



Dates for your diary

December

Saturday 2nd December

St Faith's Church Bazaar
Switch-on of Christmas Tree lights

Thursday 7th December

Walking Group walk

Thursday 14th December

WI Christmas Party

Sunday 17th December

Carol Services - URC at 11.00 am
St Faith's at 6.00 pm

Tuesday 19th December

Community Café closed for
Christmas

Thursday 28th December

Walking Group Christmas walk

January

Thursday 4th January

Walking Group walk
Community Café reopens

Friday 5th January

Oil Club order point

Thursday 11th January

WI Meeting

Thursday 18th January

History Society talk

Sunday 21st January

Walking Group walk



Congratulations to Alexandra Field, whose lovely picture of a Christmas Tree won the drawing competition. You can see her tree on page 14, and on Saturday 2nd December she will be helping Father Christmas to switch on the Christmas Tree lights on Devon Ox Green - the 21st year of this event which we hope we will be as successful as ever.

Elsewhere in this edition there are details of other Christmas events and services for you to enjoy, and of course lots of information about the festive treats our Shop will be stocking

There is also a very important update from Kilsby Action Group on page 8, including 'stop press' information from a meeting the Group had with West Northants Council at the very end of November. The KAG continues to do a brilliant job on behalf of everyone who cares about the future of the village and when they ask for our support in various ways we hope they will get it.

As always, there are a number of opportunities detailed for people to get more involved in the life of the village - volunteers are always needed and they underpin village life. This time, in particular, a new secretary and a new booking secretary are sought for the Village Hall (see page 15) and we are looking for a new team to take over the production of Kronickle. I have been putting the magazine together for very many years and have decided that the time is right for me to step down at the end of March 2024, after the production of the April-May issue. My two fellow editors have also decided to 'retire' from their roles so we are looking for three new people to take over to ensure that Kronickle can continue into the future. More information about the jobs is on page 10.

Karen Burton, who sends us the regular reports from Kilsby School is also retiring, and the report on pages 17 and 18 will be her last. We thank her for all the pieces she has contributed over the years and wish her well for the future.

**WE WISH ALL OUR READERS
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR**



KILSBY PARISH COUNCIL

November 2023

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AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Employment/staffing
School Governor LiaisonPolice Liaison Representative
Urban Meadow Project
Employment/staffing
Neighbourhood Development PlanPlanning Committee
Parish Path WardenPlanning Committee
Website Support; Budget; NDP
Internal Financial ControlRecreation Ground (Chair)
Planning Committee; Employment/Staffing

Planning Committee; Employment/Staffing

Facebook/Social Media

Planning Committee
Highways Warden; Speedwatch
Cemetery environs

Litter

KILSBY PARISH COUNCIL(PC)

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

Well summer is over and autumn is with us, together with dark nights and colder weather. I do hope you all had a good summer and for those that went away, a good break.

There are several items below that need the help and input from all you kind and generous Kilsby residents, so come on guys, have a look at what we are either doing or are planning to do over the next twelve months or so and give the council a call or email me personally: hgibbs@kilsbyvillage.co.uk and let's get moving forward on some great projects for the benefit of us all.

Village Web Site

Work on this is going well and we are hopeful that by spring/summer 2024 the new site will be up and running. If any village organisation would like to be included on the new site please do get in touch with Cllr Massey at imassey@kilsbyvillage.co.uk

Village Wood and Play Area

As you will remember from my last report, we have commenced the process of applying for S106 funding for a village wood and play area. We are hoping to be able to provide a local wooded area, combining sports facilities for the whole village, and a second detailed application is being submitted soon. I will keep you all up to date as things develop. In the meantime, if anyone knows of any land which might be available for this purpose, either in the village or on the perimeter (preferably on the village side of the A5), please get in touch with Cllr Will Bridges at: wbridges@kilsbyvillage.co.uk or our Clerk Emma: parishcouncil@kilsbyvillage.co.uk

Climate Change

As you know, Cllr Massey organised a village meeting in September with presentations about climate change. Following that, a further meeting was held at the village hall and I am pleased to report that we now have a Kilsby Climate Action Group. If any of you would like to get involved, please do contact Ian Massey; he would be pleased to hear from you.

Speed Watch

As mentioned in my last article (October edition), Cllr Ian Weston is stepping away, after a number of years, as coordinator of the Speed Watch annual campaign. We therefore need a new coordinator to take on this responsibility. It is vital that we keep up efforts to reduce speed around our village. Ian is willing to help anyone taking on the role and would be glad to speak to anyone who wants more information. Please do get in touch with Ian at: iweston@kilsbyvillage.co.uk

Commemoration

The PC has decided to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles by siting a new bench in the village. We haven't yet decided on a location and would be pleased to have your suggestions. Please do get in touch with me: hgibbs@kilsbyvillage.co.uk or Emma: parishcouncil@kilsbyvillage.co.uk

We are also considering the possibility of commemorating the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings on 6th June 2024. If you have any ideas or would like to get involved in the organisation of this event please do contact me or any other member of the council. Your help would really be appreciated.

Malt Mill Green

Several residents have passed remarks about the wildflower meadow this year as the flowers only lasted a few weeks and it became a little bit of a mess. At the council meeting on 14th November, the council decided to reduce the size of the meadow, re-grass the area, and plant shrubs on some of it (Cllr Weston will be looking for volunteers to help plant these in the new year). We are also intending to trim the trees on the green, so look out for the improvements.

Recreation Ground

Over the past few weeks, several residents have enquired about who can use the recreation ground and for what purposes. The land was donated by a former parishioner for the sole purpose of providing a play area in the village for the use of children under the age of 16. Obviously there is no problem with parents accompanying small children. The holding of any other events there is at the discretion of the holding charity, of which all the Parish Councillors are trustees.

The play equipment has all been cleaned and any necessary remedial work carried out. We hope the above clarifies the situation and that children will continue to enjoy using the facilities provided.

Budget 2024-25

The council has agreed the budget for next year and further information will be given in the next issue of the KK. If however any organisation is in need of funding for equipment or projects please do not hesitate to contact our clerk Emma or Councillor Ian Massey. All ideas will be considered by the council at our January meeting.

Parking issues

There have again been several complaints about inconsiderate parking around the village especially at school drop-off and collection times. Parking on corners is, as you will know, illegal as it is very dangerous. The George has offered the use of their parking areas during school drop off and collection times. Would parents please use this as it is only a short walk to the school from there.

(Cont. on page 4)

(Cont. from page 3)

Whilst mentioning The George, there have also been problems with parking around this area during the hotel's opening times. Can I please ask customers, to park with care and consideration for those living nearby.

Kilsby Village Shop

I am sure we all recognise the benefit to the village of the Shop and the significant contribution it makes to village life. The Council has decided to support the Shop and its committee over the next few years and look forward to working with them and to helping them make it a real success. The Shop cannot operate without volunteers and they would really like to hear from anyone willing to give some time to work there - even an hour a week would be helpful.

Kilsby Kronickle

I am sure you will all agree that the KK and the information it contains (whether it is read online or in paper form) is very useful and should be kept going.

The three current editors, have decided they would like to step aside during 2024 and are looking for replacements to carry the magazine forward. If you feel this is something you might be interested in doing, please do get in touch with Chris Lomas at lomdoucd@gmail.com or on 822650. She and the team would be very pleased to speak with you.

In the meantime, we would all like to thank them for the remarkable job they do and have done over the years.

The Council would all like to thank you for the support you have given us through 2023 and wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. I look forward to talking with you again in 2024.

Howard Gibbs, Chairman, Kilsby P C



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FROM EUR ING CLLR ALAN CHANTLER CEng FBCS CITP

Assistant Cabinet Member for Planning and Rural Affairs, West Northamptonshire Council

(email: alan.chantler@westnorthants.gov.uk Tel: 07730986253)

Young adults leaving care in West Northamptonshire will receive automatic discounts on their Council Tax bills under new plans agreed by Cabinet. Starting from April 2024, a discretionary Council Tax discount will be automatically applied to the accounts of eligible Care Leavers aged 18-21, after considering other applicable discounts and exemptions.

Proposals for the future of waste and recycling services in West Northamptonshire have taken a step forward. Following a public consultation held over the summer, which received more than 3,000 responses, the strategy, which has been agreed by Cabinet, has been tailored to improve further the alignment with our communities' priorities and values. This will mean that the three-weekly black bin collection in the Daventry Area will probably change to fortnightly.

People with real housing needs including members of the Armed Forces, veterans and their families, care leavers, and victims of domestic abuse will benefit from a new housing allocations scheme. The scheme, which will be adopted from April 2024, has been developed following a 10-week public consultation and will provide an aligned and harmonised approach to ensuring that the area's valuable housing resources go to those most in need.

The government has announced that funding released by the abandonment of the northern extension to HS2 will be distributed to local authorities for road maintenance. This means that West Northamptonshire will receive a further 80 million pounds over the next 11 years to be spent on road resurfacing rather than just pothole filling.

Progress on developing a new Local Plan has been slower than anticipated, largely due to the number of responses received from the first round of consultation. The next round of consultation, originally expected in the summer, has been delayed. Following the assessment of housing and economic development required until 2041, it is now calculated that in that period we shall require an extra 3,000 houses and a further 9.5 Hectares of employment land. This is in addition to the numbers included in the current Plans. No decisions have yet been made as to where the extra development should be located. It is probable that the next consultation exercise will take place in the new year. Currently it is not anticipated that a new settlement will be required.

Remember that we are here to serve you and should you seek clarification or guidance on any local matters please get in touch.



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.

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FROM WARD COUNCILLOR ROSIE HUMPHREYS

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

West Northants Council has responded to the cost of living crisis by setting up an online support hub and phonenumber to help residents. Details are:

[Cost of living support | West Northamptonshire Council \(westnorthants.gov.uk\)](http://www.westnorthants.gov.uk) Tel 0300 126 7000.

The webpage is designed to be user friendly and contains lots of information on accessing grants, money and debt advice, government funding, links to local community organisations and warm community spaces.

At present the Council has a total of 93 councillors. The Local Boundary Commission for England has decided that this number should be reduced to 77 and the first of two consultations on a boundary review recently closed. There will be further consultation in February-April next year on the proposed new pattern of wards. The Council has submitted a new draft pattern with some significant changes for villages in the current Braunston and Crick ward. Kilsby would remain part of a ward with just the villages of Crick, Barby and Onley. The proposal is to make it a single member ward only.

The reason for grouping these villages is that they share facilities and the impact of DIRFT is a common

issue for them all. This seems to ignore the fact that Lilbourne and Yelvertoft are also very close to DIRFT and also share services. Residents will be able to have their say about these proposals, and about being represented by a single councillor, at the second consultation next year.

Recently I met a group of young people representing the Northampton Youth Forum at an event for UK Parliament Week. I had my first experience of a political "speed date" where groups visited councillors at a table to ask questions and then circulated to another table. Many of the excellent questions asked were about environmental issues and how schools could be made greener. Secondary schools in West Northants could look at the example of the all year group eco-committee of Guilsborough School, which earlier this year was awarded an Eco-Schools Green Flag. Youth Forums are also planned for the Daventry and Towcester areas. When I have more information I will let Kilsby Youth Club know.

With my best wishes to all residents for a merry Christmas and happy New Year.

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in Kilsby Village Hall
- Dancing to 'Jack in the Pulpit' -

Saturday 2nd March 2024

Tickets £10
on sale in January from:
Caroline Grey - 07960026796 or
Keren Wood - 01788 822456



Numbers will be restricted to 50 to give plenty of room for dancing, so ring to reserve your tickets in advance to avoid disappointment!

WALKING GROUP

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

The dates and start times of the next walks are:

Thursday 7th December 9.30 am
 Thursday 28th December 11.00 am.
 Thursday 4th January 9.30 am
 Sunday 21st January 10.00 am

There is no Sunday walk in December as people are busy getting ready for Christmas. Instead we offer a walk between Christmas and New Year, on 28th December, over to Crick and back with a lunch stop at The Wheatsheaf.

Other walks are usually circular and between 6-8 miles with a lunch stop, hopefully at a pub for the use of the facilities. There is usually a short drive to the start of the walk.

The meeting place is Chapel Street outside the White House.

KILSBY HISTORY SOCIETY

(From Diana Smith, Tel: 822197)

Our next talk will be on Thursday 18th January and is entitled:

'The History of Medieval Bugbrooke'.

Bugbrooke is a Northamptonshire village near Towcester with a fascinating past.

The speaker is John Deacon. He has visited us before and gave us a talk about the Princes in the Tower.

The meeting starts at 7.30 p.m. in the Kilsby Room and the fee is £3 for members and £5 for visitors.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available.

Everyone is welcome.

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KILSBY ACTION GROUP

(kilsbyaction@gmail.com or call/text 07952 404305)

KAG wants to say 'thank you' to all the people who supported the quiz night. We had a cracking social evening; many people have told us how much they enjoyed it!! The bar was a great success and the FISH & CHIPS provided by Oliver's in Hillmorton were a big hit!! We want to thank the Red Lion for providing a prize for the winning team. We are delighted to report that the evening raised £863 which is a fantastic boost to the 'fighting fund'.



CAMPAIGN UPDATES

Barby Road

West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) have confirmed that they have received a revised planning application for 19 homes. This will be subject to consultation, and that process should start within a couple of weeks of the delivery of this magazine.

We will then need everybody's help in objecting against the latest proposal.

As this is two years since the original consultation was delivered by Richborough we are somewhat bemused that they are bringing a revised scheme now. Their key arguments are unchanged and KAG will be instructing a planning consultant with the money the community have kindly provided.

DIRFT to Kilsby Commercial Development . Spatial Options site 3B

We have reported that this site is one of the sites being considered in the upcoming local plan. We regard it as critical that this continues to be robustly opposed because building on that green space down the A5 will remove all the buffer between the village and the industrial area at DIRFT.

The target dates for the Draft Local Plan have been continually moved and currently the date is March 2024. We have had a productive meeting with senior officers at WNC on the 27th of November and will continue dialogue with them and will defend Kilsby's position.

Please join our mailing list. Contact: kilsbyaction@gmail.com /What's App group 07952 404305 and we will add you; OR our Facebook Page @kilsbyaction so we can keep you updated.

KILSBY CHURCH 100 CLUB

September Winners

£40 (27) J Meith; £30 (39) L Pyne;
£20 (75) J Bartlett; £20 (56) H Grainger;
£10 (49) D Hoskins

October Winners

£40 (10) H Bartlett; £30 (7) A Rogerson;
£20 (61) W Clarke; £20 (16) B Prendergast;
£10 (6) R Thompson



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The Red Lion Christmas Events in December

Saturday 2nd from 9pm
Live Music from The Tunnelers



Thursday 7th from 7pm
Live Saxophone Music by Pelham



Sunday 17th from 8pm
Christmas Quiz Night

Thursday 21st from 7pm
Live Music - Christmas Crooners by Dave

Friday 22nd from 9pm - Live DJ
Christmas Party



Sunday 31st from 9pm - Live DJ
New Years Eve Party



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Christmas and New Year at St Faith's

(From Fiona Gibbs, Churchwarden,
Tel:07965 207852)

Christmas is fast approaching and with it one of the busiest times of the church year. Following the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 2nd December, we begin Advent on Sunday 3rd December with a special joint Holy Communion service at St Mary's, Barby. This will be led by the Ven. Richard Ormston, the Archdeacon of Northampton.

At 10am on Sunday 10th December we will celebrate the Second Sunday of Advent with a Holy Communion service in St Faith's. The following week on Sunday 17th December we will be holding our



traditional Carols by Candlelight at 6.00 pm. One of the highlights of the year in the village, this is a celebration of Christmas for all the family. It is wonderful to see the church lit by candlelight for this special event and you are all encouraged to bring your own candles with you too, in safe, secure holders, and lanterns to join in this celebration of light. As usual the service will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies.



On Christmas Eve there will be no morning service at St Faith's, but we are very pleased to be holding a Midnight Mass for the first time in many years. Starting at 11.30 pm, we will welcome in Christmas Day with a service of Holy Communion,

complete with carols, readings and hopefully even church bells. For those who would prefer a Christmas morning service, there will be a 10.00 am Holy Communion at St Mary's, Barby.

On New Year's Eve (Sunday 31st December) there will be a joint benefice service at St Faith's at 10.00 am. The services will then return to the usual pattern of 10.00 am Holy Communion on the second and fourth Sundays of each month.

Full details of services at St Faith's during December and January are shown on page 18. For these and

also details of services at our sister church of St Mary's Barby, see also the church website

www.stfaithskilsby.org.uk

or follow us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/stfaithskilsby

Throughout the ongoing interregnum, we thank Rev Liz Cowley for her dedication, love and support to St Faith's and our congregation. We look forward to continuing to work with her in 2024.

Church theft

As you may have already heard on the village grapevine, at some point between our church services on Sunday 22nd October and Sunday 12th November someone stole the sound system and a number of other items from St Faith's Church. We aren't sure exactly when it happened, but we believe it was during the daytime when the church was open.

Did anyone see anything out of the ordinary around the church in the last few weeks – items being carried out of the building, a van parked nearby, any suspicious behaviour? Any information, no matter how small, could help us pin point when the theft happened and could be useful to the police.

Thank you for your assistance.

WANTED NEW EDITORIAL TEAM FOR KRONICKLE

The three current editors want to step down at the end of March (after the production of the April-May edition) and we are looking for new people to take on our roles.

We put together the magazine every second month using contributions sent to us by people in the village and advertisers, arrange for it to be printed in Rugby and collect it and take it to John and Brenda Beeston who arrange distribution and delivery. We also send out invoices, on behalf of the Parish Council, to advertisers.

Printing costs are funded by the Parish Council but we have full editorial independence and the job is great fun and gets you involved with all sorts of things which are going on in the village.

We very much hope that three younger people will come forward to take over the magazine, which we know from comments we receive is valued and enjoyed by many in the village.

If you would like more information about what is involved please contact Chris Lomas on 822650 or at lomdoucd@gmail.com

Merry
Christmas to all
our customers &
a very happy
New Year




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Last Orders 28th November



Christmas Calendars & our
Yester-Year Sweets

Day **3**



Great range of
Christmas Biscuits &
Gingerbread

Day



5



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Merry Christmas



Our Christmas Hampers - you
choose what you would like.
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6



Sercombes amazing
Christmas meats &
pies. Last orders
28th November

Day **7**



Day **8**

Christmas Gifts



Day **9**

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Day **10**

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Scrumptious
Cakes



Day **11**

Chocolate
Gifts




Day **12**

Our fabulous selection of
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& Ales plus non-Alcoholic range

KILSBY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

(From Karen Gilmurray, Tel: 823939, with additional material from Susan Thomas)

We had a fascinating tour of the Lord Leicester Hospital in Warwick, guided by John, one of the brethren who live there. This medieval building has been home to retired soldiers for most of its life and whilst each brother has their own apartment they have the Brothers' Kitchen, the Guild Hall and the Chapel where they can meet, eat and enjoy services together. The gardens and the café were a delight, the gambling chair is intriguing and I loved the lion with its tongue sticking out! (See pictures below.)



In October, we welcomed Adrian Perkins and Lewis Dellar. whp are our local Mulder and Scully! Well, sort of... Adrian is a believer whilst Lewis is more sceptical. They investigate people's experiences of the paranormal. Adrian saw a ghost when he was 6 and became intrigued by the concept. Lewis is more sceptical and tries to find scientific explanations for any 'odd' event. Ghosts generally are seen as

'recordings' of events which replay themselves. Spirits seem to interact and are often seen as trying to give a warning or a message. They can sometimes cause a physical manifestation. Many people experience things they can't obviously explain and whilst many of these, once investigated, will turn out to have a rational explanation, just a few do not. In these cases, after investigation Adrian and Lewis may agree that you've seen a ghost!

Then, on a cold, dark night in November we had a lovely presentation by Grant Bowles who lives in Kilsby and has his own business as a Travel Counsellor. Grant told us all about the types of holidays he can arrange and the excellent customer service on which he prides himself. Grant is independent and uses many suppliers to ensure he can get the best possible packages for his clients. He provides a 24 hour service while you are away so he is just a call or click away if he is needed.

We were all impressed by Grant's knowledge, professionalism and enthusiasm and many of us are now thinking about planning our trips in 2024!



There is no meeting in December as we hold our annual Christmas Party, so our next meeting will be in January 2024. Our meetings are at 7.30 pm on the second Thursday of each month in the village hall. Visitors are welcome - it's just £5.

In January Barry Watson will regale us with stories of life on the canals. Then in February we'll hear from Kate Mawer who'll tell us all about uncovering the history of a Northamptonshire farmhouse.



Kilsby Christmas Tree Committee



Kilsby Christmas Tree Event Saturday 2nd December 2023



Designed by: Alexandra Field, age 6, winner of the Kilsby Christmas Tree Competition

Come and join us outside the **Kilsby Village Shop, Main Road** at **4.30 pm** on **Saturday 2nd December**. Father Christmas will be joining us, and we will then parade along Essen Lane and Independent Street to the village green.

Father Christmas will switch on the Christmas Tree lights at **5.00 pm** with the help of Alexandra.

There will be mulled wine and mince pies for the adults. Thanks to the contributions of the Kilsby Christmas Tree Lottery, these will all be free of charge. There will be doughnuts and candy floss for sale.

There will also be live music from 'The Tunnellers'.

Kilsby Garden and Produce Association



(From Robin Nicholls, Tel: 07807 694524)

The end of another successful year, with the 2023 AGM taking place on 21st November. This was well attended, and we all enjoyed a presentation by Liz Taylor of The Woodland Trust, followed by mulled wine and nibbles. Whoever thought there was so much to learn about trees?

We thank everyone who has contributed to the activities of the Association this year, and welcome new Committee members Jan Odell, Judy Ayton, Anne Cole and Chileen De Beer, who will, no doubt, bring new ideas for next season.

After a year of interesting and enjoyable trips and events, the programme for 2024 is now being put together, and suggestions for new venues for trips would be much appreciated.

The 2024 Produce Show plans will be finalised early in the year and will have some changes to the

competition categories. The Photo competition topics will be;

1. A single tree
2. Fungi

Membership fees for 2024 will be unchanged at £5 per household, and new members are welcome to contact any of the committee for further information or to join us. With member discounts at both Barby and Whilton Garden Centres, the benefits are well worth the subscription.



COMMUNITY BULB PLANTING

(From Councillor Ian Weston, Tel: 823332; photograph courtesy of Diane Graham)

A small group of villagers and I recently planted 400 daffodil and 120 crocus bulbs on a number of sites: Devon Ox Green, Malt Mill Green and three other grass areas around the village. Hopefully they will brighten up Kilsby in the spring. I have just received a further 200 snowdrops for planting.

Many thanks to the volunteers for their help.





I can't save you a sun-bed by the pool...

..but I can arrange a wake-up call for you every morning.

Whether catching some sun is your thing or you're more about catching the waves, I will help you navigate new waters and take on the world.

Ready to go? I'm here to help you get it done. Say hi today!

Grant Bowles

YOUR PERSONAL TRAVEL COUNSELLOR

Kilsby (01788) 670038

Grant.Bowles@travelcounsellors.com

<https://www.travelcounsellors.co.uk/grant.bowles/>



Kilsby Village Shop

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



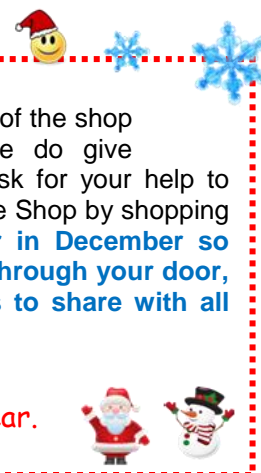
Our fabulous Christmas produce from all our local suppliers is starting to arrive. To avoid disappointment, you can place an order by popping into the shop for an order form, or give Sarah and the team a call on **07469 255517** or email villageshopkilsby@gmail.com. Don't forget we still offer a **free delivery service** within Kilsby. See further details of our Christmas produce on page 11. As the weather starts to get colder; remember your shop is now stocking winter fuel. We have kindling, kiln dried logs and firelighters.

On behalf of your Village Shop Committee, we would like to give special thanks to Sarah, and to our part timers that we sadly had to let go in October and of course to all our amazing volunteers who have given their time to work in the shop over the last year. Thank you also to George who has done a fabulous job again this year with the shop garden rockery. Without the dedication and support of our shop manager Sarah and all our volunteers we would not have our fabulous Village Shop. **THANK YOU TO YOU ALL.** You are all part of a very special amazing team.



Finally, to all our customers a **HUGE THANK YOU** for your continued support of the shop especially over the last year. Please do give thought for your Village Shop, as we ask for your help to ensure the longevity of your Kilsby Village Shop by shopping local. **We will be sending out a flyer in December so please keep a look out for it popping through your door, as we have some very exciting news to share with all our customers.**

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year.



KILSBY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

(From Val Janes, Tel: 822751)

Mission Statement

The purpose of this Church is to provide a warm and welcoming place for all people, of any age, to worship and to learn about Faith.

Services

Sunday mornings at 11.00 am

December

3rd Mr Keith Bishop
10th Mr Trevor Boys
17th Pastor Cecil Gill Carol Service

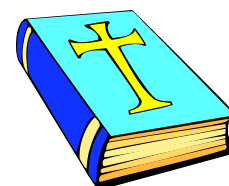
Sunday mornings at 10.30 am

January

7th Rev Iain Muir
14th Mrs Dorn Margetts
21st Pastor Cecil Gill Holy Communion
28th Mr David and Mrs Pat Biddle

Scrabble

Wednesdays 1.00 pm - 4.00 pm.
Please come and enjoy yourself.
Coffee and cake.
£2.00 per session.



Sewing Group

Twice a month Friday 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm.
Everyone is welcome..

Community Café

Mondays 9.00 am - 12.00 noon
Thursdays 9.00 am - 12.00 noon

The café will close on Tuesday 19th December until Thursday 4th January.

Carol Service:

11.00 am on Sunday 17th December.
Please come and enjoy yourselves.

NATURE NOTES - JULY 2023

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

Hedgehog activity in our garden has been quiet recently; maybe as we've cut down on the feeding to discourage foxes. I've heard from other people around the village that hogs are still visiting so hopefully they're fattening themselves up nicely for their months of hibernation. We have seen some little bits of evidence, so I am confident that as so many villagers give them space to shelter and access through their gardens, they should be doing fine.

We're not getting huge numbers of birds in the garden, so I assume they are still finding plenty to eat in the hedgerows. However, they will be back so make sure your garden feeders are ready stocked. An idea we've tried to use up an excess of peanuts is to chop them up in a liquidiser – it is a good thing to do this as larger pieces can be dangerous for nestlings in the Spring.

Look out for winter thrushes – Fieldfares, Redwings and Mistle Thrushes which will be eating through the berries in the fields and hedgerows. If you've got fruit in the garden and the weather turns frosty, you might well see them visiting the garden for a fruity snack.

Have you ever heard of a Waxwing (Bohemian Waxwing to be totally accurate)? They are a stunning bird species which breed in Scandinavia and often migrate to other parts of Europe in large flocks in the winter in search of berries, usually hawthorn and rowan, often in gardens and suburban streets. This year they have arrived in large numbers mainly in Scotland and NE England and they are a treat to see. About 12 years ago, I had a couple briefly visit my garden in Kilsby which was amazing. This year we have been lucky enough to see about 20 in south-west Scotland. I will keep my fingers crossed that they'll venture to the Midlands in the next few weeks. Apparently, their livers are adapted to cope with eating frosted and semi-fermented berries which presumably allows them to continue flying when under the influence!

Along with Waxwings, many bird species migrate vast distances every year to seek food which helps them be fit enough to breed when they return home and also simply to survive. The techniques they use are also amazing. They use physical landmarks such as coasts and rivers; stars and the sun; the earth's magnetic field or just following other birds (hoping they are going in the right direction). It is a dangerous and exhausting business so it's a real wonder that so many birds reach their destinations in one piece, particularly the really tiny species.

GARDENERS' CORNER

Another long summer...

Our dahlias aren't frosted yet, but the flowers have lost all their colour. Ten years ago I was writing of the first frosts at the beginning of November! It's still very mild (and wet) so is November the new October? Of course that is no guarantee we won't be frozen in a couple of weeks time.

Don't tidy up

It's too wet to get on the ground, so take advantage of the latest fashion which is to leave foliage standing to give winter homes for insects. Just clear things that have fallen over your paths and leave the tidying until the spring.

Put the compost heap to bed

If you want some good compost in the spring then turn your compost heap now, adding water if necessary so that it is not too dry. But mind the toad! Our heap always has a toad in it which I move on to the next heap with appropriate apologies for the disturbance. Then cover it (the heap, not the toad) and leave it to rot down over the winter. It should be ready for use by April.

Jobs to do in December

Plant that garlic you should have planted in November!

Clean the paths of moss and mould.

Sit in the warm finishing your planting plan for next year.

Order any remaining seeds and plants

Jobs to do in January

Clean, wash and fumigate your greenhouse.

Start winter pruning of fruit trees.

Fork over round your bulbs and top dress with bonemeal.

Later in the month, sow tomatoes in warmth for early crops

Times past...

From "Directions for the Gardiner", John Evelyn, 1664:-

"Vines should be pruned all the winter, before any sap rises, lest they bleed to death.

Clense all fruit trees from what too much hinders the sunn & aire, especially, within the bodies of standards and dwarf trees, which keepe hollow like a bell.

In summer pruning vines & wall fruite, expose it not naked to the sunn, but discretely thin the leaves where there is occasion; for too much baring, shrivells and exhausts the fruite."

Good Gardening!

Ron Nichle

NEWS FROM KILSBY SCHOOL

(From Karen Burton
K.burton@kilsbyinnovatemat.org)

We have had a very busy first couple of terms approaching Christmas.

The new Reception children have settled really well into their class and the school routines. They have mainly been concentrating on their letter and number formations, and also learning phonics. In RE they have been learning about Christianity and the key features of the religion including the importance of the Bible, the Cross, Church and Jesus. Their topic at the moment is 'Happy to be me' and they have been learning all about their 5 senses, and feelings, including how music can affect emotions.

Something they really enjoy is when a secret reader comes into their class unexpectedly, to read them a story. Sometimes it is another teacher or a child's Mum or their Granny! Who will it be next?

In September, staff held a phonics session for parents where they discovered what phonics is and how it is taught at Kilsby; how they could support their child at home; and all the vocabulary/technical terms. Also, just before half term we held an informal open afternoon for parents when they could come into school and drop in to see their child's teacher to find out how the child is getting on.



Cedar & Elder classes (Yr2 & Yr5) enjoyed a fantastic trip to the National Space Centre on 10th October. They had great fun exploring the galleries, exhibitions,

spaceport, rocket tower and the planetarium.

We had our Harvest Festival on Wednesday 4th October at St Faith's Church. As we are without a vicar at the moment, Mrs Sensecall led the service.

All the classes participated in some way either by reading a poem, or displaying their harvest artwork. It was a lovely service and afterwards coffee and cake was served in school. We would like to thank all the parents who, together with their children, put together some beautiful harvest gift boxes.



We hope all those villagers who received one were happy with their gift. If you know of anyone you think should have received a harvest gift box, who didn't this year, please contact me on the email address above and we will make sure they are not missed out next year. (Thank you to those villagers who have already contacted us).

Year 6 enjoyed a day out at London's Science Museum on Wednesday 18th October. They travelled there and back by train. Once they arrived in London, first



stop was McDonalds for lunch, then on to the Science Museum. It was a great experience for them, especially the travelling by train!

We held a Scholastic Book Fair in school for a week in November, a great opportunity for parents to purchase the odd Christmas gift and at the same time, earning free books for our school.

During October and November some of the KS2 children have been taking part in various different sporting activities and competitions such as kurling, boccia, football and tag rugby, and some KS1 children took part in a multi-skills sports festival, all against other schools in our iMAT group and from the area. The children really enjoyed taking part in these events and, as always, displayed great sportsmanship.



After the autumn break, the Year 1 children in Cherry class enjoyed a trip to Warwick castle! We are so lucky to have this beautiful castle on our doorstep. The children had

a brilliant day out exploring, learning and playing. They even saw an amazing falconry display!

KSA organised a spectacular BBQ & Fireworks Night on the evening of Thursday 2nd November. It was a great success and everyone really enjoyed the evening which included hotdogs, a bar and dancing as well as fireworks. A huge 'thank you' to our hardworking KSA members. This event was really well organised, and hopefully we will see a repeat next year!

At the end of October, we held a 'Pink' day when

everyone came to school dressed in something pink bringing a donation for breast cancer research. Also, on Friday 17th November we came to school dressed in something spotty bringing a donation for Children in Need.



The whole school walked round to St Faith's churchyard to stand by the War Memorial on Friday 10th November to pay our respects and remember all those who sacrificed their lives for us during the

World Wars. Two of the Year 6 children read a prayer and gave a reading and we held a two minute silence. Howard Gibbs, who is one of our governors and also Chair of the Parish Council, joined us, along with some of his fellow councillors.

The Year 3 children in Hazel class are looking forward to an interesting Stone Age experience day in their class later in November. They have a visitor coming to their classroom to help bring the Stone Age to life!

The Year 4's in Hawthorn class have been learning all about the Vikings, as well as writing playscripts,

SEASONS GREETING FROM THE VILLAGE HALL

The Hall has enjoyed a very busy year with both regular bookings and many parties. We are now back to our usual pre lockdown levels and looking to the future. We are continuing to look at the feasibility of the Hall to ensure the sustainability for the future. If anyone would be interested in joining the group, they would be very welcome.

The film nights will be running again from March 2024 and everyone is very welcome to come along and enjoy a pleasant evening and have a chance to meet new people in the village.

We are still seeking new members for the committee for the role of secretary and booking secretary to assist with the day to day running of the hall. The roles are not onerous, and you would be working as part of the committee to maintain the smooth running of the hall. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact either Julie Bunyan on 07940 525272 or Marj Mills on 01788 823178.

The committee wishes everyone a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year, and looks forward to seeing you in 2024.

Studying river systems, working on expanded noun phrases, taking part in Forest School sessions, learning the samba and much more!

As usual we have a lot planned for the Christmas period including:

- A Christingle service at St Faiths' Church at 9.30 am on Tuesday 5th December;
- Our Christmas Fayre, which will be on Wednesday 6th December after school from 3.30 pm – 5.30 pm;
- The KS1 Christmas performances, which will take place on 12th December at 2.00 pm and 13th December at 4.30 pm;
- The children's Christmas Lunch, which is on Wednesday 13th December;
- KS2 Carols by Candlelight service at St Faith's Church on Monday 18th December;
- The children's parties, which will take place during the afternoon of Wednesday 20th December, the day we break up for Christmas.

Finally, you might be interested to know that we now have a Facebook page for 'Kilsby CE Primary School', so you can keep updated as to what is going on in school whenever you like!

NEWS FROM ST FAITH'S

(From Gill Mason, Churchwarden, Tel: 822658)

Services at St Faith's

December

3rd	10.00 am	Holy Communion at Barby Celebrant - the Archdeacon of Northampton
5th	9.30 am	School Christingle Service
10th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
17th	6.00 pm	Carols by Candlelight
24th	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass
31st	10.00 am	Joint Benefice Holy Communion

January

14th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
28th	10.00 am	Holy Communion

Christmas Bazaar

Reminder of the Christmas Bazaar in the church on Saturday 2nd December from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.

CRICK MEDICAL PRACTICE

(From Eddie Taken, Tel: 822068)

Christmas and New Year Period

The surgery arrangements for the holiday period are:

FRIDAY 15th DECEMBER

OPEN 8.00 am to 8.00 pm (last day to order repeat prescriptions before Christmas)

MONDAY 18th DECEMBER

OPEN 8.00 am to 8.00 pm

TUESDAY 19th DECEMBER

OPEN 8.00 am to 6.30 pm

WEDNESDAY 20th DECEMBER

OPEN 8.00 am to 8.00 pm (last day to order repeat prescriptions before New Year)

THURSDAY 21st DECEMBER

OPEN 8.00 am to 6.30 pm

FRIDAY 22nd DECEMBER

OPEN 8.00 am to 6.30 pm

SATURDAY 23rd /SUNDAY 24th DECEMBER CLOSED

MONDAY 25th DECEMBER

CLOSED – Christmas Day Bank Holiday

TUESDAY 26th DECEMBER

CLOSED – Boxing Day Bank Holiday

WEDNESDAY 27th DECEMBER

OPEN 8.00 am to 8.00 pm

THURSDAY 28th DECEMBER

OPEN 8.00 am to 6.30 pm

FRIDAY 29th DECEMBER

OPEN 8.00am to 6.30pm

SATURDAY 30th /SUNDAY 31st DECEMBER CLOSED

MONDAY 1st JANUARY CLOSED

New Year's Day Bank Holiday

TUESDAY 2nd JANUARY

OPEN 8.00 am to 6.30 pm

If you need urgent medical assistance when the surgery is closed please dial 111 to speak to the NHS 111 Service. If you have a life threatening medical emergency please dial 999

Staff Training

The surgery will be closed for staff training on Wednesday 13th December from 12.30 pm. It will re-open at 6.30 pm, for booked appointments only until 8.00 pm, and for prescription collection until 7.30 pm.

Buckby Library & Hub

Arts and crafts sale: we will be having a pre-Christmas 'Under £20' sale of arts and crafts during December. The sale will include handmade bookmarks and gift tags, Christmas cards, tree decorations and small paintings. Come along during opening hours and find gifts for family and friends.

West Northants Council monthly drop-in sessions: the next session is on Friday, December 15th, 10.30-12.30. Feel free to come along with your questions or concerns.

Our December film: on Tuesday, December 19th, come and see *Champions*: 'Woody Harrelson stars in a heart-warming and funny tale of a former minor-league basketball coach who, after some personal trouble receives a court order to train up a team of players with intellectual disabilities. Despite his doubts, he soon realizes that together they can go further than they ever imagined.' Doors open 7.00 pm for a 7.30 start. Get your tickets from the Library & Hub or the Peephole in the High Street in Long Buckby: £7. Refreshments available.

The Crimbo Limbo Magic Show! This will take place on 27th December at 1.30pm. A balloon for every child! Tickets from the library & hub: £5 per child; accompanying adults free.

Art exhibition: our January art exhibition in the refreshment area will be paintings by Paula Jones. Do come along!

Our January film is *Living* on Tuesday 30th: 'In 1950s London, a humourless bureaucrat decides to take time off work to experience life after receiving a grim diagnosis. Influenced by a local decadent and vibrant woman, he continues to search for meaning until a simple revelation gives him a purpose to create a legacy for the next generation.' Doors open 7.00 pm for a 7.30 start. Tickets from the Library & Hub or the Peephole in the High Street in Long Buckby: £7. Refreshments available.

Christmas closure dates: Saturday 23rd December and Wednesday 27th, except for the magic show. We are open as normal from 28th.

Do check the website for our regular activities. You can find our calendar here:

<https://buckbylibraryhub.org/calendar/>

<https://buckbylibraryhub.org;info@buckby;>

info@buckbylibraryhub.org; Tel: 01327 842591

Seasonal greetings to all!

KILSBY OIL CLUB

The next order points for the Oil Club are:
Friday 5th January and Friday 1st March 2024.

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

Floodlight Commemorations At St Faith's

27th October	In memory of Pauline Elliman Happy Birthday
11th December	In memory of Dora and Malcolm Cant
25th December - 1st January	Cherished memories of Ray, dearly loved Husband, Dad and Grandad Sheila and family

Kilsby Christmas Tree Committee

Sharon King, 07508228736



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 November was drawn on Saturday 11th November and was 135. Well done to Ron and Rosemary Mason who won £63. The lucky number for October was drawn on Saturday 14th October and was 125. Well done to Elaine Morrice who won £63.

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 2023 which will take place on **Saturday 2nd December 2023**.

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
December	9 th December 2023
January	13 th January 2024
February	10 th February 2024

The money we raise from the lottery allows us to put on the event for free each year. If you would like to join the lottery, for just £1 a week, please contact Sharon King on 0750 8228736, Annabel Davies, 07511296446 or email kilsbychristmastree@gmail.com for more information.

Thank you
 Kilsby Christmas Tree Committee



KILSBY KRONICKLE
Kids Korner



Decorate a snowman!

Draw on a hat, scarf, coat and anything else you like. If you need some help, use the pictures at the top of the page for inspiration...



Things to do in December and January

Go to the St Faith's Christmas Bazaar

Go to the Christmas Tree event

Go to the WI Christmas Party

Go to a Carol or Christmas service

Go on a Walking Group walk

Go to the History Society talk

Volunteer to help edit Kronickle

Take on role of Secretary or Booking Secretary for the Village Hall


Book for the Ceilidh in March

Volunteer to help at the Village Shop

Volunteer to organise Speedwatch




The deadline for the next issue is Sunday 21st January 2024



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WANTED

New editors for Kronickle (page 1 and page 10)

New coordinator for Speedwatch (page 3)

Suggestions of land for new wood/play area (page 3)

Suggestions for siting of bench (page 3)

Ideas for how to commemorate D-Day (page 3)

Volunteers to work in the Village Shop (page 4)

Secretary and Booking Secretary for Village Hall (page 18)

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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-  07961 378418
-  www.rugbyphysio.com
-  admin@rugbyphysio.com



We are open over the Festive Period so do not let those ache and pains spoil your time with family and friends. Just give us a call to book in to see one of our physiotherapists.

Stay active over the Christmas period and try not to eat too many mince pies.

**Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas
& a Happy New Year.**