Parish Meeting in 2020.

The planned elections for a new Parish Council in 2020 were also postponed and have been rescheduled for 6 May 2021. This means that the current Parish Councillors have served a 5 year term, and thank you to everyone who has served the parish as a Councillor during the last 5 years.

10 people completed nomination papers to stand as Councillors for the next 4 year term. Sarah Stainton, Richard Page and Barbara Barrett have decided not to stand again, but we are pleased to welcome Alex McVicker. The new Councillors are elected unopposed and take up office 4 days after the date of the election (6th May). We will be holding the first meeting of the new Parish Council on Tuesday 18th May, and as with all Parish Council meetings members of the public are welcome to attend. There is still one vacant seat and we will be seeking a willing person to fill it once we have held the May meeting.

Our District Councillor of over 20 years, Catherine Lomax has decided to retire and will not become a Councillor for the newly formed West Northamptonshire Council. She has been a constant support to the parish in many ways and we would like to thank her for her many years of public service on behalf of everyone in Kilsby.

Northamptonshire County Council and Daventry District Council both ceased to exist on 1 April 2021. They have been replaced by West Northamptonshire Council. So far it seems that the District Council offices are still being retained and planning for the area will be done by the same people as previously. There has been some reorganisation of staff but in the main it seems to be business as usual.

Despite the considerable difficulties posed by Covid-19 the Parish Council has adapted very well and managed to continue meeting remotely. We have continued to strive to put things in place to improve the parish where we can.

Councillors and Clerk

Jenny Fisher chaired the Council during 2019 but at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May 2020 Howard Gibbs was elected as Chairman with Councillor Clive Thompson acting as Vice-Chairman.

Both Jenny Fisher and Richard Thompson stepped down as Councillors in March 2020. The vacant seats created were filled in September 2020 by Barbara Barrett and Caroline Haycock.

The Parish Clerk, Clare Valentine, advised the Council in August that she was pregnant and requested 12 months Maternity leave commencing on 1st October 2020. Clare was delivered of a baby daughter just before Christmas. She is currently enjoying family time with her new baby and the Council has employed Catherine Camp as a Locum clerk in her absence. To ensure that Maternity pay was administered correctly the payroll for the Clerk has been outsourced to 'DCK Accounting Solutions' an external payroll provider. The Locum Clerk has been employed on a 12 month fixed term contract. The services of an HR Advisor have also been secured to provide HR advice to the Council.

In May 2020 the Clerk, Clare Valentine registered for the Certificate in Local Council Administration Qualification and notification was received in March 2021 that it had been submitted and marked, although since Clare is on Maternity Leave the Parish Council has not been made aware of how she got on.

Planning

During the year ending 31 March 2021 the Parish

Council has provided comments on 15 planning applications in their capacity as consultee. The final decision on granting planning consent lies with the District Council (now West Northants Council) Planning Authority. The Parish Council has also commented on a proposed Solar park to be built on Rugby Lane to provide renewable energy. Although the Council welcomes renewable green energy they feel that solar panels would be better sited on the roofs of the vast expanse of warehousing in the area rather than on grazing land.

The District Council has carried out a Housing Needs Survey for the parish which was finalised in February.

The Parish Council is currently reviewing Kilsby's Neighbourhood Development plan to ensure that it is still fit for purpose. We have been advised that it should include Design codes so that the Parish can decide on what styles of building will enhance the parish and which styles they do not wish to see. A consultant has been engaged and is being funded through a Government grant to help with this process.

Projects to enhance the Parish

Turtle Engineering, a local Kilsby firm have gifted a defibrillator case to the parish and a defibrillator has been purchased and installed on the end of Kilsby Village Hall. Thanks to Mike Dowson for his help with this project. There are now two defibrillators in the village, one sited in the old phone box on Main Road, and the other at the village hall. Thanks to Lesley Loader who checks them on a weekly basis to ensure that they remain in good working order. We hope they will never be needed, but the ambulance service will direct you to one and talk you through using it should it ever be necessary.

The wildflower "Urban meadow" on Malt Mill Green has been extended and should look fabulous in the summer. A grant has been made available to W.I who have commissioned a wire sculpture of a Sunflower with a bee on it that will be located amongst the wildflowers. **(Eds: See page 10.)**

There are now 9 interpretative boards located around the village explaining the history of Kilsby and pointing out areas of interest. This project was the brain-child of local historian Gren Hatton and it is a fitting tribute to him that it has finally come to fruition. Gren's widow Sylvia very kindly made a donation towards the cost and we were able to obtain a grant from the Heritage Lottery fund. A leaflet is available which shows the location of the boards and expands on the information on them. Huge thanks to Jenny Fisher and her team as the boards are a great asset to the village. **(Eds: See also page 8.)**

It has been difficult to carry out a village litterpick this year since numbers have had to be restricted to prevent the spread of Covid-19. However the litter picking kit has been made available to small groups who have collected rubbish in return for a grant from the Parish Council towards their organisation. Since many groups have been unable to fund-raise, this was seen as a good way of both tidying up the village and supporting community groups.

Rubbish in the A5 layby has got particularly bad. The responsibility for clearing it up lies with Norse, which has been contacted by the Parish Council to try to get this done more regularly.

The Parish Council provided a wreath on Remembrance Day this year which was laid as part of a short ceremony on 11th November.

The annual Christmas tree event could not be held but carols were broadcast from the churchyard on Christmas Eve and the Christmas tree on Devon Ox, which is growing extremely well, looked lovely.

Butts Lane gets very muddy in the winter and we are pleased to say that it will be improved very shortly.

The Bus Shelter on Malt Mill Green which has a steep climb up to the seating area has proved difficult to negotiate for a number of elderly residents of the village, and the site has been dug out to drop the seat down to the level of the pavement to allow easier access to the shelter.

Communication

The Parish council would like to thank Chris Lomas and her team for their work in editing the parish newsletter. They arrange for local people to advertise in the newsletter and the income received comes to the Parish Council and off-sets the printing costs. The Parish Council feel that the Kilsby Kronicle provides an invaluable way of communicating within the parish and therefore are happy to fund the printing costs.

Ian Massey, who is a parish councillor has kept the website up to date with Parish Council information and Sarah Stainton has posted on Facebook to let people know what is happening. The website has had to comply with accessibility legislation which Ian has been able to help with.

The Parish Council is well aware of the dangerous heavy traffic that thunders down the A361 and are in the process of securing additional speed activated signage to try to slow the traffic. We are also looking to improve the street lighting.

The administration of Kilsby Cemetery had been

Cont. from page 20

carried out by Helen Smedley, but since Helen has moved from the village the parish has been without a Cemetery Administrator. We are very pleased to be able to say that Phil Martin has taken on this important role, which is a great help.

Finance

The precept for year ending 31 March 2021 was set at £44,650 which was £2180 less than the previous year. The reduction has been made possible due to the amount of grant funding that we were lucky enough to secure for some of the projects within the parish.

Staff costs have been higher than anticipated since the Council has been paying the Clerk and the locum as legally required. There was a carry forward of £74,374 at year end 31 March 2021 which will be used to pay for upgrades to street lighting, vehicle activated signs, improvements to the cemetery and preparation of the extension so that it can become part of the main cemetery.

The Annual Accounts have just been audited by the Internal Auditor and have been found to be in good order, and the accounts are sent to External Auditors PKF-Littlejohn before the end of July to ensure that public money is being managed in a robust and safe way.

We look forward to a new council term, and welcome input on how to improve Kilsby.

Chairman Howard Gibbs 27.04.21

CHARITY BOXES ON WATLING STREET

(From the Editors)

A local resident, Mike Samples contacted us in April to report that he had noticed a large white van parked just by the Air Ambulance charity box in the George pub car park and a man with a metal hook apparently trying to fish contents from the box through the deposit hole. He drove off when he saw he had been spotted and Mike reported the van's registration to the police. Later that same day though, the same van was back, parked in the same place, and it was again reported to the police.

If you are passing it would be worthwhile keeping an eye open for suspicious activity and make sure anything you leave for the Air Ambulance is well inside the box.



Facing issues with your laptop or tech?

I can get your devices back up and running in no time. My name is Tim Banks, and I am an IT support specialist based in Kilsby. With 30 years of experience in this industry, I have the expertise and knowledge to offer IT set-up and solutions for your homes or business. I offer my services in Rugby, Daventry and surrounding villages. I accept payments through BACS, PayPal, cheque and cash. Whatever your IT requirements or problems are, I am here to help. After an initial phone consultation, home visits can be arranged or I can connect remotely to solve simple problems.

- Computer set-up and networking issues
- PC/computer/laptop/tablet/mobile device advice
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Kilsby Village Shop

(From Trish Brown, on behalf of the Kilsby Village Shop Management Committee)



There's a lot of love in your Village Shop



May 17th has marked the easing of lockdown restrictions - finally we get to **HUG** our loved ones and start to meet indoors again. Although we may not be back to full normality this is a good feeling I am sure for many of us. The weather has been crazy (snow, hail, torrential rain, high winds, hot sunny days – take your pick) over the last couple of months, so it is great to be able to see family and friends indoors and finally have a good face-to-face chat: sharing a meal together as hospitality reopens its doors and the great BBQ season begins.

As for your village shop; the team are still as busy as ever - ensuring we can meet the requirements of our customers at every stage of these difficult times and into a brighter future.

- As we hopefully leave behind the colder weather we have changed our outside winter fuel unit to stock summer BBQ essentials. The fresh fruit & veg unit will continue to stock our amazing seasonal offerings.
- There has been fabulous feedback from our customers regarding local produce from our new supplier Whittlebury Bakery at Towcester; a family run “no machine led production line” bakery. Deliveries are Wed, Thurs & Saturday and orders are welcome (ideally we would like 48 hours’ notice but we will do our best to order next day if ordered by 2pm). They have a tasty range of breads including speciality bread (Rye, Onion & Olive Rye, Sourdough, Tomato & Basil), Bloomers (Olive Onion & Turmeric Knot, Cheese & Red Onion Knot, Pumpkin & Sunflower), rolls, baps, yummy baked camembert and cakes. We also stock their hand crafted Focaccia trays of Olives, Mediterranean, Onion, Rosemary, Garlic Potato & Cheddar, Rosemary & Sea Salt - perfect for tear & sharing and ideal for your BBQ, along with our amazing Sercombes sausages (Lincolnshire, Cumberland & Traditional) and burgers.
- New deliveries of artisan flours and cereals milled at Leicestershire's Claybrooke Mill have arrived, as well as scrumptious clear honey from Barby. New stocks of our KVS logo items have also arrived and our Sweet Chilli chutney along with the Spicy Tomato & Sticky Onion Chutney are selling very well.
- With Father's Day on June 20th we have a lovely range of cards, chocolates, Fatherson's cakes or why not get one of our mini hampers of cheese and chutneys, these will make great gifts.
- Hopefully you have now received a copy of the new shopping lists for both our local speciality suppliers and everyday essentials – take a look and see just what your village shop has to offer. If you have not had a copy they are available in the shop so please pop in for a copy.
- We are still taking weekly orders for Chapmans Butchers of Lutterworth, so if you want to order your meat for the May bank holiday; please pop in to see Andrea, or call **07861 295358**, alternatively you can place an order through our free delivery service at villageshop.kilsby@gmail.com

On behalf of the committee and Andrea our shop manager, we would like to give special thanks to all of our volunteers, both past and present: to those who have been there from our opening in March 2018 and to those that have helped us over the last 12 months during the pandemic difficulties. You have smiled throughout and shown great flexibility; coping with new ways of working, much busier days, additional deliveries and collections, you have all stepped up to the challenge to ensure we supported not only our village but the surrounding areas, you should all be very proud of yourselves. We would also like to wish Paul Morrice who does an amazing job in taking care of all the shop maintenance issues a speedy recovery following his recent operation – big hugs from us all Paul.

Our amazing team of volunteers, lovely manager Andrea and assistant manager Sarah are all here to welcome you to the shop. As covid restrictions are lifting, we are happy to say that we are now allowing two customers into the shop at any one time which helps with the busy times.

Cont. on page 22

Cont. from page 21

As you will know the village shop started its life with the huge help of our villagers who invested in our share scheme. Now 3 years on, a pandemic and several lockdowns later, it has become the hub and lifeline to a lot of people in the village. I am pleased to update that we have produced our annual accounts and they have been approved by our accountant. We will be sending a copy to all shareholders in due course and hope to have an AGM in July when we will be able to update everyone on two years of fantastic progress, as well as electing our Committee for the coming years.

We are still looking for a new treasurer so if you would like to help and support your village shop please get in touch with me at trishtbrown@gmail.com



On behalf of the committee, our amazing shop team: Andrea, Sarah and the volunteers, we would like to say thank you to all our customers for their continued support and wish you all a very happy May bank holiday we hope you enjoy spending some of it with family and friends.



Kilsby C.E.
Primary School

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GOVERNORS FOR KILSBY SCHOOL

The Governing Body of Kilsby CE Primary School wants to recruit a Parent Governor and Co-opted Governors

We are recruiting for our Governing Body as sadly some of our existing governors are coming to the end of their terms of office. We need one Parent Governor and Co-opted Governors. It's a voluntary role, not a huge commitment, it's interesting and rewarding, and training will be provided. We are especially keen to have applicants with a background in finance/business or in premises management.

Governing bodies have a wide range of responsibilities including management of the school budget, school effectiveness, preparation for OFSTED inspection and formulation of a post OFSTED action plan, and involvement in a variety of personnel and pupil issues.

The role involves six meetings a year in the evenings, plus some visits to the school when Covid restrictions permit, and governors normally hold office for four years. We offer a friendly, supportive environment where you could use your skills, learn new ones, meet new people and be a critical friend, whilst supporting **the development of the school and the children's education**

If you are interested in applying, contact Dawn Lee on 01788 822711 or email: miss.lee@kilsbyprimary.net for more information and an application form, which will need to be returned by 14th June. In line with good practice, all appointments will be subject to security clearance.

From St Faith's

(From the Rev. Nigel Fry, enfrys@gmail.com
Tel: 07854810588)

As things get back to normal, or more normal, or perhaps even a new normal, like the rest of society the Church is looking to the future and wondering what shape things will take after we have assimilated covid, sorted Brexit, and begun to adjust to the demands of Climate Change. Getting going again is still hampered by restrictions that impede the very essence of being human. In Church we can gather - but not too close; we can converse, but only with masks on; we can share the Peace, but only with a nod and a wave. As for sharing fully in Communion, singing inside, and having a coffee after the service, they're all still off limits. Hopefully all that will change, and soon.

As we do get back into gear there are things that need addressing: Last year's annual meeting was postponed for so long it has morphed into this year's! The 'APCM' as it is known (Annual Parochial Church Meeting), is scheduled for Thursday 27th of May at 7.30pm in St Faith's. It is an open meeting; all are welcome. Hopefully a few things will get sorted. Throughout the year there are other meetings (every 4-6 weeks) for the PCC (the Parochial Church Council); members for this group are elected at the annual meeting. Perhaps you would like to serve on that council? Drop me an email. Also elected at that meeting are the Churchwardens. There should be two in post for every parish. At the moment we have only one Churchwarden. A second warden is very much needed to support the work of the Church; make sure the building is sound; deal with the Diocese; and ensure the smooth day-to-day running of the Church. Maybe that's a role that would interest you?

Looking ahead a bit, there is the annual 'Ride and Stride' happening on September 11th (**Eds. See notice from Gill Mason on page 3.**) If you like a good walk - or a jog - or are a keen cyclist, or one that just needs a bit of encouragement to dust off their saddle, oil their chain and pump up their tyres, this is for you! You find sponsors per mile and take in as many churches in and around Kilsby as you want; so you can make the journey as long, or as short, as you like. There is the opportunity to sign in at each church to log your journey. (If you don't fancy walking or riding you can join in by helping with that, keeping the church open and providing refreshments.) It's also an opportunity to see a few churches that perhaps haven't been open or you've had to rush past in the car. If you would like to take part please let me or Gill Mason know and we'll make sure you have a sponsorship form when they become available. Half the money raised goes to the church you are riding or striding for, to spend on the maintenance of the building; the other half goes to the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust, to

which churches can apply for grants to help with building maintenance work. St Faith's has received much needed financial help from them in the past and may well do so again. Taking part is way of saying 'thank you' to such a valuable organisation. Why not give it a go!

On June 27th Clare Glover is to be Ordained Deacon and will be serving her title at St Peter and St Paul, with St Michael and All Angels in Kettering as an Assistant Curate. An exciting time for her and a significant one for the Parish. When was the last time someone from Kilsby was Ordained? Does anyone know?

As we emerge from Lockdown we are all now allowed to mix a bit more and to be inside - even though it is now warm enough to be outside! Perhaps you would like a visit from someone from the church? Just for a chat, or perhaps for home communion. Let me know and I'll see what we can do.

Do you like to have a good sing? There's nothing quite like it: it exercises the lungs; improves breathing; lifts your mood; and praises God. Singing again in Church isn't allowed yet - because in the present certain circumstances it may not be so good for you! But when it is deemed safe we want to be gathering to sing together in church services and to be led by a full choir. Would you like to give that a go? No great musical knowledge is required. Most people can sing; don't let what some teacher at school said put you off. However, if you do have some musical ability and understand a keyboard, perhaps you would like to tinkle the ivories of the church organ? It is an interesting contraption that can be made to make quite a special sound. Come along and give it a go. Even if you can't commit to every week it would be helpful to have some people available to call on to play now and again.

As things stand we are meeting as Church in St Faith's every Sunday at 11.00 am, sometimes for Holy Communion, sometimes for Morning Worship. Everyone is welcome to come along. It's good to meet and share together. Although the pandemic has kept us apart it is also something we have shared. As we move forward to whatever is next we

KILSBY OIL CLUB

The next order points for the Oil Club are:
Friday 9th July and Friday 10th September.

We will be open to receive orders for nine days, closing a week on the Sunday following the announcement. Members will be advised of the price and delivery dates when the buying process has been completed early the following week.

Anyone interested in joining the Club, or helping out with the ordering process, should contact kilsbyoilclub@gmail.com

Campaign Update

Local MP visits A5 layby eyesore

www.closesthekilslayby.com
campaign@closesthekilslayby.com

Residents of Kilsby will be aware of the disgusting state of the A5 layby just to the north of the village, which is plagued by extensive fly tipping, and the disposal of urine bottles, human waste and food litter.

In March a campaign for action was set up, and to date this has secured explicit support from 300 of our 1200 (estimated) residents. Thank you to those that have expressed support, which you can still give at our website www.closesthekilslayby.com, or by using the form at the foot of this page.



On Friday 07 May about 20 residents gave our MP Chris Heaton-Harris a guided tour of the site, during which he wholly acknowledged and agreed with our concerns and demonstrated a willingness to help us resolve the problems. Chris noted that despite recent efforts to clean-up the eyesore there were still "tons and tons" of rubbish causing problems, adding "You have a specific, very well defined problem that needs some action here!"

In an interview at the site Chris indicated that he would write to Prologis at DIRFT, and Network Rail, with a view to action to make the site less prone to littering in the short term. Chris has also highlighted that our new unitary council will need to be a part of any solution to the problem, and we will indeed pick this up with councillors as soon as they have had a chance to get their feet under their new desks!



You can watch the interview video online at www.closesthekilslayby.com (click "campaign news"). With our apologies for the traffic noise which we hope is alleviated by full subtitling.

If you haven't already, please lend your support for action. Visit the website and add your name to the petition online **or** use the form here and drop it in to Kilsby Village Shop.

----- ✂ -----

Please complete this form and drop it in to Kilsby Village Shop. Thank you.

This Kilsby household supports the campaign to close the layby on the A5 north of our village. We call on the relevant authorities to close the layby immediately using signs, cones and blocks. We further call for permanent work to clean up and close the layby, and make good this stretch of road within six months.

Name Email Address in Kilsby

How many people in your household are represented by this response? 1 2 3 4 5 6 (circle)

If it became necessary to take legal advice, would you be willing to make a donation?

Would you like to be updated by email?

Signature Date

‘Farewell to Kilsby (at last!)’

(From Tom and Chris Clay, residents at Pytchley House on Main Road for 45 years up until 2020)

We promise you that we hadn't thought of writing anything for Kronickle. Our leaving the village after getting on for fifty years had been much too drawn out as far as we were concerned and to be frank had become rather boring – the thought of downsizing had after all first occurred in December 2018 when we both had shock news about the state of our health within a few weeks of each other. This was at least five years after we should have had the thought. There's a tip there!

So what is this about then?

First it's to say a fond farewell to all our many friends we leave in Kilsby coupled with thanks for putting up with us all these years. Second, because it was too tempting an idea to look back at what Kilsby was like in the seventies, when we first arrived. Third, because it just might prompt some thoughts of your own and get you to write into Kronickle with them, including corrections to what we've written here.

.....And last but certainly not least because the Editor of Kilsby Kronickle nagged until we gave in!!

Here goes then, and remember that these are very much fond thoughts and ours and ours alone. If there is anything here which upsets you, or you think is wrong, then sorry!

Kilsby in the seventies still had four working farms inside the village. It was unusual but not unknown to have traffic on Main Road or Rugby Road held up by animals being moved from grazing to farm yard. Over the years the buildings became residential and in one case a nursing home.

We were pretty much well provided with shops. We had a Coop store [not quite a superstore], on Main Road next to Pytchley House – very handy for us! There were other shops clustered round where the Post Office used to be at the 'top' of Essen Lane. There was an off licence next to a butcher's, [now converted to flats] in Independent Street, and of course the Post Office and Stores, which was the last to go only a year or two ago.

By the mid seventies much of the "new" housing in Kilsby was in place but there has been plenty of 'infilling' since. I don't intend to set out where these are in detail because they are all so well described in the excellent Kilsby Plan which records the 250 or so houses added to the village since the time we're talking about here, and not counting the more recent A361 development. Despite this growth, the ancient 'square' shape of the village has been preserved. (Look at Northamptonshire villages on Ordnance Survey maps to see how unusual this shape is.)

.....and talking about the shape of the village several major changes very much altered it and its surrounds.

The first of these was the realignment of the A5. This used to run along the front of the George, and between it and the cottages opposite. The A361 joined it where it turned on a sharp bend to go up the hill and south. There were several problems with this. With the increasing size and numbers of commercial traffic in the seventies, many lorries struggled to cope with the sharp turn and incline, there was no chance of 'a run at the hill' and there was no overtaking lane on the hill itself. The major works reduced the steepness of the incline by excavating the old road, improved the shape of the bend as well as the junction with the A361 by building the present roundabout and installed a short overtaking lane up the hill.

There was however a price for the village to pay for these 'improvements'. Before all these changes and when we used to get snow every winter, the place for winter sport used to be the rough field by the A5 corner called Pete's Hollow (I think an old marl pit). Some of the slopes we used are still there but are much reduced by the 'spoil' from the A5 excavations which were tipped there. The space and slopes for sledging, plaggy bagging (an 80 litre plastic bag filled with straw always made the best sledge!) and even skiing were very much reduced, even if the road became marginally easier to negotiate.

And of course outside the village but still in the then parish we had the development of DIRFT. This had all sorts of effects on us by increasing heavy lorry traffic of course but the loss of a super playground called the Red Hills made an immediate impact on youngsters at the time. Red Hills was (another) pit reached via the Bridleway to Crick and a left turn immediately after getting past the Northampton line. It was a much larger affair than Pete's Hollow and had the great advantage of its steep slopes ending in a pool of water (or mud if we had a dry summer – as of course we did every year). Now sadly that area is all covered by the extensive DIRFT railway sidings.

Kilsby C of E Primary School was where it still is, but was very much smaller, and there was no pre-school. Similarly, the Village Hall, the 'Rec' off Rugby Road and the Tennis Courts were on their present sites but all have been much improved since then.

The need for fund raising was as great then as it is today, and whilst some regular events have prospered others have disappeared. One example is the Kilsby Gymkhana which was held annually on the fields above the tunnel, pulling in many visitors from far and wide. Over the years though, its popularity declined and it gradually faded away

Cont. on page 26

Cont. from page 25

Other events still flourish, including the Kilsby Garden and Produce Show. However, here too there have been major changes, in line with changes taking place within society generally. In the seventies there were still several very skilled and (semi) professional gardeners in Kilsby and neighbouring villages who looked forward to the 'Annual Show' season which then consisted not only of the village shows but also of many 'industry' shows. A large proportion of the entries in these shows came from a relatively small number of the 'experts' who year after year won most of the prizes. The competition inside this small group was intense. They scrutinised each others entries intensely and there were many appeals to 'the committee' if infringements of the rules were thought to have been made.

Part of this intensity was a result of the prize money being very much more in value than today but the major part was to be able to point with pride to a particularly fine board of vegetables that had taken 'best in show'. A downside though was that some of the exhibits went from show to show and some were quite woebegone by the time they'd been to several shows (can we ever forget the smell of rotting onions which filled the Village Hall!). Not everything was better in the past.

Other things have continued unchanged. The Village Pantomime is still very much part of the village celebrating the Winter solstice, and many of the stars of the seventies continue to take part – now in their own seventies.Long may they and it flourish!

One of the innovations since the 1970s has been the creation of the village newspaper – Kronickle. It had long been recognised that an improvement in the information about 'what's on' was necessary and eventually a small group got together to produce a single sheet of A4, delivered as now every other month to every house in Kilsby parish. Kronickle had a shaky start with information from village groups being hard to come by, but with nagging and persistence contributors were established and once the new editorial group was set up at the beginning of the 'noughties' it flourished and turned into the 24 page editions that we now regularly see.....

Other more recent introductions have been the Film Nights at the Village Hall, the History Society, and Indoor Bowls, all unfortunately curtailed recently because of Covid.

Talking of which, back in the 1970s, a temporary surgery was provided by a doctor visiting a room in the Village Hall where because of poor privacy within minutes of you seeing him the village grapevine had broadcast what was wrong and what was to be done about it - often no more than a dispensed aspirin - the cure-all remedy of the time.

It would be remiss not to mention the 'one off' events over the years. In 1992, 350 years after one of the first skirmishes in the Civil War between the King and Parliament, the event which took place in the village all those years ago was reenacted by the Sealed Knot group. They camped in the seventeenth century style [ie. rough or very rough depending upon your taste] in the fields off Kilsby Lane and made merry in the traditional way in Kilsby's two pubs. They were up and about early the following morning which fortunately stayed fair and then marched and rode into the village, banners waving and drums beating. Several village households dressed for the occasion and if it hadn't been for the overhead phone and electricity cables you might have imagined yourself back in the 1640s.

It is good to see that a village fete is planned for this year. We wish it the very best of luck and hope it produces new fond memories. Memorable fetes over the years were Kilsby's celebration of the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 and the millenium events of 1999/2000. These were both events where the various village clubs/societies and organisations turned out teams to compete for a grand trophy (?) or just to compete. Who will ever forget the moans of those poor unfortunates who had volunteered to play the part of the Honey Monster staggering around the school playground begging to be released from the bulky (very hot) costume?

.....and who will ever forget the popular side shows, such as the 'Vandalarium' (especially popular with those who'd been drinking at lunchtime). The stall was simply a large old carpet on the ground and behind the wooden shelves which were stacked with old crockery which for a small fee you got to hurl coconut shy balls at to smash!

But over the years there was an improvement which was not much to do with those who lived here or indeed those in local politics. When we first lived on the bend on Main Road there were regular screeches, particularly in the rain or late at night, sometimes followed by a serious bang which called for investigation. Various parts of our garden wall were demolished several times over the years, but such crashes gradually diminished and we can't remember one this century. Why was this? The road was the same, and the surfacing also not that much improved. I don't suppose the driving improved much either so you have to conclude that vehicle design and safety features had a real impact on making the bend navigable, even in frost and snow.

We've been surprised in setting all this down (and we know we have missed lots of things out) by how much Kilsby has preserved its unique (?) character. People do still come to live here and many of them stay so there must be something about the place and we hope that in fifty years time someone will be good enough to set out another 'quick' review.

SHOPPING IN KILSBY

(This is an extract from a piece written by the late Gren Hatton and originally in Kronickle in 2016)

When Sylvia and I came to Kilsby over 40 years ago, the village boasted four shops ... a butcher's, a Co-op, an off-license and general stores, and a post office and stores (later augmented in the 1980s by a health-food shop).

In the earlier 1900s, between the two World Wars, there had been various other previous shops in Kilsby, including a fish-and-chip shop (next to the Red Lion), a bicycle repair shop (where the Village Hall now stands), a blacksmith's forge (beside the Village Green), a saddlery (on Manor Road), a carpenter's premises and a wheelwright (both up The Banks), a builder's yard (in the house on Main Road now called 'Brooklyn'), a motorcar repair garage (facing the Green), and at least three bakehouses at different times and in different parts of the village. A regular doctor's surgery was also held (at first in the house on Manor Road now known as 'Tudor Cottage' – in those days the house was called 'Graziela', and later in part of the village hall).

The idea of village shops, as we know them today, only dates back to the late 1800s. Before that, tradespeople in each village (dressmakers, seamstresses, washerwomen, cobblers and bootmakers, house-painters and decorators, plumbers, carpenters, and similar small trades) had no formal shop-windows or display areas, but simply operated from their living rooms, kitchens and backyard sheds. A dressmaker or seamstress would visit you for selection of fabrics, measurements and fittings. Incidentally, I remember my own mother and grandmother making all their own clothes in the 1940s and 1950s, with paper patterns spread out on the table-top and piles of assorted fabrics; it was an accepted part of the way of life in those days (and likewise, men knew how to repair the family's bikes and motor car, carry out basic maintenance work around the house, grow their own vegetables and fruit etc),

More sophisticated needs were catered for by the carrier's cart – a large horse-drawn covered vehicle (with seats that could be added inside to accommodate occasional passengers) that went into Rugby and Daventry at least once each week. Villagers would place their orders for goods in the shops in those towns, then notify the carrier, and the goods would be collected and delivered in his carrier's cart. Goods for market were also transported from the village into these towns by the same means. This method was in use for centuries, and only declined with the rapid growth of motorised transport after the First World War.

Kilsby Post Offices

As for post offices, Kilsby had five different offices at various times. The first, in the mid-1800s, was in a butcher's shop and general stores run by Keziah Essen in part of the house now known as The Haven in Essen Lane; the post office relocated in the late 1800s to the top end of Essen Lane (where it would later return in the mid-1900s and continue until 2016), which was at that time the home of Mr Harris the postmaster. When Mr Harris moved to a smaller brick house along Middle Street in about 1918, the post office moved with him. After Mr Harris died in the 1920s, the post office shifted again, to a hardware shop that stood on Main Road on what is now the corner of Boxwood Drive. When that hardware shop eventually closed in the middle of the century the post office finally moved back to the top of Essen Lane, and was incorporated into what by then had become the village's main shop.

The origin of our Village Store

The village shop at the top of Essen Lane was founded almost exactly one century ago, at the close of the First World War, when Dick Moloney and his family moved there in 1918. Dick had been a bootmaker before the Great War, and cycled to work every day in Frederick Cook's boot factory at Long Buckby – but by the end of the war he was an invalid and could no longer manage the long cycle journeys – so he set up as a cobbler and boot-maker in the single-storey extension that had previously been the post office during Mr Harris's time there. For a while the premises also functioned as the meeting room of the Kilsby branch of the British Legion – but that venture ran into financial trouble and closed down, and the Moloney family had to find a new way to supplement Dick's meagre income as a bootmaker. Mrs Moloney had worked as a part-time midwife, and had also taken in sewing – anything to earn a few precious shillings – and now had the bright idea of selling a few sweets and cakes in Dick's little cobbler's shop. Mr Moloney's daughter Leonora (I met her when she was over 80 years old) told me what happened next: "And then people started coming in and asking if we were going to sell other things – cornflakes and sugar, and so on – and eventually she worked it up into quite a nice little business; and we carried on running it through the Second World War and afterwards".

Eds Note: The Post Office and Stores on the corner of Essen Lane and Independent Street closed in 2016 when the owners retired and the Community Shop opened two years later in the car park of the Red Lion.

This piece has been re-published in this issue as a companion piece to the photographs on page 15 provided by Gill Mason and the History Society. These show the Co-op Store and the Post Office and hardware store which were on Main Road, as well as the Stores at the top of Essen Lane.

NEWS FROM KILSBY SCHOOL

(From Karen Burton, mrs.burton@kilsbyprimary.net)

After a nice relaxing Easter break everybody came back to school re-energised and ready for the new term. Pupil numbers have increased this year, and we now have a grand total of 112 children attending Kilsby School! We haven't had this number in a very long time! With this in mind, we're starting to make the move to become a single form school with 7 classes. This means that we could admit up to 26 children in each year group and not have mixed year classes once this was established throughout the school. Having our Pupil Admission Number as 26 will allow us to retain our village school ethos and also the attraction of smaller than average class sizes. This year we made a move from 4 classes to 5, using what was the library as one of our classrooms. We are going through the tender process to build two new classrooms at the moment. The planning application for this has been submitted.

This year we potentially have 25 children joining us in Reception in September. As we grow there may be changes with class structure, as we cannot feasibly go from a 4 class school to a 7 class school overnight. It will take us a few years to get there. As the younger children progress through the school, we plan for them to remain as a single year class. As we grow, we will continue to run some mixed aged classes, but this will be reviewed year on year so that we are always making decisions that are the best for the children and sustainability of the school. So, as you can see, we have some big changes ahead.

After the Easter break the Year 1 & Year 2 children in Cherry class have been sketching landscapes and enjoyed sitting outside to do their sketching in the school grounds. They have also been taking part in a daily 'dough disco' which is squeezing 'play doh' to music, using their fingers. This exercises the fingers, which really helped the children get ready for their writing. In April the children decorated flowerpots and planted their very own sunflower seeds. They are excited and interested to see what happens over the next few weeks, and of course, they must remember to keep the soil moist and the pots in a sunny place in the classroom!



It was NSPCC Number Day on Friday 7th May – the whole school took part in a Maths day. The children in Cedar spent the morning problem solving. They had three tables set out. Table one had one bar of chocolate, table two had two bars of chocolate,

and table three had three bars. The children had to line up outside the classroom and enter one at a time to answer the question: 'If the chocolate on the table I sit at is to be shared out equally when I sit down, which would be the best table to sit at?'



They all really enjoyed working out a fair way for them all to get the same amount of chocolate. After seven attempts they cracked it! They then got to the best part of the lesson...eating the chocolate!

Cedar class have also been looking at opaque, transparent and translucent materials. They investigated which material would make the best curtains and recorded their results.

Also, the class have looked at different structures and have thought about how they stay sturdy. The children then had a go at creating their own structures using different materials. They tested how sturdy they were by placing a book on top of them. There weren't many that didn't pass the test.

As part of Maple class' science, the Year 5 & Year 6 children have been doing some research on the life and work of David Attenborough. They have focused on how he has influenced work on natural sciences, and how he has dedicated his life to this.

They each created their own quizzes and shared them with one other. It was interesting to see that even though the quizzes were on the same topic, there were a wide variety of questions asked.

On Number Day, Maple started off the day by working super hard on a problem-solving question which involved chocolate - which of course they had to try! They moved on to solving the problem and looking into the scenario deeper involving percentages, algebra and lots of possibilities!

Then during the afternoon they looked at salaries within jobs and the impact money, happiness and enjoyment has on someone's career. The children even discussed what they would like to be when they are older. Also, in Science they have enjoyed dissecting tulips to examine the different parts that make up a flower.

The children in Chestnut Reception class have had a great time this term. They have had fun dressing up as pirates and going on voyages on their very own pirate ship! Another adventure they enjoyed was a walk around the village, dressed as pirates, looking for different types of houses and homes. They have

also been writing and acting out their stories, working hard on their Maths and in RE have been looking at the different religions in the world. In PE they have really enjoyed playing cricket.



The Year 4 children in Hazel class have been studying the history of Kilsby School, and how our school compares now to how it was over 100 years ago. They were amazed to find huge changes had taken place, from children once writing on slates and teachers on blackboards with chalks, to the use of laptops and whiteboards in the present day.



Also, they have been investigating to see which materials are conductors and which are insulators. They added the materials into our circuits to see whether they stopped the flow of electricity or let the electricity flow through.

In English, they've been recapping their lockdown learning on play scripts, reminding themselves of the features of play scripts, and are now starting to learn their parts for Cinderella in their groups.

We look forward to more exciting activities to come during the summer term.

From the Editors:



Church Walk was blocked for several days after this tree came down in high winds in April.



Kilsby Tennis Club Re-Opens

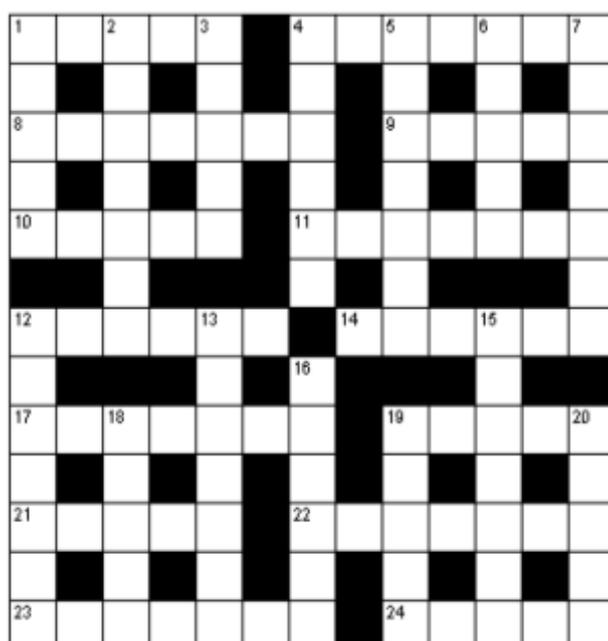
Following easing of lockdown restrictions, tennis returned to Kilsby Tennis Club in Mid-April and despite recent showers, club members have again been enjoying social / competitive tennis. Club night has returned every Tuesday from 6pm, with social distancing and hand sanitiser in place all members look forward to an enjoyable summer of tennis

Kilsby team tennis is also up and running with both men and women's team competing in the Rugby league and a men's team in the Northampton League. The club's AGM was held towards the end of March and the committee are delighted at the early season demand for the courts and all agreed the courts continue to remain in excellent condition, supporting tennis in the village for the years ahead

Are you interested in playing tennis?

Whether you are a novice or someone looking to get back playing again, if you are interested in joining please contact a member of the committee at either:
kilsbytenniscub@gmail.com or search for our facebook page.

Annual membership is £60 per adult, £15 for Junior (U-19), £20 for Student or £120 for a family (2 Adults, 2 Juniors)

**Across**

- 1 Dock (5)
 4 Sore (7)
 8 Rubbish (7)
 9 Sacred song (5)
 10 Boulders (5)
 11 Sincere (7)
 12 Real (6)
 14 Blemished (6)
 17 Ancient Japanese warrior (7)
 19 Concur (5)
 21 Ashen (5)
 22 Before (7)
 23 Least difficult (7)
 24 Viper (5)

Down

- 1 Bet (5)
 2 Fruit (7)
 3 Emblems (5)
 4 Fragments (6)
 5 Endanger (7)
 6 Fire (5)
 7 Restricted (7)
 12 Relieve of blame (7)
 13 Abbreviate (7)
 15 Concerned (7)
 16 Straightforward (6)
 18 Relocates (5)
 19 Main artery (5)
 20 Mistake (5)

Solution on page 32

Kilsby Christmas Tree Committee

Sharon King, 01788 823264



Kilsby Christmas Tree Lottery

The committee would like to thank everyone who has taken part in the Kilsby Christmas Tree Lottery so far. The lucky number for April was drawn on Saturday 10th April and was 112. Well done to Kate Wykes who won £65. The lucky number for May was drawn on Saturday 8th May and was 117. Well done to Audrey Frater who won £70.

Half of the money raised each month goes to the prize fund and the other half to the Kilsby Christmas Tree Fund. This money will be used to fund the Christmas Tree light switch-on event for 2021 which will take place on **Saturday 4th December 2021**.

Each lottery draw takes place on the second Saturday of the month. The draws for the next few months will be as follows:

Month	Date
June	Saturday 12 th June 2021
July	Saturday 10 th July 2021
August	Saturday 14 th August 2021

There is still plenty of time to join for just £1 a week, please contact Sharon King on 0750 8228736 or email kilsbychristmastree@gmail.com for more information.

Thank you
 Kilsby Christmas Tree Committee

KILSBY KRONICKLE

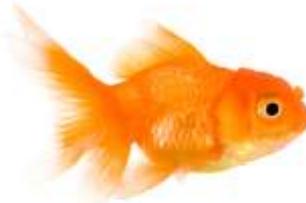
Kids Korner

CAN YOU NAME ALL 10 PETS BY FILLING IN THE BLANKS?























- 1. HAMSTER
- 2. RABBIT
- 3. CHINCHILLA
- 4. GUINEA PIG
- 5. PARROT
- 6. TORTOISE
- 7. GOLDFISH
- 8. KITTEN
- 9. HORSE
- 10. GERBIL

Things to do in June-July**Volunteer to wind the church clock****Apply to be a school governor****Get involved with the Village Fete****Join in or sponsor the Ride and Stride****Go to the opening of the Heritage Trail****Go to the Open Gardens****Go to see the Yarn Bombing****Go on a Walking Group walk****Get your daughter to join the Guides****Join the Tennis Club****Support the Community Café****Volunteer to be Shop Treasurer****Volunteer for the Parochial Church Council or to be a Church Warden, join the choir or play the organ****Solution to puzzle on page 30****Contributions to the Editors**

Preferably by e-mail to Chris Lomas at: lomdoucd@gmail.com or by any other computer media or on paper to:

Chris Lomas, The New House, 20 Rugby Road (822650)

Richard Linnell, Bolberry House, Rugby Road (822382)

David George, 12 Hall Close (822827)



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WANTED**Parish Councillors - page 3****Volunteer to wind the church clock - page 10****Treasurer for the Village Shop – page 22****Parent Governor and Co-opted Governors for Kilsby School - page 22****People to join the Parochial Church Council - page 23****Volunteer to become a Church Warden - page 23**

The deadline for the next issue
is

Monday 19th July 2021