

The Kingsdon Chronicle

Issue No. 15

27th October 2008

Anthony Ford: Thoughts about Dad and his time in Kingsdon

Dad often used to say, 'One of the best things your mother and I ever did was move to Kingsdon'. The sentiment was heartfelt and, for a man whose roots and affections lay in East Anglia, a rather wonderful compliment and one that he reiterated over the 27 years of living there.



Once Dad retired from the Royal Navy he poured his not inconsiderable energies into becoming a firm proponent of all things Kingsdonian and became an active member of the community. I'm sure many of you remember him walking Mandy then Muffin, his much loved dogs, around the village. Both dogs presumably thought they were going for a decent walk. However, this rarely happened as Dad stopped and talked to everyone he met. On his return home to 24 he regaled Mum with his encounters or the things of interest he'd spotted, be it mud on the road or the amazing size of Joe Land's runner beans. The former was a Bad Thing, the latter Good!

Many of Dad's passions in life were Kingsdon-related be it ringing up a neighbour to check the answers to the Telegraph crossword, doing up the village hall (and let's face it, it was a

bit of a dump in the early 80s!) to venturing out with Charles Marrow to check ditches and hedges. Or at least that's what they claimed they were doing... Dad's love of cricket ranged from avid listening to Test Match Special accompanied by much groaning when England played badly, to whole hearted support of the village cricket team. He was immensely proud to be President of the club and was often to be seen pitch-side during the summer enjoying the quintessentially English scene at the Manor School.

Mike and I and the children lived in Kingsdon for four years and we know it made my parents very happy to have us there before we moved back to Aberdeen. Dad was thrilled and very proud to have his much loved grandchildren close by and during those years it was a delight to see Mum and Dad on a very regular basis. When we bought Park Farmhouse and undertook major refurbishment, Dad was often on site chatting away to the builders and ensuring that everything was shipshape and going according to plan. In actual fact his tendency to stop and natter was more of a distraction but nobody seemed to mind!

Dad's latter years weren't easy, especially for Mum, but the villagers as always were quietly supportive and generous. My brother Jof and I have been very touched by the kind words of many of you upon Dad's death and we thank you most sincerely. And we thank you for your friendship and support both to him and Mum. The sense of community in Kingsdon is extraordinary and since Dad's death there have been regular callers at Mum's which is very reassuring to Jof and me. Dad spent over a third of his life in Kingsdon and moving there was most certainly one of the best things he ever did.

Sue Trees (Durham City)

Thank You

Pam would like to send her thanks to everyone who sent messages and cards of condolence.

Kingsdon Parish Council

Notes from the planning meeting held on 9th October 2008

Present: Councillors Tony Masters (Chair) Alison Hicks, Patrick Leahy, David Morris and Mike Overd

Apologies from Mel Clode, Richard Hollaway and John Calvert

Chairman Tony Masters welcomed new councillors Alison Hicks and Mike Overd.

Minutes of the meeting held on 18th September were read and agreed

Planning Application 08/04180/FUL 24 North Town, Kingsdon.

Proposal: Erection of a two storey extension and a replacement garage

After discussion the application was approved on majority vote

A.O.B.

Defibrillator - A cheque for £800 from the Jubilee Fund has been given to the Parish Council towards the cost of the cabinet which can now be ordered.

Printer for the Chronicle - A cheque is awaited from Somerset County Council for the cost. The printer is installed and is a great help and improvement on what has been used previously.

The Village Field - The future cutting of the field was discussed. Payment for extra cuttings to be discussed at the next meeting.

Ideas are requested on ways of providing play facilities on the village field. One idea put forward was for an 'All Weather Surface' play area at the bottom of the field for such games as 5-a-side football.

Fly Tipping: A fridge, child seat and mattresses with other rubbish has been dumped in Mill Lane.

If any strange vehicles are seen in the area of Mill Lane, Quarry Road or Underwood Rd please take registration number but **do not** engage occupants in conversation. (*Wally Elliott*)

Household Waste Recycling Centre at Somerton

Bancombe Road Industrial Estate, Somerton



Opening times: Summer (April to September): 8am – 8pm; Winter (October to March): 8am – 5pm

Materials that can be dealt with at this Recycling Centre:

Batteries (Car Batteries), Batteries (Household Batteries), Cans, Cardboard, Engine oil, Garden waste, Glass, Hardcore, Metal, Paper, Plastic bottles, Printer cartridges, Refrigerators and Freezers, Textiles, Wood.

Residents may deposit waste at this site in vans and trailers, as long as the waste is from their own home. With regard to waste soil and rubble, residents may deposit no more than one tonne per DIY project. Residents using vans or trailers may be questioned, and required to complete a 'Household Waste Declaration Form' confirming that they are not depositing trade waste. Further information and clarification can be found by contacting the Somerset Waste Partnership on 01823 625700

SDC Planning Decisions

Planning Application: Old Rectory Cottage Top Street Kingsdon Somerton Somerset TA11 7JU

Proposal: Alterations and extensions to dwelling house (GR 351594/126106)

Application Permitted with Conditions.

Planning Application: Springfield House Brincil Hill Kingsdon Somerton Somerset TA11 7LA

Proposal: The use of land for the siting of a temporary mobile home (GR 351235/125726)

Application Permitted with Conditions - The mobile home to be removed on or before 21st August 2010

Forthcoming Planning & Bi-Monthly Meeting - 7pm Thursday 13th November in Kingsdon Village Hall

Location: Springfield House, Brincil Hill, Kingsdon, Somerton, Somerset, TA11 7LA

Proposal: Engineering works and the formation of a wildlife pond (Retrospective application)

Proposal: Alterations to access to include construction of wing/retaining walls and railings, piers and installation of automated security gates (revised application)

Kathleen Barbara (Kay) Saunders

It is with deep regret that the death is announced of Kay Saunders formerly of Langlands Farm, Kingsdon. Kay passed away peacefully at home in Martock on 18th October 2008 aged 89 following a long illness. Her funeral service will be at Yeovil Crematorium at 10.30am on Tuesday 28th October. Family flowers only but donations please, if desired, payable to the Stroke Association and forwarded to Forsey & Son, Pound Pool, Somerton. TA11 6LZ - Tel 01458 272297

KINGSDON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL - October 2008

The new intake! Kingsdon Primary School Reception pupils on their first full day at school.

Preparations are well underway for the school Christmas Fayre on the 6 December in the Kingsdon Village Hall. After the success of a couple of years ago the PTFA offered Norma Black and Freda Curtis the opportunity to run the cake stall with the proceeds being split between the church and the school. They would be very grateful for any cakes, biscuits or savouries you may wish to donate that can be taken to the Village Hall on the day. Our thanks go to Norma and Freda for their continued support.

If anyone in the village wishes to have a stall to sell their locally made crafts at the Christmas Fayre, please contact either Jane Overd or Katie Campbell. In the meantime the children are deciding on what they can do on the day to raise money and making crafts to sell. Do please come and support their efforts. We will also have a Christmas card designed by the children for sale.

Christmas hampers will again be the main prizes for the school Christmas raffle and we are very grateful

to the many local businesses, such as the Kingsdon Inn, that help us with some super additional prizes, and to Mr Kersley for allowing the raffle tickets to be purchased in advance from the Kingsdon Village Shop. The tickets are now on sale and the raffle draw will be on the night of the school Christmas play on the 12 December in the Village Hall.

Now is the last chance to buy in to the '100 club' for this school year. If you would like to join the club, please contact Gillian Carnall on 01935 840692. The amount involved is £12. Each month, apart from December, there is a draw with a prize of £10. In December there are three prizes of £100, £50 and £25.

Moving into the New Year, on the 23rd of January 2009 we will have a 'Bag to School' collection. The School would be very grateful for any second hand clothes, shoes, handbags, belts, soft toys, curtains and bedding in good condition. Once collected the items are weighed and the school paid 40p per kilo. The goods are then sent on to Eastern European countries where they are sold and effectively recycled. Please feel free to bring any unwanted goods listed above in a bin liner to the school by 0900 on the morning of the 23rd of January.

Finally a reminder of school events this term to which anyone is invited and would be very welcome:

6 December	12noon – 2pm	Christmas Fayre, in the Village Hall,
12 December	6pm	Christmas Play and Raffle Draw, in the Village Hall,
15 December	5.30pm	Christmas Carols around the tree, in the school play ground,
19 December	2pm	Christmas Service, in the Church.



KINGSDON BONFIRE NIGHT

by Peter Crowter

The long awaited highlight of the year for village boys
Was Guy Fawkes Night with blazing fire and sparks and lots of noise.
Every penny we could raise before the big event
Went towards our fireworks fund, we thought it was well spent.

We didn't buy the pretty ones, they weren't a lot of fun.
The girls could have the Golden Rains, just sparks and then they're done.
Little Demons were our choice and Mighty Atoms too.
We also loved the rockets but they cost a bob or two.

The ones that made the loudest bangs we had to treat with care,
The ones designed to scare the rooks and use them if you dare.
They had a fuse you couldn't trust it's length you could not tell,
We lit them very gingerly and then we ran like hell.

We spent most of October getting stuff to build the fire,
For this we used a trolley Mr Parker let us hire.
We used to load it up with kids and hurtle down the hills,
We had to dodge a car or two and had some minor spills.

We always chose the playing field to build our mighty fire
And someone made a Guy Fawkes and placed him upon his pyre.
And when the day at last arrived and he was on his seat,
The heap that he was perched upon was pushing twenty feet.

The men were there to light our fire and we'd done all the work,
We thought it was a bit unfair, it should have been our perk.
One year we got there early and we said 'come on, lets go',
And when the men come on the scene the fire was all aglow.

Three quarters of the village came to see the fun and flames,
They brought along their fireworks and a torch to read their names.
The oohs and ahs were plentiful and rang out in the night,
At rockets roaring skyward and the bonfire burning bright.

On year a wayward rocket landed on a roof of thatch
And folk all watched in horror as the straw began to catch.
A bucket and a ladder was produced with lightning speed,
A hero scaled the ladder and poured water on the reed.

And when the fire was nearly done with embers orange red,
T'was time to cook potatoes in the glowing ashes bed.
But some sneaked off into the night, we didn't say goodbye,
We had no time to eat a spud we'd other fish to fry.

Most people had no fireworks left they'd all gone up in smoke,
But we had saved some bangers for some people to provoke.
We knew some village residents t'was easy to annoy,
Not hard to be a menace when you're just a wound-up boy.

A certain grumpy spinster lady living all alone,
When dealing with the village lads could really hold her own.
She knew darn well on Guy Fawkes night the boys would pay a call,
And often our explosions would successfully forestall.

While creeping up her garden path a sudden beam of light,
Shone from her bedroom window and it made us all take flight.
'I can see you blooming boys and I know who you are'.
We vanished in the darkness but we didn't travel far.

She left the torch switched on, we thought, she means to thwart our scheme,
I thought that I'd be clever and creep up and dodge the beam.
But she was mighty crafty and was not still with her torch,
She'd left it on the window sill and crept down to the porch.

I took the banger out and was about to light the fuse,
And that was just about the time I saw a pair of shoes.
A hand shot out to grab me and I took off like a hare,
And I expect you're thinking 'well, it serves you right so there!'

Harvest Supper

As usual, a meal in the Village Hall was the closing event of our Harvest celebration. About 40 people were present. A splendid supper, of cold meats, quiches, baked potatoes and delicious salads, followed by apple pie, made up the menu - all home made of course.



Participants brought along their own drinks. Jackie Ellis and Shirley Singleton were the principal organisers, aided and abetted as ever by a goodly posse of ladies with familiar and welcoming faces. We were delighted to greet our two new benefice clergy: Wendy Griffith and Bruce Faulkner. Wendy said the Grace and Bruce conducted the final auction of fruit and vegetables. You can see Bruce hard at it in the photograph on the left. A very congenial evening, indeed. *Donald Limon*

Kingsdon Chronicle News

Proposed Chronicle delivery dates for the remainder of 2008
24th November and 22nd December (Special Christmas Edition)

I would like to thank all those generous people who have made very kind donations towards the Chronicle and the Defibrillator. Since 1st October 2007 a total of £2,016 has been donated to the Jubilee Fund. At the present time I do not see a need to make a set charge for the monthly issues of the chronicle. At the outset it was my hope that I could operate on donations and this I would like to continue doing as it is working well.

Anyone wishing to see the full accounts are welcome to come to 4 Manor Close where they can be inspected.

The Chronicle can now be seen on the internet at www.kingsdonchronicle.com Wally Elliott



Suzy and her Goldfish

Once upon a time a little girl called Suzy was in her garden digging a hole. Mrs Jones, the nosy parker from next door seeing Suzy digging leaned over the garden fence and asked what she was doing. "I'm digging a hole to bury my goldfish" snarled Suzy
 " Oh I am sorry to hear you have lost your goldfish, but why such a big hole for a little fish?" queried Mrs Jones.
 Without looking up Suzy replied vehemently "Because it's in side your ***** cat"

Fire swept the plains and burned down the farmer's barn. While he surveyed the wreckage, his wife called their insurance company and asked them to send a cheque for \$75,000, the amount of insurance on the barn. "We don't give you the money," a company official explained. "We replace the barn and all the equipment in it."

"In that case," replied the wife, "cancel the policy I have on my husband."

A dirty little boy was playing at the playground and walked up to his mother and asked, "Who am I?" The mother replied, "I don't know! Who are you?" the little boy said excitedly, "WOW! My teacher was right. She said that I was so dirty that even my own mother wouldn't recognize me."

After every flight, pilots fill out a form called a gripe sheet, which conveys to the mechanics problems encountered with the aircraft during the flight that need repair or correction. The mechanics read and correct the problem, and then respond in writing on the lower half of the form what remedial action was taken, and the pilot reviews the gripe sheets before the next flight. Never let it be said that ground crews and engineers lack a sense of humor! Here are some actual logged maintenance complaints and problems as submitted by Qantas pilots and the solution recorded by maintenance engineers.

(P = the problem logged by the pilot. S = the solution and action taken by the engineers.)

P: Left inside main tire almost needs replacement.
 S: Almost replaced left inside main tire.

P: Test flight OK, except auto-land very rough.
 S: Auto-land not installed on this aircraft.

P: Something loose in cockpit.
 S: Something tightened in cockpit.

P: Dead bugs on windshield.
 S: Live bugs on back-order.

P: Autopilot in altitude-hold mode produces a 200 feet per minute descent.
 S: Cannot reproduce problem on ground.

P: Evidence of leak on right main landing gear.
 S: Evidence removed.

P: DME volume unbelievably loud.
 S: DME volume set to more believable level.

P: Friction locks cause throttle levers to stick.
 S: That's what they're there for.

P: IFF inoperative.
 S: IFF always inoperative in OFF mode.

P: Suspected crack in windshield.
 S: Suspect you're right.

P: Number 3 engine missing.
 S: Engine found on right wing after brief search.

P: Aircraft handles funny.
 S: Aircraft warned to straighten up, fly right, and be serious.

P: Target radar hums.
 S: Reprogrammed target radar with lyrics.

P: Mouse in cockpit.
 S: Cat installed.

P: Noise coming from under instrument panel. Sounds like a midget pounding on something with a hammer.
 S: Took hammer away from midget.

Kingsdon's New Arrival

The timing could not have been better for the birth of Miss Honey Blaze on World Animal Day, Saturday 4th October. The foal is seen here with her proud mother, Honey Bunch, her father is Boxley Champers who kept an eye on mother and foal whilst they posed for photographs courtesy of their owner, Jenny Gamblin.



Photographs for the Chronicle

The Chronicle invites readers to submit their photographs of Kingsdon for publication. The best photograph each month will have pride of place on the front page. Please send photographs in jpeg format by email to wallyelliott@hotmail.com or 6 x 4 prints to 4 Manor Close, remember to include the photographers name, age (children) and address. Prints will be returned after scanning.

Kingsdon Ladies Club

Lynne Davies welcomed 17 members to the October meeting of the Ladies Club. It was agreed the Harvest Supper was much enjoyed. Several members thought the auction of produce was a good idea, and made £23 towards the Primary School's charity of 'Just a Drop'.

Ann had menus from two places for the Christmas Dinner and it was decided to book the Ilchester Arms. Birthday girls were Ann Baldwin, Yvonne Barbor, Marilyn St Clair, Phyl Winsor and Jackie Ellis. All received posies.

'A gift from God' was the title of the talk by Nick Webber. Nick has a farm at East Chinnock with around 200 Alpacas. He showed a short film of these very pretty and gentle animals from South America. He talked about their antics and took many questions from the floor.

Angie Saunders provided refreshments and Shirley Wilson won the flutter prize. The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

At the next meeting on 11th November at 7.30pm the guest will be Marion Salmon who will talk on Scottish Highland Dancing

New members or visitors are always welcome.



THE KINGSDON INN

NOVEMBER EXTRAVAGANZA

Monday 3rd November - Thursday 30th November

Table D'Hote Menu

**Soup of the Day
Mussels in White Wine Cream and Garlic
Deep Fried Brie and Cranberry**

**Braised Lamb Shank
Seafood Tagliatelle
Pheasant Breasts in Cream and Calvados Sauce**

£14.95 per head

Evenings Only

Subject to availability

Go on treat yourselves!

The Kingsdon Inn, Kingsdon, Nr Somerton, Somerset, TA11 7LG
Tel: 01935 840543 enquiries@kingsdoninn.co.uk www.kingsdoninn.co.uk



THE KINGSDON INN

CHRISTMAS MENUS 2008

available from 1st December

LUNCH

Cream of Leek & Potato Soup
Farmhouse Pork & Chicken Liver Pate
Crayfish Cocktail
Terrine of Leeks & Goats Cheese

Roast Local Turkey with Chipolata Sausage Bacon Stuffing and Cranberry Sauce
Seafood Mornay

Braised Lamb Shank with Onion Gravy
Deep Fried Brie & Onion Marmalade

Selection of Desserts

Coffee and Mince Pies

Price £15.00

Evening

Cream of Tomato & Red Pepper Soup
Smoked Salmon & Prawn Roulade
Button Mushroom in a Cream & Stilton Sauce
Smoked Chicken & Avocado Salad

Roast Local Turkey & Trimmings
Poached Fillet of Cod in a Tomato, Herb & Garlic Sauce
Medallions of Pork in a Cider, Cream & Mushroom Sauce
Grilled Rump Steak with Mushrooms
Potato & Leek Bake

Selection of Desserts

Coffee and Mince Pies

Price £22.50

Please note these menus need to be pre-booked and a non-refundable deposit of £5.00 per head is required with each booking. Cheques payable to the Kingsdon Inn. Deposit to be received at least 7 working days from date of booking.

Our normal Lunch and Dinner menus are also available



The Kingsdon Inn, Kingsdon, Nr Somerton, Somerset, TA11 7LG
Tel: 01935 840543 enquiries@kingsdoninn.co.uk www.kingsdoninn.co.uk

Letters to the Editor

A Kingsdon resident has asked me to mention how quite beautiful the area in front of the village hall now looks, thanks to the hard work of several villagers (Martin Singleton, Patrick Leahy et al.) The new grass, now well grown, sets off the hall quite delightfully and we should all be really grateful to those who have given their time to achieve this. The village field also looks great and much improved. *(Writer requests name & address to be withheld)*

Kingsdon Seniors Club

The October Meeting of the Seniors Club took place on October 8th at the Village Hall. 28 members attended. Douglas Higson took the meeting, which began with a short A.G.M. The Secretary Yvonne Barbor read a report on the Speakers we had heard last year. There were two sad events during the past year. Captain Anthony Ford and Tom Harris have passed on, and our sympathies go out to their families. One very good thing is that our President Betty Hawes is now well enough to attend some of our meetings, and we are very pleased to welcome her. The Committee has made some changes, which we hope you will approve. Jean Toole resigned from being Treasurer, which she has done most efficiently for 12 years, and Leslie Higson agreed to take it on. Jean Toole will now arrange the Raffle, instead of Leslie Higson. The next meeting will be on Nov 12th; the speaker will be Mr Colin Lawrance, who will tell us about the work of SSAFA. In case you do not know it, this is the Soldiers Sailors and Airmen's Association, which looks after the welfare of the families of anyone who is in any of the Services. We would like to open the meeting to any one in the neighbourhood serving or their wives; so that they can find out if they are getting all the benefits to which they are entitled. It is very important that we look after these brave men and especially their families. If you know anyone in the neighbourhood, or anywhere near do tell them about this meeting. It will be on Nov 12 at Kingsdon Village Hall at 3 p.m. Jean Toole then gave the Financial Report which was very satisfactory. We had £171 in the Bank, so the subscription will stay at £2. There was a discussion about the outings, and it was agreed that we will continue to use 3 or 4 cars instead of the bus, and we would only have one outing a year. The Christmas Lunch will be at the Kingsdon Inn as usual, and the price had only increased by £1, which seems very reasonable these days. Sir Donald Limon then introduced the Speaker, Mr Mark Dyer, who is an old friend of the club. His subject was Travelling for Business. He described how he had started in his career. He had just come down from Oxford, and did not know what he wanted to do. His father said he knew someone who was the Senior Partner in a well known Law firm, so although Mark had not read Law at Oxford he was invited to an interview, and after a very quick chat was offered the job of articled clerk. He was paid £5 a week and was very happy. Nowadays, about 100 apply for the same job and only 1 gets in. Mark was attached to the Dept of Company Law. The Senior partner had a farm in Sussex where all the cows were called after the other partners wives! He was also the Secretary of the Garrick Club, which did not leave much time for law. There was a great deal of travelling in those days, doing work which can now be done by computers. When travelling large sums of money were handed over to the lawyer, to make sure that the client was well entertained, and no questions asked. Mark travelled to many different countries, usually to be told he would not be wanted in court the next day, so he was able to explore some of the most beautiful parts of the world, quite free. It was not always quite so good, as when he went to Beirut he was often accosted and once shot at. He stayed once in one of the most luxurious hotels in the world in India where every guest was given a dressing gown, slippers and even loo paper with their name on in gold! The biggest change in travel now is that it is so crowded and uncomfortable. The saying that travel broadens the mind is not true, it causes stress and complications. Such is progress. Mr Douglas Higson proposed a vote of thanks for a very entertaining talk. Tea was provided by Lynne Davies and Mary Whitehead

John Barker

His friends send him best wishes for a speedy recovery following the operation and hope he will soon be up and about again.



Ethel Harris

The Chronicle send Birthday Greetings and Best Wishes to Ethel for her 76th Birthday on Sunday 2nd November



Late News

Congratulations to Sophie (nee Napier) and Tom Davis on the birth of their son at 2am on Saturday 25th October. Mum and Baby both fine.

Kingsdon Information

All Saints Church

Priest in Charge

Revd Alan Symonds Tel/Fax 01458 272029 (For arrangement of Baptisms, Weddings and other occasional services)

Assistant Priest

Revd Wendy Griffiths Tel 01458 224087

Curate

Revd Bruce Faulkner

Church Wardens

David Beswick. Tel 01935 840795

Norma Black Tel 01935 840727

Parochial Church Council

Secretary Sir Donald Limon Tel 01935 840450

Treasurer Alan Carnall Tel 01935 840692

Tower Captain Jackie Ellis Tel 01935 840344

Church Services for November

2nd 10am Combined Service (Patronal)

9th 10.55am Remembrance Service

16th 10am Parish Eucharist 6pm Evensong

23rd 9.30am Parish Eucharist

30th 10am Combined Service (Compton Dundon)

Church Rotas for November

Brass: Freda Curtis

Biesty & Jenny Gamblin

Please note especially the timing of the Service on the fourth Sunday is 9.30am. This is an innovation.

Flowers: Liz

Kingsdon C of E Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Christine Dawson

Secretary: Mrs Carolyn Brannan

For a prospectus or to arrange a visit please telephone or use the e-mail link below:

Kingsdon C of E Primary School,

Kingsdon, Somerset, TA11 7JX

Tel: 01935 840406 Fax: 01935 841765

Email: office@kingsdon.somerset.sch.uk

Chair of Governors: Alan Carnall

Tel: 01935 840692

PTFA

Jane Overd - Chair Tel: 01935 940172

Katie Campbell - Vice Chair

Jane Martin - Treasurer

Clare Ridewood - Secretary

Kingsdon Cricket Club

Chairman: Ian Birrell, Watersmeet, Huish Episcopi, Langport Tel 01458 250246

Secretary: Kathy Jamison 'Swallows' 43 Kingsdon Tel 01935 841049

Kingsdon Seniors Club

The Seniors Club meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 3pm in the Village Hall. For information contact Club Secretary Yvonne Barbor, Farm Cottage, Kingsdon. TA11 7JU Tel 01935 841070

Kingsdon Table Tennis Club

The Table Tennis Club play in the Village Hall on Tuesday evenings (apart from the 2nd Tuesday in the month) between 7.30pm and 9.30pm. If you are interested then please contact Shirley or Martin Singleton on 841162 or just come along.

Kingsdon Village Hall

For all information and bookings contact:-
Martin Singleton, Mountsandel Lodge, Mow Barton Rd.
Kingsdon. TA11 7LG Tel. 01935 841162

Bookings for November

Tai Chi	Mondays at 9.45am
Kingsdon School	Mondays at 1.15pm – 3.15pm
Short Mat Bowls Club	Mondays 7pm - 9pm
Short Mat Bowls Club	Tuesdays 10am - 12 noon
Table Tennis Club	Tuesdays at 7.30pm (not 11th)
Yeovil District Canine Society	Wednesdays at 8pm
Art Club	Thursdays at 10am
National Trust	Friday 7th - Morning
Ladies Club	Tuesday 11th at 7.30pm
Seniors Club	Wednesday 12th at 3pm
Parish Council Meeting	Thursday 13th at 7pm
Bacon Butty Morning	Saturday 15th 11am - 2pm
Practical Study Group	Wednesday 19th at 10am
Kingsdon Primary School	Wednesday 26th - Morning

Kingsdon Ladies Club

The Ladies Club meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. New members and visitors are always welcome. For information contact Club President Lynne Davies, Holly House, Frog Lane, Kingsdon. TA11 7LL Tel 01935 840660 or Club Secretary Jackie Ellis, Hill House, Rocky Hill, Kingsdon. TA11 7LB Tel 01935 840344

Christmas Greetings

If you would like to place a Christmas Greeting in the Chronicle instead of sending out local cards, thereby helping to save the unnecessary waste of card and paper, then please send in your messages with your own design or we can design one for you. Last year many people also gave to their favourite charity with the money saved by using this service.



Kingsdon All Saints Church

BACON BUTTY MORNING

Kingsdon Village Hall

on

Saturday 15th November

11am - 2pm

Raffle & Bring and Buy Stall



Neighbourhood Watch News

Two sentenced after a distraction burglary & 100mph m-way chase

A quick phone call was the key here. All too often distraction burglary victims delay calling the police because they go for a cup of tea with a neighbour, call their son on the phone and tidy up a bit. By the time they call us an hour later it's too late.

But last February we had a call whilst the offenders from Nottinghamshire and London were still rummaging around a house in Portishead. They had tricked their way in by asking to see the victim's stop-cock, asked for change for a £20 note, and asked for her pension number; an old trick designed to find out where the householder keeps her cash. The phone call to the police was made by the victim's neighbour across the road who observed the males going in and was suspicious.

On police attendance three males were seen to run off and drive away at speed in a Silver Ford Mondeo. After a pursuit when the offenders drove the wrong way along the M49, Michael CONNORS; 14-08-60 and Peter McCann; 24-04-80 were arrested.

A third unknown suspect escaped, having jumped from the moving car.

In late September McCANN was sentenced to 21 months for the burglary, and CONNORS was given 31 months for the dangerous driving.

To watch a video clip of the chase follow this link: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/bristol/7642862.stm>

But remember this happened because of an alert neighbour.

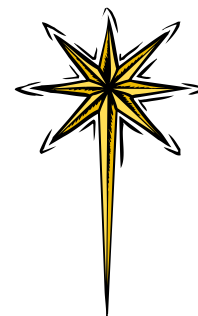
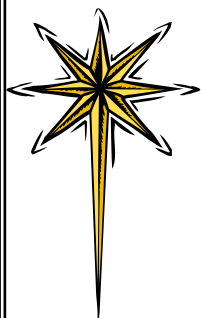
If you have information about any crime, phone the police on 0845 456 7000 or you can call anonymously to the independent charity CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111

Two eggs, a sausage, and a pancake walk into a bar. The bartender says, "Sorry, we don't serve breakfast."

Neighbourhood Watch News continued

There is a hoax email circulating regarding an alleged postal scam whereby a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) leave a note saying they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to t/p a premium line number to arrange collection. This originated in Belize and the call cost £15.00. This originated in 2005 and the premium line was closed down and the firm heavily fined.These hoax emails appear every Sept/Oct during the pre Christmas run in and are designed to block up the email communication system. Some even give the Post Office Fraud t/p number which shouldn't be in the public domain. If you do receive an email or a warning from friends and family please ignore the request to pass it on to as many people as possible...IT IS A HOAX POSTAL SCAM

Carol and Christingle Services 2008 at All Saints Church, Kingsdon



The Kingsdon PCC has decided this year to separate the Carol and Christingle Services as a trial run and these will now take place as follows:

Kingsdon Carol Service

at

6 p.m. on Sunday 21st December 2008

Kingsdon Christingle Service

at

4.30 p.m. on Sunday 28th December 2008



Would anybody who has not for the Carol Service before but please contact Nick Allan on

No auditions are required and rehearsals are limited to three.

sung in the Choir would be interested in doing so, 01935 840878.

We do hope that residents will give great support to both services and all, including children, are most welcome.

On The Beach by J.A. Spender

The letter from the shipping company arrived in the post.

It was, not unexpected - 'Dear Mr Spender, we very much appreciate your service with the company - etc etc but now we don't need you anymore - GOODBYE'.

That was April 1981.

So there I was - on the beach again - hung up my oilskin - stow away my seaboots.

I was a little short of the old age pension and I thought I ought to make some effort to obtain a job. As I had a naval pension I was not eligible for Unemployment benefit.

I did make some effort to obtain further employment. I visited the Employment office in Yeovil. A dusky young lady looked up from her desk - 'Gotteny collifications?'

'Yes' I replied, 'I'm a Master mariner.' She looked startled—'Wassat?'

Clearly my visit to the Employment bureau was unlikely to be fruitful. I did have an offer of apprentice—unpaid - to a cabinet maker in Wincanton. But while I considered the idea, the firm went to the wall.

Now it was time to settle in sedate retirement to enjoy the family life which has evaded me during my sea faring days. But where was the family? The birds seemed to have flown. A brother in Rhodesia, another in Cape town. Eldest son in Canada with granddaughter, daughter also in Rhodesia to seek her fortune, son in Hong Kong with the Gunners, another son at Sandhurst about to join the Irish Rangers in Ballymena. Our youngest son was the only one at home for a year at Yeovil college before going to Trinity in Dublin. I welcomed this year as I had a chance to get to know Barney at this stage which, due to my travels, I had not had with the others.

But we had a dog—Polly—a Giant Schnauzer. My proposal of marriage many years ago was only accepted on condition we could always have a dog. So we always have a dog. I first met Polly basking in front of the AGA. She greeted me with a friendly nip.

Several months later Polly produced a litter of seven puppies. We named them after characters in A Mid Summer Nights Dream. Naming puppies is a mistake as it makes it much more difficult to part with them. So I had some very happy times taking Polly to Dog Training.

There was a lot to be done on our cottage which we were continually extending, and decorating. Most of it was done by Russel who had good vision and a persuasive way with any council problems. He charged us £2 per hour for his labour.

I was persuaded to join our parish council which I supported for four years. But hearing got difficult. Eventually I was finding that 'All those in favour' my hand went up 'All those against' and five hands went up. I did get involved in marking the 'Rights of Way' in the parish. We did need to know where we could walk without aggravating the farmers and gamekeepers. My first adventures were not encouraging - brambles, barbed wire, ditches, shoulder high crops and sometimes angry farmers shouting and waving sticks. There were no signs or way marks and little evidence of the paths themselves.

I learnt that there was something called a definitive map which would identify all the bridleways and footpaths. A visit to County Hall in Taunton assured me that footpaths came under the District Council. My subsequent visit to the District office in Yeovil assured me that it was the County Council's responsibility. Our parish council were more interested in the village itself, whereas Kingsdon parish actually stretches from the Charltons to Northover.

I was much encouraged when I met the ramblers. They gave me great support. About the same time the District council appointed a footpaths officer. He was a tower of strength - retired from the sea - so we spoke the same language.

We walked the paths together - map and compass in hand. - 'Hey that church spire is on the port bow. It ought to be on starboard side. We've gone wrong'

The district council provided footpath signs for us to erect, which we did. Some were pulled up and thrown in ditches. We had to go back and bed them in concrete.

I had taken the precaution to warn the telephone, water and electricity authorities where we intended to erect the posts, seeking assurance that this would not interfere with their equipment. Those who bothered to reply were not helpful.

Whilst we were erecting one post I told my colleague that it needed to go about three inches deeper. He put the post down, grabbed his pick and swung it into the hole.

One guess what happened. YES - it was a gusher! We had punctured a main water pipe. Two men arrived from the water company, not in good humour.

'Who is going to pay for us being called out on a Saturday afternoon?'

'NO

'NOT ME' I said nervously 'I'm working for the council'. Never mind which council. The two men drove off with an ominous 'We'll see about that'

There was a problem with the Countryside Commission ploughing code being ignored. Cross field paths were planted with cereals which sometimes grew to six feet. Headlands were obliterated. The parish council turned a blind eye not wishing to upset the farmers.

There is a bridleway through the woods to Somerton which with the passing of tractors and horses hoofs had become a quagmire. This set the scene for legal action against the council—but which council? I managed to persuade a representative from both to meet on site and it was decided that it was the county responsibility. We served six months notice on them to restore the path, but thankfully our MP John Peyton took a hand and five and a half months the bridleway was restored.

The ramblers gave me great encouragement. They liked it when I led the walks as I always included the pub en route. But when I found myself leading the rear it was time to quit. I did the initial waymarking myself by painting yellow arrows on convenient posts but these were scraped off. Then the council provided small metal squares - yellow arrow on green background which was hammered on the wooden post with clout nails. But even these were sometimes ripped off. On my last appearance at the Parish council I reported that all the footpaths were now clear and it was up to the parish to keep them clear.

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Coffee Morning

In Aid of
Vision Aid Overseas



Saturday 1st November
from 10am till 12.30pm
The Estate Yard,
Manor Road, Kingsdon



Coffee
& Tea



Bring & Buy
a Book

Home made
Preserves

Raffle



Further Details from Nina Carlisle—Tel 01935 840933

Joyce Limon & Norma Black
Appeal on behalf of

The Lord's Larder

Kingsdon will be sending none perishable foods for Christmas.
Please help us to help those in great need who live in the Yeovil & District.
We will collect or you can deliver to Joyce at West Barn (840450), or
Norma at Park Villa (840727) by Tuesday 2nd December at the very latest.
Dry goods and in-date cans please (but not baked beans).

Thank You.

Music for Lupus



When I first had the idea in August to stage a concert in the Village Hall to raise funds for Lupus Awareness Month in October, it seemed a long way off. But as we all know times flies, and suddenly it was time for action, arranging publicity, having posters and tickets printed, approaching people for raffle prizes, and the gruelling task of selling tickets. As Friday October 10th approached, all the above tasks had been completed with the exception of selling the tickets, this was quite worrying as the Village Hall holds about 120 people and up until the afternoon of the event I had sold just 50 tickets. Not that this was too much of a problem, as 'Crisis' who were supplying the music for the evening, were giving their services free, so the costs were minimal.

Friday afternoon found Goff and myself and friends setting out tables, chairs, cups and saucers etc, and Crisis setting up microphones and amplifiers. When I arrived home it was to listen to two telephone messages from people cancelling because they were unwell. Oh dear, we were really going to rattle around an empty hall.

How wrong can you be? As 7.30p.m approached, the hall was suddenly packed with people buying tickets on the door. More chairs and tables had to be found, and more cups and saucers set out in the kitchen.

I could not have hoped for a better evening, all my fears vanished, as I watched everyone enjoying themselves and listening, sometimes joining in, to the music of Crisis. I cannot thank Crisis enough for agreeing to play just for a plate of sandwiches!

We raised an amazing £640.67p, from ticket sales, raffle and donations. After taking out the cost of hall, electricity and sundries we made a fantastic £535.61 for the Western Lupus Group.

Thank you to all my helpers, I couldn't have done it without you.

A special thanks to Algy and the Kingsdon Inn, Broadacre Farm Shop, Cobbs Healthfood Shop, Judith Felton Reflexology and to everyone who so generously donated raffle prizes. My thanks also to all of you who gave donations, these were really appreciated, and a big thank you to Wally and the Kingsdon Chronicle who helped to advertise the event. But most of all I want to thank the people of Kingsdon who turned out to support me, and made the evening such a success. Kingsdon, you really came up trumps, it really was 'all right on the night'.

Linda Rumbles

Q. Why was the employee fired from the orange juice factory? - A. He couldn't concentrate.

Saturday & Sunday
8th & 9th November

Ilchester and the twentieth century conflicts. An Exhibition.



Ilchester Town Hall
10 till 4PM
Free entrance



Jerry Masters invites you to solve the following riddle:

The two men had been cut off from their unit and were stranded , lost in the desert of North Africa, with no food or water, just the mangy old camel. For days they had wandered, hopelessly lost, getting weaker and weaker. They had found a shallow waddi to rest in during the hottest part of the day and lay down to rest, not sure if they would be strong enough to go on. As they drifted off into a fitful sleep, it started. One, two, three, four, five, “ Stop counting and go to sleep.” “ I’m not counting”. “ Yes you are, stop it “. Again, five, six, seven, eight. “ Stop that counting, you’re driving me mad”. “ It’s not me, I’m trying to sleep”. Nine, ten, eleven, twelve. “That’s it I’ve had enough”. With that he drew his Webley 45 and shot him through the head. He sighed as he rested his head back on the sand, closed his eyes and it started, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen. “ No, what have I done? - it must have been the camel”. As he looked at the camel he could see its’ jaw moving, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen. He shouted at the camel, “ Stop or you’re dead”. He was certain he saw a flicker of a sneer cross the camel’s face, BAM, he fired and the camel dropped dead. Peace at last, he rested his head back on the sand. Nineteen, twenty, twenty one, twenty two. “ No, oh God what have I done?” “ I can’t go on, I must as well end it now, just a last cigarette and I’ll do it”. He laid his revolver in his lap, took his packet of cigarettes out of his pocket, and there it was.

**If you want to know what it was, visit the exhibition in the Town Hall
Ilchester, Sat & Sun, 8th & 9th November**

Kingsdon Stores

Kingsdon Stores are pleased to announce that the Cash Machine is now up and running and that there is no charge for this service. Get you money free, not get your free money!!

Remembrance Day 11th November

It is only 2 weeks to Remembrance Day so get your Poppies from Richard and Angela at the Kingsdon Stores



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