

October-November 2011
Edition No. 82

Kilsby Kronickle

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

October

Sunday 16 October
Walking Group walk

Saturday 22 October
Parish /District Councillors' Surgery
PCSO Surgery

Wednesday 26 October
St. Faith's SC Coffee Morning

Thursday 27 October
Rugby Decorative & Fine Arts Assn.

Saturday 29 October
Twinning Assn. Wine-Tasting

Sunday 30 October
Clocks go back

November

Thursday 3 November
Garden & Produce Assn. AGM

Sunday 6 November
Entries for Drawing Comp. Close

Thursday 10 November
History Society Talk

Saturday 12 November
St. Faith's Christmas Fair

Saturday 19 November
St. Faith's SC Quiz

Sunday 20 November
Walking Group walk

Thursday 24 November
KSA Indulgence Evening
Rugby Decorative & Fine Arts Assn.

Saturday 26 November
Twinning Assn. Kitchen Maestro evening

Sunday 27 November
Art Group Exhibition

December (early notice)

Saturday 3 December
Christmas Tree event

Tuesday 6 December
St. Faith's SC Christmas Coffee Morning



In this edition we have two very interesting stories about the history of Kilsby. One is fictional, imagining the early days of the Kilsby WI (which celebrates its 90th Anniversary in October). The other is the true story of a boy from Kilsby who was killed in World War 1. Both are well worth reading.

Elsewhere we have guidance from the Police on how to have a safe and happy Halloween and Bonfire Night, and lots of information of events planned for the lead-up to the Christmas season - including, once again, a competition for children to draw a Christmas tree. Food and wine are to the fore with two events planned by the Twinning Association for October and November.

Kilsby Oil Club has sadly lost one of its two founder/organisers and is appealing for volunteers to help run it in the future, whilst Northamptonshire ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) is asking for views on a proposal to run a community-based county-wide oil buying scheme which could support the Kilsby Oil Club.

The Parish Council is still looking for new members so if you would like to be involved in serving the local community in this way then do get in touch with the Clerk to the Council.

Once again the issue of dog fouling in the village has had to be raised. Despite the provision of 'dog poo' boxes all around the village some dog owners are still allowing their pets to leave mess on the pavements making the village unsightly and dangerous. The Parish Council will be asking the Daventry Dog Warden to patrol in the village so irresponsible dog owners have been warned.

Finally, it is heartening to read of the success of the 'Afternoon Tea' fund-raiser for breast cancer, which raised a very significant amount of money despite appalling weather on the day. The Garden and Produce Show also attracted tremendous support this year. The picture of a balloon over Pytchley Gardens (above) was one of those exhibited at the Show. It is good to live in a village with such a strong community spirit and willingness to be involved.

KILSBY PARISH COUNCIL COUNCILLORS

As from 15 June 2011

Name	Address	Tel	Areas of responsibility
Reg Dunn	9 Cowley Way Kilsby, Rugby CV23 8XB	01788 823148	CHAIRMAN of the Council Mowing Planning Committee
Phil Martin	Housemartin 28 Hall Close Kilsby, Rugby CV23 8XZ	01788 822700	VICE CHAIRMAN Police Liaison Kilsby School Governor Neighbourhood Watch
Malcolm Cahill	Copper Beech Montague Drive Kilsby, Rugby CV23 8FP	01788 823833	Environment including litter Statistics
Mrs Wendy Clark	24 Fishers Close Kilsby, Rugby CV23 8XH	01788 823297	Finance Working Party Internal Financial Control Planning Committee/Parish Plan Rights of Way
Mrs Claire Mills	4 Spring Close Kilsby, Rugby CV23 8YZ	01788 823025	Communications Village Hall
Eddie Taken	7 Postle Close Kilsby, Rugby CV23 8YG	01788 822068	Finance Working Party Planning Committee Parish Plan
Mrs Anne Cole	3 The Banks Kilsby, Rugby CV23 8XA	01788 823730	Council Property Planning Committee Parish Plan
Charles Smedley	5 The Lawns Kilsby, Rugby CV23 8YT	01788 822241	Policy Documents Planning Committee Parish Plan
Mark Longmore	The Hollies Main Road Kilsby, Rugby CV23 8XR	01788 823262	Environmental Help Street Lighting
Marie Brown	22 Daventry Road Kilsby, Rugby CV23 8XF	01788 822460	Highways DIRFT/HGVs

*There is one vacant seat on the Parish Council.
Please contact the Clerk if you are interested in becoming a Councillor*

BURIALS - Please contact the Parish Clerk, or Wendy Penman, 2 Malt Mill Green, Kilsby, Tel:01788 822945

District Councillors: Catherine Lomax, 24 Castle Mound, Barby, Rugby CV23 8TN, Tel: 01788 890939
Brian Lomax, 24 Castle Mound, Barby, Rugby, CV23 8TN. Tel: 01788 890939
clomax@daventrydc.gov.uk blomax@daventrydc.gov.uk

County Councillor: Robin Brown, 38 High Stack, Long Buckby, Northampton NN6 7QT. Tel: 01327 842130
rbrown@northamptonshire.gov.uk

DAVENTRY DISTRICT COUNCIL 01327 871100. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL 01604 236236

Clerk to Kilsby Parish Council - Mrs Catherine Camp, 16 Kilsby Road, Barby, Rugby CV23 8TT
Tel: 01788 891184 e-mail parishcouncil@kilsbyvillage.co.uk
Website www.kilsbyvillage.co.uk

KILSBY PARISH COUNCIL - (From Claire Mills Tel: 823025)

New councillor

We are still looking for another volunteer to join the Parish Council. Please have a think about whether you can spare some time to contribute something to the village – if you're new to the village it's a great way to meet people and get to know more about your community. If you would like to volunteer, please email Catherine Camp, Parish Council Clerk on parishcouncil@kilsbyvillage.co.uk with your name and a brief description of what you can offer to the Council – i.e. who you are, what your job is, why you want to be a Councillor.... Alternatively you can phone Catherine on 01788 891184 or write to her at Hophorne Farm, 18 Kilsby Road, Barby CV23 8TT. If you want more information on what being a Parish Councillor involves, please feel free to contact Catherine or myself.

Parish Council Grants

In previous years, various youth groups in the village have applied to the Parish Council for grants, e.g. Guides, Scouts, etc. In order to help us with financial planning for the coming 2012/2013 budget we would ask that any groups wishing to apply for a grant for the next financial year let us know by the end of October. Please apply to the Parish Council Clerk on parishcouncil@kilsbyvillage.co.uk or write to her at the address above.

Launch of Dog Watch

Following the hugely successful launch of Dog Watch in East Northamptonshire and Wellingborough, the Dog Watch team have extended the scheme across the whole county and are keen to invite all members of Community Connect to join as a member.

Dog watch, originally developed in Stevenage as a way of extending the already successful Neighbourhood Watch network to the wider community, caught the attention of local Neighbourhood Watch coordinator Ian Blackburn-Elliott, who along with the Dog Watch team, has introduced the scheme to Northamptonshire.

The scheme recognises it is often those who walk their dogs, runners or anyone who likes to get out and about, who are the first to spot something unusual or amiss, such as criminal damage or an incident of anti-social behaviour, providing valuable eyes and ears for the community.

The scheme is open to anyone aged 16 or over and you do not need to be a member of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme to join Dog Watch. To join the scheme, you can either go to <http://www.northamptonshiredogwatch.co.uk/page5.html>

to complete the online application form or call the Dog Watch team on 03000 111 222 x 5724.

Youth Club

The Youth Club project has successfully started with the provision of football training sessions over the summer on the Recreation Ground. The feedback from the young people has been very positive and Realize (the Youth Club provider) are looking forward to the go ahead from the County Council to start using the School for a Youth Club in the evenings. It was great to hear from 3 of our younger residents at the last Parish Council meeting, who spoke about how terrific they had found the holiday sessions. They also spoke glowingly about the support they had already received from the leaders.

A plea for any equipment donations!

If anyone has any equipment that they no longer use and would be willing to donate to the Youth Club, please could you let the Parish Clerk know. Things like table football, board games, or sports equipment would be really gratefully received, as not having to buy these things will make the grant go further, to further support Kilsby's young residents.

Change of date for Parish Council Surgeries

The date for the next Parish Council Surgery has changed. It will now be held from 10.00 a.m. until 11.00 a.m. in the Kilsby Room on SATURDAY 22nd OCTOBER.

Dates of next meetings

The next meetings of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 11th October and Tuesday 8th November at 7.45 p.m. in the Kilsby Room.

Kilsby Oil Club

(From Bill)

It is with great sadness that I have to report that we have lost Ernie, who passed away on the 31st July 2011.

In order to keep the Oil Club operating in its present format of 'not for profit', I am looking for volunteers, to set up a committee of six people to operate the Club. All the hard work has already been done in setting up the Oil Club so it would not involve a great deal of individual time. One person can operate each buying point, which is spread over two weeks. We could have six buying points per year, giving a better service to our members. We use XL spreadsheets to operate the ordering and buying system, so volunteers will have to have IT skills.

Would any interested persons please email me at kilsbyoilclub@yahoo.co.uk
(Eds. See also page 11.)

FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR CATHERINE LOMAX

(Tel: 890939, 24 Castle Mound, Barby, CV23 8TN, clomax@daventrydc.gov.uk)

I wrote in the last Kilsby Kronickle that Daventry District Council had to find savings of £1 million in this financial year. Part of this will be found by restructuring and reorganising the Council. This process has begun, and we will be watching carefully to ensure that direct services to the public do not suffer.

We will be lobbying the County Council on the question of the mobile libraries, and urging a rethink on the number and location of stops in Kilsby. One area in the ward has already lost the mobile library altogether, and that cannot be allowed to happen in our larger villages.

Monitoring of the noise from the Barby Shooting Club by DDC has now been completed, and we expect to hear what the outcome is shortly. In the meantime monitoring of noise is also taking place in relation to the DIRFT 2 site. I can see that, as the application for DIRFT 3 goes ahead, we must be very clear and robust about the conditions that should be attached to any permission. DDC is only a consultee and the decisions will be made at a national level, but the Planning Committee has already expressed concerns about a number of issues, largely as a result of representations from Kilsby Parish Council, residents and myself.

The A5 and the A361 have again been under discussion. It has been suggested that the speed limit on the A5 from Kilsby to DIRFT may remain at 40 m.p.h. or be set at 50 m.p.h. What seems highly unlikely is that the road will revert to the national speed limit. The question of the speed on the A361 from Daventry to Kilsby is now back on the agenda. This is timely, as the A361 at Wardington/Chacombe will be reopening soon, when lorries will be returning to this short cut between the M40 and DIRFT. HGVs are still using the Ridgeway and Longdown Lane. If you see any, please try to note at least the firm's name and the time. The registration number would be a bonus. Brian and I will continue to work on all of these problems on your behalf.

No one from Kilsby has contacted me with concerns about the new waste collection service. I hope that means that you are happy with it and have not had any problems.

Brian and I will again be sharing the Parish Council surgery on 22 October and will be pleased to see you there.

Catherine Lomax

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FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR BRIAN LOMAX OBE

(Tel: 890939, 24 Castle Mound, Barby, CV23 8TN, blomax@daventrydc.gov.uk)

August each year brings a lull in the number of Council meetings, but Daventry DC is now back in full swing. There was, however, plenty of other Council work going on in August.

I am writing to update you on recent developments concerning the villages in our ward. Catherine and I have been active on your behalf since our last message to you in the local newsletter.

As a result of numerous complaints from Barby and Kilsby about noise nuisance at Barby Shooting Club, the Club have embarked on building a "bund" around the range, in an attempt to reduce the noise given off by the shooting. Their current permissions currently last until 9.00 pm at all times of year. There are numerous complaints of noise nuisance from the Club from as far afield as Hall Close in Kilsby, which according to the lie of the land should be less affected than other properties nearer to the Shooting Club. The problem appears to lie in the variable wind direction. We are determined to resolve this problem to the satisfaction of all residents in our ward.

A planning application for a development adjacent to the wood in Welton was defeated at the recent meeting of Daventry DC Planning Committee by a vote of 7- 4. The application concerned a proposal for three residential properties next to and built on a platform over the lake within The Wilderness. Part of the case against this development was the disturbance to wildlife conservation in the immediate area. This may of course go to appeal, but I believe the arguments mounted against the development are strong in terms of the agreed policies of DDC.

Meanwhile the arguments go on about two major crematorium proposals adjacent to our ward, at Willoughby and off Ashlawn Road behind Rugby St Andrews RUFC. There is clearly no need for both, but the decision rests with Rugby Borough Council. We hope that at least one of these will be refused.

Brian Lomax
September 2011

Kilsby History Society

(From Gill Mason, Tel: 822658)

Our next meeting is on Thursday 10 November at 7.30 pm in the Kilsby Room.

The speaker is Michael Deacon and the subject 'Northamptonshire and the Gunpowder Plot'. All are welcome.

Members £1.00

Non-members £2.00

A reminder to those members who have yet to pay their annual subscription. The Treasurer is currently collecting your £5.00.

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Rugby Decorative and Fine Arts Association

(From Diana Jackson Tel: 822233)

Meetings on Thursdays in the Benn Hall, Rugby.
Visitors welcome, £7.00 per lecture.

27th October - Durham Cathedral: 'The Loveliest Building on Planet Earth'

Speaker : Hugh Cantlie FRICS

24th November - The Dukes of Buccleuch, of Boughton, Bowhill and Drumlanrig

Speaker: William Forrester MA, Lecturer

St. Faith's Social Committee

(From Kathy Jenkins, Tel: 822464)

Cream Tea

Our Cream Tea at Hunt House on 9 August was a great success. We had a nice crowd of friends with us and we made £189 for Church funds.

Coffee Morning

I shall have a Coffee Morning at my home, Ash Cottage, Main Road, on Wednesday 26 October, from 10.30 am until 12.00 noon. Everyone is very welcome.

Quiz

Our annual Quiz is on Saturday 19 November, at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm. Price £6.00. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. We usually have a great evening so come and enjoy yourselves with us.

Christmas Coffee Morning

We shall have our Christmas Coffee Morning on Tuesday 6 December, at the home of Mrs Sheila Hartwell, 21 Arnills Way, from 10.30 am until 12.00 noon. Everyone is very welcome

Early Bird Christmas Fair

(From Nancy Golding, Tel: 822611)

Come and enjoy some early Christmas shopping at St. Faith's Church Christmas Fair, on Saturday 12th November, from 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm, in the Village Hall

Gifts, cards, decorations, crafts, cakes and preserves will be on sale.

Kilsby Amateur Theatrical Society Pantomime 2012

Advance Notice

We will be presenting the Pantomime Humpty Dumpty at the Village Hall on 19, 20, 21 January 2012.

If you are interested in being involved in any way, front or back stage please give me a call.

Profits from the production will be shared between Kilsby Preschool and the Abaana charity through which KATS sponsors Mariam, a young girl in Uganda.

Mary Sparks (Tel: 822893)





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No Room at the Inn?

Can you give a home to our Travelling Crib for one night during Advent?

(From Fiona Gibbs, Tel:823530)

As part of our Advent celebrations, St Faith's are launching a special project called The Travelling Crib (or Posada). Figures from the nativity crib will be travelling around the village in search of a place to stay, symbolising the journey that Mary and Joseph took from Nazareth to Bethlehem. At the end of Advent, they will come into the church ready to begin the celebrations of the birth of Jesus.

We hope to find about 22 homes around the parish that will receive the figures and look after them for one night, before passing them on to the following hosts to continue their journey. If you have children of primary school age or below and would be interested in taking part in this project, or if you have any questions, please sign the list in St Faith's or contact Fiona Gibbs 11 Hall Close, Tel: 823530, fiona@gibbs.org.uk

THE GARDEN TEA PARTY

(From Sue Dobson, Tel: 822523)

Sourcing sixty sets of vintage china cups and saucers, twenty vintage tablecloths, enough 'nearly new items' and plenty for the tombola, was the easy bit. Ensuring guests received their tea and cake without being totally soaked proved more difficult.

Flipping through 'Country Living' at a friend's house, I wondered how difficult it could be? I had lots of pretty cups, saucers and plates etc and many friendly pals handy with a Kenwood who would knock up a delicious coffee and walnut in seconds. I decided on a date (how bad could the weather be in August?), enlisted help from relatives and friends and created the vision. Tea on the lawn, cups clinking, genteel chat, quiet browsing over cheery items and everyone giving generously to the charity I so wanted to support. In the end, two of those tableaux proved reality on the day. Read on.

The Kilsby tom-toms and posters spread the news and the day dawned like my latest lovely granddaughter, being born wet and windy. My sisters maintained that it was brightening over Daventry as they continued to pin the mainstay of the decoration, striped bunting, over every available surface. Nearly new items teetered wildly in chaotic piles in the garage, seriously spilling into exciting pools of loot for happy foraging. Helpers (chiefly granddaughters) were organised into relays for order taking and delivering of latter with pastry forks and butter knives arrayed on starched napkins. cakes glistened beautifully and the kettles were primed.

The first guest arrived as the heavens opened and as the afternoon went on, hands propped up the marquee as all dived for cover. Despite the rain, many teas and coffees were consumed, cream pots refilled and elbow to elbow cakes devoured, frantic offers at the 'New to You' stall were made, a fun tombola and raffle took place and £1,600 was raised.

A big 'thank you' to you all
Sue Dobson

It all turned out well in the wash!



Advent Windows

(From Diana Humphreys Tel: 824530)

Last December 25 volunteers banded together to create a community Advent Calendar by decorating a prominent window on their "day" so that each day from 1st December another dated and decorated window was displayed.

It was a first attempt and people really made a wonderful effort. Unfortunately though, we were rather sabotaged by the appalling weather which really curtailed any ideas of a walk around the village to follow the advent trail (a bit like a treasure hunt). Despite that a few people have asked if we are going to have another go so this is to test the water and see if we can get another 25 volunteers prepared to join in.

ST. FAITH'S CHURCH

(From Rev. Peter Beresford, Tel: 890252)



For details of services and events at St. Faith's during October and November, and at our sister church of St. Mary's Barby, please see the Barby and Kilsby Churches News.

If you are housebound and would value a visit or Holy Communion, please contact the Church Wardens, Nancy Golding, Tel: 822611, or Gill Mason, Tel: 822658, or Reverend Peter Beresford at The Rectory, or telephone him on 890252.

Confirmation 2011

If any young people (of secondary age) or adults would like to explore the possibility of Confirmation, please contact the Vicar, Peter Beresford, as soon as possible (contact details above).

Thinking of Confirmation links us to the honour of receiving bread and wine in the sacrament of Holy Communion. Are readers aware that it is the same fine silver chalice that we use today that our predecessors in Kilsby (rich and poor, young and old) used when it was first made in about 1580? Living history, living faith!

No time like the present'

Looking back to the life and history of St. Faith's Church, we have so much to be thankful for; looking ahead there will, I trust, also be much to look forward to - but it is now, in the present, that is all important.

Let us listen and learn from one another and from God and become involved in the life, work and worship of St. Faith's on a more regular basis. We have nothing to lose and everything to gain.



Be spooky but safe.....if you're out 'Trick or Treating'

We want everyone to have an enjoyable and safe Halloween so please follow the Halloween Code:

- Don't knock on doors with a 'No Trick or Treat' sign.
- Always go Trick or Treating with an adult.
- Plan your route - only go to houses where you and your friends know the residents.
- Be visible - stay in areas that are well lit and take a torch.
- Don't talk to strangers on the street.
- Don't go inside any house.
- Be careful crossing the road.

And remember that although Halloween is supposed to be spooky you need to be careful not to frighten elderly people.

Be a bright spark.....stay safe on Bonfire Night

Remember, remember, on the 5th November....

- You must be over 18 to buy fireworks.
- It is illegal for anyone under 18 to possess fireworks in a public place.
- It is an offence to throw or discharge a firework in a street or public place.
- It is illegal to let off fireworks between 11.00 pm and 7.00 am (except on Bonfire Night when you can let them off until midnight).
- Don't forget your pets. Keep them safe indoors.

Call to report anyone causing noise nuisance and the anti-social use of fireworks, on 08453 700700, or phone Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Community Messaging

Community Messaging provides you with up-to-date, timely, and relevant crime information, as well as advice on emerging or seasonal crime issues and other community safety information.

If you would like to receive regular e-mails about what is going on in your area, then register for the free Community Messaging service at:

www.northantscommunitymessaging.org

Personal Care Assistance/ Home Help

Do you or a family member need help with:

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Cleaning

Ironing

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Doctors/Hospital Appointments

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mobile: 07816060691

NVQ 2 in Care.
Police Checked.
References Available

Kilsby Christmas Cards

(From Fiona Gibbs, Tel: 823530)



Why not send a little piece of Kilsby to your friends this Christmas? These delightful cards, sold in aid of St Faith's, have a wonderful winter image of Kilsby's ancient church blanketed in snow. The message inside reads, "Wishing you peace and joy this Christmas". The cards are professionally printed in full colour on quality card in a 6"x 4" format, with a satin finish and are supplied with envelopes. They are priced at 35p for 1 card, £3 for a pack of 10 or £8 for a pack of 30.

Cards are available from St Faith's Church, from Fiona Gibbs, 11 Hall Close, (Tel: 823530), and will also be on sale at St Faith's Christmas Fair on Saturday 12 November (see page 6).

It's never too late to say thank you: a tale from WW1

(From Gren Hatton, Tel: 822411)

In a far-off battlefield cemetery at Brewer Orchard in Bois-Grenier (near Armentieres) France lie the mortal remains of Private Alfred Mason – originally of the Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, he later transferred to the 9th Battalion, Yorkshire Regiment. He was killed in action on 25th January 1916. His place of birth is given as 'Kilsby, Northamptonshire'. His military record shows that he enlisted in Leicester, giving his place of residence as Earls Shilton.



Brewery Orchard Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery, Bois-Grenier, France. One memorial reads: 'In Memory of Private A MASON, 19846, 9th Battalion, Yorkshire Regiment, who died on 25 January 1916. Remembered with honour. Commemorated in perpetuity.'

These bare details were presented to me in an email from a military historian, who contacted me to ask if I could find Alfred Mason's record on Kilsby's WW1 Roll of Honour so that it could be added to his file.

However, I soon discovered that Alfred Mason does not appear on either of the WW1 Rolls of Honour in Kilsby Church; and when I checked further, I found that his name is also absent from the WW1 Roll of Honour for Earls Shilton. How strange! This called for some detective work ... and here are the results of it.

The story starts back in 1875, when 23 year old Thomas Mason married 21 year-old Emily Jane, and the couple came to live in Kilsby, where Thomas found work as a labourer on the railway – the second line to London via Northampton, running just north of Kilsby, was under construction at this time, and railway employment was plentiful. The couple had five children – Mary Louisa (baptised 2-Jul-1876), George Thomas (baptised 6-Jul-1879), twins Mary Ann and Alice (baptised 6-Aug-1882) and Emily Elizabeth (baptised 5-Dec-1886).

By 1893, 17 year old Mary Louisa Mason was working as a signalwoman on the railway – a most unusual occupation for a young woman, she would almost certainly have been the only female in an entirely male environment. And this is where the difficulties started ...

There is only one baptism for an Alfred Mason in the Kilsby church registers (it is in 1894), so there can be no doubt, this is definitely the man who died for his country aged only 21 and now lies buried in France. The baptismal entry reads:

'2-Jul-1894: baptised Alfred, son of Louisa Mason, signalwoman'.

No father's name is given. You can work this out for yourselves, I do not need to spell it out. From the facts I have given above, you can visualise all too easily how it must have come about.

This was the most puritanical period of Victoria's long reign, and an illegitimate child would have been stigmatised along with his mother – especially where the mother was still a teenager; there would have been scant sympathy for either mother or child, and Alfred's future in Kilsby would have been one of name-calling, bullying and universal ostracism. It is difficult to imagine today what it would have been like for Alfred – and it is all the more unjust since Alfred himself was merely the innocent victim of his fate.

It was therefore no surprise to me when I found no record of young Louisa Mason or her little son in the 1901 census; it seemed clear that they must have moved away to escape the ignominy. But there was more to it than that ... and as I carried on working through the parish registers, I found two further sad little entries:

'2-Jun-1896: buried Emily Jane Mason, aged 42' and '18-Nov-1897: buried Thomas Mason, aged 45'.

So, Louisa had lost both of her own parents within three years of the birth of her son Alfred. Even more reason, one might suppose, for her to get away from Kilsby ... but then I found a further record:

'11-Nov-1896: William Alfred Baker married Mary Louisa Mason'.

William Alfred Baker came from Rugby, he was a labourer and the son of railway platelayer William Baker – so it seems very likely that both father and son worked on the railway, and that they must have known Louisa Mason the signalwoman and been familiar with her situation, perhaps even at close quarters.

This raises some very interesting questions. Was young William Baker the real father of little Alfred Mason? Did William's father intervene to ensure that the marriage took place? Were the railway authorities involved? We will never know any of these things for sure. On the one hand, young William Baker's second forename was Alfred, and it could be plausibly argued that Louisa discreetly named her baby after his father; but on the other hand, we know that young Alfred retained "Mason" as his surname. On balance, I am inclined to think that William Alfred Baker was Alfred's real father, but it is only a personal view. At any rate, it seems that young William was an honest and kindly man, and prepared to save Louisa from a future that would have been truly grim. She married William Baker just five months after burying her mother – and they moved away from Kilsby, for there are no Bakers in the 1901 Kilsby census return.

So, here we are at the end of this little story from the late Victorian age ...

And yet, perhaps the story is not quite over. Alfred Mason made the supreme sacrifice, he fought and died for his country, but his name is not recorded on any Honour Roll, even in his birthplace. Given the circumstances, it seems very likely that the people of Kilsby would have been unaware of his death in battle, when they erected the war memorials in St Faith's.

But we do know the story now, thanks to a chance email from a military historian and a bit of simple research. So perhaps it is still not too late, almost a century later, to say a belated 'thank you; rest in peace' and commemorate this son of Kilsby who died in the mud at Armentieres on a cold wet Tuesday in January 1916.



Pte. Alfred Mason's decorations

Gren Hatton

COUNTY-WIDE OIL BUYING SCHEME - NORTHANTS. ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England)

Northamptonshire ACRE is concerned about the level of fuel poverty across the county and is looking at practical ways of being able to help our local, rural communities. One of our sister organisations, Oxfordshire Rural Community Council (ORCC) has recently set up a new social enterprise that will reduce the cost of domestic heating oil with each order simply by joining a community-based countywide oil buying syndicate.

By bringing communities together throughout the county and making the most of joint buying power, huge savings can be made and passed on directly to people whose fuel costs are high simply because they have oil-fired central heating. By operating county-wide, the scheme makes it possible for new or existing local community oil buying groups to make the most of their collective

purchasing power. **Members** pay a small annual fee to join (which is generally recouped in the savings from the first order!) before negotiations take place with every oil company that supplies premises in the county to ensure the best price is achieved.

Thus far, the Oxfordshire scheme is proving a great success, so we are conducting some initial research to find out what level of interest there is to run a similar scheme in Northamptonshire. Therefore, we would be extremely grateful if you would complete the very short survey on our website at: www.northantsacre.org.uk/2011/07/21/

Alternatively, you can contact Beth Milne, Rural Officer at Northamptonshire ACRE on 01604 825889 to let us know your views. Thank you.
(Eds. See also piece from Kilsby Oil Club on page 3.)

Crick Medical Practice – Patients Participation Group

(From Eddie Taken, Tel: 822068)

Update on our Refurbishment

We hope to have a decision from Daventry District Council to approve Planning Permission to extend and refurbish our surgery building by 6th October 2011.

Seasonal Influenza Vaccination

We are fast approaching the month of October, when we will be offering the seasonal influenza vaccination to all our patients who are 65 years and over and to patients who fall into one or more of the following groups: chronic respiratory disease, asthma, chronic heart disease, chronic kidney disease, chronic neurological disease, carers, pregnant women, or those with low immunity. Three 'Flu' Clinics' have been planned - 1st and 8th October, and 5th November.

Please book now on 01788 822203

Reminder letters will be sent to all patients in the above groups.

Training Days

Please note that the training days for the next three months will be:

11th October, 8th November, and 13th December.

Blood Pressure Machine

For those patients who are not aware, there is a Blood Pressure machine in the surgery waiting room that patients can use to check their own blood pressure even when they are not seeing the doctor or nurse that day. A reading will be printed out once the machine has taken the test. Please either give this to the Receptionist with your name at the top of the reading, or give it to the nurse or doctor when you see them.

Repeat Prescriptions

Please remember that for those with access to a computer, repeat prescriptions can be sent by e-mail via the website

crickmedicalpractice@gpsurgery.net

Patient Feedback Questionnaire

The Practice would like to hear your views on the service they provide to you. There are several ways you can do this:

1. You can ask for a questionnaire at Reception and post it in the box provided.
2. You can download, print off, and complete by hand by visiting
crickmedicalpractice@gpsurgery.net
3. You can complete on screen, save, and e-mail the surgery through the website above.

Evening and Saturday Opening

The surgery is usually open until 7.30 pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, for the month of October it will only be open on Wednesday evenings.

Patients are able to book on the day or pre-book appointments up to a month ahead. The surgery is also open on the first Saturday of every month (8.30 am - 10.30 am) for pre-bookable appointments only.

Kilsby W.I.

(From Diana Humphreys, Tel: 824530)

Our luck is holding - we have had a run of really entertaining speakers this year and those who addressed us at the August and September meetings maintained the standard!

As well as learning about a "new" way of teaching musicality and singing to children members were given a good practical workout and had a lot of fun whilst surprising themselves with the tuneful results. Natasha, our speaker, taught us things about raised eyebrows that we had never dreamt of!

The meeting in September had a lovely chatty buzz to it and our speaker was one of our own members. A year ago Linda took the huge step of setting off on an 84-day cruise around the world. Known as an inveterate photographer she fully recorded her trip in pictures as well as writing a journal. Fortunately for us she edited her 14,000 photos down to a selection which provided a representation of some of her more memorable experiences. Taken together with her narrative these informed and amused us.

In the coming month we have our 90th Anniversary party to look forward to on 12th October - although plans are well advanced we could find room for any other ladies who would like to meet us and find out what we are all about.

Also during October we have the opportunity to hear Rev. Canon Roger Royle speak at the Annual Council Meeting of the Northants WI Federation. The autumn Group Meeting is being held at Barby later in October.

Our November meeting will see us being shown ways to craft our own Christmas cards and later in the month Adam Henson from Countryfile will be addressing a gathering from around the county.

All in all plenty to keep us entertained.

KILSBY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE - 90TH ANNIVERSARY

(From Karen Gilmurray Tel: 823939)

The evening of Wednesday October 21st 1921 saw a group of women come together for the first meeting of Kilsby WI. With the WI still in its infancy we are fortunate that our founder members were so innovative and forward thinking!

The WI is still a social and educational organisation offering women friendship and the chance to help the community whilst developing their individual skills and talents.

Sadly, no records remain of that first meeting, but who knows,

Is this how it all began?

Mrs Simmonds, the vicar's wife, looked down at her sensible, dowdy clothes; she smiled wryly and looked over at her glamorous companion as they stood listening to the steady hum of conversation inside the school room. Her companion's elegance was in stark contrast to herself. She shook her head and breathed a sigh of relief; getting that overbearing, opinionated, condescending busy body Mrs Fenshaw to issue invitations for the meeting had been a stroke of genius. No one said 'no' to Mrs Fenshaw.

Mrs Fenshaw must have been born old; her thin lips already pursed in disdain, like Victoria, she was never amused. No one allowed into her home would ever be shocked by anything as risqué as a naked table leg; village rumour had it that not even the Colonel had seen her own legs, swathed as they always were in bulky, floor length skirts. At first she had resisted the idea of the WI; she disapproved of anything new and the WI was just 6 years old. Mrs Simmonds had needed all her persuasive skills to convince her of the benefits; though she suspected her master stroke had been her intimation that she knew Lady Denman and believed she would speak at an inaugural meeting. Mrs Simmonds knew that Colonel and Mrs Fenshaw were impressed by anyone with a title.

When she had confided that she was worried the village women would not follow her lead and support the WI Mrs Fenshaw had sniffed 'Use your authority; tell them to be there.'

Mrs Simmonds had blanched. 'Well; the vicar and I are quite new to the village, I don't think they would', she had hesitated, 'listen to me as they listen to you. I wouldn't like them to feel they were being', again she had hesitated, 'coerced.'

'Village women do not think for themselves, they need to be coerced. We want none of this modern nonsense creeping in; short hair, short dresses, or, heaven forbid, votes for women. They respect authority; we have to provide it.' She had pursed her lips, her eyes narrowing and her expression displaying her doubt about Mrs Simmonds' abilities in this respect. 'Humph, I will speak to them myself. I am sure Lady Denman would like to see a good turnout.' She had paused briefly, 'How long have you known Lady Denman?'

'We attended the same school.' This was true, though not at the same time. Mrs Simmonds had kept her fingers crossed. To her relief Mrs Fenshaw had merely nodded. 'I will chair the first meeting. I have too many commitments to attend regularly but I will drop in occasionally to check on your progress.' Mrs Simmonds had smiled weakly.

At the door Mrs Simmonds considered her plan; she hoped her husband would forgive her slight lapse from truthfulness. While broadly agreeing with her he might find her direct action worrying.

It was 8.45 pm. The business of the meeting would be over, the women inside were now WI members. Mrs Marlowe, their school teacher, would have cheerfully handled the paperwork. Mrs Simmonds looked at her companion and raised an eyebrow; at her nod she opened the door.

As Mrs Simmonds stepped onto the platform Mrs Fenshaw rapped her gavel and looked into the audience until silence fell. 'Ladies, Mrs Simmonds.'

'Good evening. I'm delighted to see you all at this inaugural meeting. I am sure we will all enjoy a long and happy association with the Women's Institute.'

Mrs Simmonds knew most of the women had been bullied into being here; she also knew she could never have achieved such a good turnout. Again she hoped her husband would forgive her. She was sure, in her own mind, that the benefits of joining the WI and especially the benefits of this first speaker far outweighed the fact that she had used Mrs Fenshaw.

'It is my great pleasure to introduce our first ever guest speaker; please welcome Mrs Marie Stopes.' She joined in the polite applause as she sat down next to Mrs Fenshaw; somehow managing to avoid looking at her pursed lips and narrowed eyes.

There were muffled gasps as Mrs Stopes removed her hat and coat and mounted the platform; the audience stared wide eyed at her bobbed hair and knee length dress. Mrs Fenshaw had turned a shade that Mrs Simmonds thought must be puce; a colour that until now she had never really appreciated.

Marie Stopes smiled, 'I am delighted and honoured to be invited to speak to you this evening. The WI is a wonderful organisation which shares with me a firm belief in education for women. Tonight I am going to speak to you about a subject that is close to my heart, and one which is of fundamental importance to all women.' She paused as she took several items from her bag and placed them on the table. From the corner of her eye Mrs Simmonds saw Mrs Fenshaw's colour deepening further. 'In March this year, in London, I opened a centre called The Mothers' Clinic; its aim is to give help to married women. These simple items', she gestured to the table, 'enable women to control whether or not they become pregnant; they are birth control devices.'

The audience looked at each other and back at the platform in stunned silence. Mrs Fenshaw slowly stood and leant forward to pick an item up; she gazed at it in horror, opening and closing her mouth several times before uttering a small strangled cry and collapsing across the table in a dead faint.

The shocked silence was broken by a sudden burst of laughter, hurriedly stifled behind a hand; then more and more women started to laugh guiltily as they peered in consternation at Mrs Fenshaw and the rubber diaphragm that had dropped from her hand and was now bouncing across the floor.

Kilsby Christmas Tree Committee

(from Sharon King, 823264)



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

The annual switching on of the **Kilsby Christmas Tree** lights will take place on **Saturday 3rd December 2011** on the green at the top of Barby Road, Kilsby.

We will be meeting outside Kilsby Post Office and Stores at **4.45 pm** to meet Father Christmas and will then follow his sleigh to the village green for **5.00 pm**.

From **4.45pm** on the green, hot food, mince pies and mulled wine will be for sale and there will be entertainment for the children. All funds raised will be to cover the costs of the event.

The lights will be switched on at **5.00 pm** by Father Christmas.

The committee will be holding a drawing competition which is open to all children under 16. The picture should be of a Christmas tree and the winner will help Father Christmas switch on the Christmas tree lights. The winning entry will also be used on the advertising posters for the event. All entries should be on a A4 sheet of paper and should be sent to Sharon King at 16 Hall Close, Kilsby by **6th November** and should include name, address and phone number.

If you would like to help with the festivities or have any suggestions please contact either Emma Sparks on 07778795534 or Sharon King on 01788 823264.

Gazebo Hire

The Christmas Tree Committee has a pop-up 6m x 3m gazebo which is available for hire. The cost is £25.00 per day. If you would like further details or would like to hire the gazebo, please contact Emma Sparks on 07778795534.

BARBY SPORTING CLUB AN ALTERNATIVE VIEW

(From Mary Sparks, Tel: 822893)

I do feel that it is time that there was an alternative view of the Barby Sporting Club/Restaurant published in the Kilsby Kronicle to balance the negative views generally expressed and I would like to put on record my support for the management and staff of the Club.

Whilst I am sometimes aware of the noise of the shooting, it is, I feel, just part of the noise of countryside activities and it only happens twice a week, less than the barking of dogs or noise of helicopters overhead or any traffic noises. I also know that the management of the club have been making great efforts to reduce the noise.

I do not understand why some people would wish to deprive others of their hobby. After all, clay pigeon shooting is an Olympic sport and I feel that we should be supporting all sporting endeavours coming up to the 2012 Olympics!! I have even heard that there are people in the village who shoot real pigeons!!! Mind you they are quite noisy.

I would add that Barby Sporting Club has an excellent reputation. The restaurant is first class and very well supported by people from Kilsby and the surrounding area. I have eaten there myself and would recommend you try it. The Club employs more than 20 people from the local area who would be unemployed if the Club were to go out of business.

The Club also supports local community projects, including providing Kilsby with a Christmas Tree for the past few years. They are always willing to donate prizes to local fundraising efforts.

I feel very strongly that in the current economic climate we should support and encourage local business enterprises rather than trying to close them down.

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

(From the Editors)

There were some wonderful 'Scenes of Kilsby' exhibited at the recent Garden and Produce Show. If yours was one of them, or if you have other photographs of Kilsby of which you are proud, why not send them to us so they can be used on the banner of future editions of KK.



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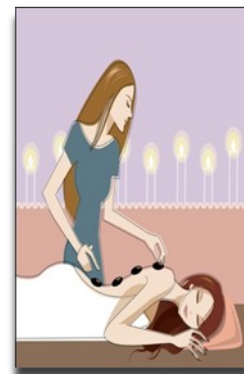
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KILSBY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER NEWS FOR KILSBY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Services

October

2 October	9.00 am	Rev. Rosemary Pullen (HC)
9 October	11.00 am	Rev. Michael Heighton
16 October	11.00 am	Rev. Rosemary Pullen
23 October	11.00 am	Rev. Conrad Husk
30 October	11.00 am	Joint Pastorate Service at Crick

November

6 November	9.00 am	Rev. Rosemary Pullen (HC)
13 November	11.00 am	Frank and Val Janes
20 November	11.00 am	Rev. Rosemary Pullen
27 November	11.00 am	Rev. Michael Bond

December

4 December	9.00 am	Rev. Rosemary Pullen (HC)
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Church Meeting

5 October at 10.00 am

Tuesday Guild

At 2.15 pm unless stated otherwise.

4 October	Tom and Joyce Jones
18 October	Apple Time
1 November	Shopping?
15 November	To be arranged
29 November	Out to Lunch

VINCE PENMAN

(From Reg Dunn, Tel: 823148)

The collection for the late councillor Vince Penman made at the occasion of his untimely death, along with the donation from his employer totalled £930.00.

The money has gone towards the purchase of a memorial seat which has been placed on the patio of The Red Lion.

The balance has been handed to Wendy to do with as she sees fit and she has asked that thanks be given to all who contributed.

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Kilsby School Association

Registered Charity No. 1077904



Date for your diary

Kilsby School Association will be holding an **Indulgence Evening on Thursday 24th November 2011** at Kilsby School from 7.00 pm.

There will be beauty treatments and gifts available. Look out for further details during October.

If anyone is interested in being involved in the evening with treatments or holding a stall, please contact Sarah Wurr on 0796 9179511 or Sharon King on 0794 4139224.

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Wines from the World Wide Awards 2011

(From Tom Clay, Tel:822373)

Every year Decanter magazine runs a competition which compares wine from regions across the world and awards prizes for the best.

This year 12254 wines were entered and on Saturday 29th October Kilsby Twinning Association will present some of the recommended ones which are available from Rugby and Daventry supermarkets. Our selection will include at least one wine which won one of the top 25 top awards.

There will be 8 wines altogether, with nibbles to match, a quiz, and a raffle and Tom Clay will do some sort of introduction to each wine (but absolutely guaranteed no talk of pencil shavings, diesel engines or other wine tasting nonsense).

Doors will open at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start. The price of the tickets will be so reasonable – and think of what you'll save by going straight to a wine you've tasted and like rather than having to take pot luck when you're next in the supermarket.

Do come along, bring a party of friends the more the merrier!

Watch for the posters which will appear in the village at the beginning of October for details.

Kitchen Maestro Evening - Christmas without tears

(From Kilsby Twinning Assn.)

Do you long to have an organised, planned, and fun Christmas day lunch? Come to our Christmas demonstration at the Village Hall on Saturday 26 November. Senior Chef Lecturer Richard Curtis will help you have a Merry Easy Christmas.

There will be a demonstration of how to organise prepare and cook a Christmas Lunch, including presentation of the meal on the big day, appropriate wines, for each course, and, of course, tasting of the food. The course will include:

- demonstration from a professional chef
- professional hints and tips.

Menu

- Marinated salmon with orange salad with honey dressing;
- Cream of butternut squash and toasted hazelnuts;
- Christmas partridge in an orange and cranberry sauce;
- Red cabbage parcels;
- Stir-fried Brussels sprouts;
- Perfect roast potatoes;
- Creamy mush potatoes;
- Christmas pudding ice-cream with apricot poached in mulled wine.

Look out for posters, giving more details..

Things to do in October and November

Go to the Indulgence Evening

Get involved with the pantomime

Go to the art exhibition

Taste some award-winning wines

Volunteer to do an advent window

Offer to host the travelling Crib

Go to the St. Faith's Christmas Fair

Join the Oil Club Committee

Go to the Kitchen Maestro evening

Volunteer to join the Parish Council

Go to the AGM of the Garden & Produce Assn.

Go to a Coffee Morning

Join in the St. Faith's SC Quiz

Offer to help with the Christmas Tree event

Get your child to enter the drawing competition

Join the Dog Watch Scheme

Give ACRE your views on the proposed oil buying scheme

Support the St. Faith's Appeal

Go to a talk at Rugby Decorative & Fine Arts Assn.

Donate sports equipment or board games to the Youth Club

Register for the Community Messaging service

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Contributions to the Editors

Preferably by e-mail to Chris Lomas at: ctdougan@tiscali.co.uk

or by any other computer media (CD, diskette etc) or on paper to:
Clare Glover, Fernside, Essen Lane (823290)
Sharon Green, Cedar Lodge, Main Road (822183)
Chris Lomas, The New House, 20 Rugby Road (822650)
Laura Treacy, Withcroft House, Daventry Road (822442)

Advertisements from commercial organisations cost £5.00 for a quarter page, £10.00 for a half page. There is no charge for other notices and advertisements, including items for the 'Wanted' and 'For Sale' columns.

Please note

**The deadline for the next issue
is Saturday 20th November**

2011