

The Kingsdon Chronicle

Issue No. 8

April 2008

Large turnout for Meetings

An indication of how serious by the residents of Kingsdon view the uncertainties concerning the Post Office and the Primary School was demonstrated by the huge attendance at the meetings held in the village hall.

On Thursday 13th, 105 residents attended. The guest speakers, County Councillor Pauline Clarke, District Councillor John Calvert and Conservative candidate for Somerton & Frome, Annunziata Rees-Mogg were all in agreement as to the best way we could demonstrate are objections and voice are concerns to the possible closure of the post office and threat to the primary school. A survey was required to provide facts and figures concerning the usage of the post office.

On Saturday 15th a further 100 attended the meeting when the guest speakers were David Heath M.P. and County Councillor Pauline Clarke. Our M.P. (who was somewhat amazed at the huge turn out), outlined the present position within Government. He also spoke about the forthcoming vote on Post Office Closures, and what he believed to be the best way for those residents who wish to register their reasons why our Post Office should stay. He listened and took note of all the reasons we put forward. I spoke of my recent dangerous walk to Somerton Post Office with Western Gazette reporter, Miranda Shearer. The delays one can expect at the Somerton Branch and with the closure of the Yeovilton office also mentioned, Ilchester P.O. would, as a result, become very crowded. Also raised were the transport difficulties that would be experienced by the elderly and those without their own transport who would have to use the bus and then face the distances from bus stops to post offices and also the waiting around afterwards for the return bus. (I asked that all letters to the Consultation team be posted rather than sent by email.)

In writing to the consultation teams, either regarding future of the Post Office or the Primary School, advice was given not to merely vent one's anger in a letter, as this would serve no useful purpose. Ideally one should put forward all the reasons, with facts and figures, in a polite way, why Kingsdon Post Office should not be closed.

As regards the village school, on receipt of the consultation paper we were asked to write our replies of objection and to include all out of school activities that residents had attended. This would show the impact the school has on village life. Pauline spoke in detail on the County Council's role in these matters. It was made clear that the fight to save our Post Office and Village School should be a non-political issue.

I have been asked by the guests to thank everyone who attended, either Thursday or Saturday, thereby making the meetings very worthwhile.

It was made quite clear that we should **not** send our letters of comment to the consultation team by email as this would indicate to them we are able to use the internet and therefore there was no need for the Post Office.

**PLEASE HELP SAVE OUR VILLAGE POST OFFICE
BY ANSWERING THE ATTACHED SHORT SURVEY**

**PLEASE RETURN TO KINGSDON POST OFFICE
NO LATER THAN THIS TUESDAY APRIL 1st.**

In order to fight the closure of our Post Office it will be a great help if, when registering our objections to the Consultation team, we can give specific information concerning the post office customers and how closure would impact on our lives.

This questionnaire is totally anonymous; we do not need your names.

On completion it would be appreciated if it could be returned to the Post Office as soon as possible and no later than this Tuesday April 1st. If preferred, put this survey in an envelope and mark the envelope SURVEY.

Please complete one survey form **for each member** of your household who is old enough to use the post office.

Please also complete if you are resident outside Kingsdon but use the Post Office.

More forms are available at the Post Office.

DOING THIS SURVEY MAY HELP TO SAVE KINGSDON POST OFFICE.

The David Brettell Quiz Hosted by Sir Donald and Lady Limon



Following the news that Kingsdon resident, David Brettell, has been diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease, the South and East Somerset branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association have been providing tremendous support to David, Wendy and Ben in these difficult times, and they deserve our support for the tremendous work they do in helping sufferers from MND and in contributing handsomely to research into the disease.

A special fund is being organised by David's firm, (Henshaw Inflatables) of which he is joint Managing Director. Their aim is to raise in excess of £25,000. At the time of going to press £6,457 has already been raised. A sponsored walk on 17th May by employees of Henshaws, is expected to raise a substantial sum.

On Friday 16th May at 7.30pm Donald and Joyce will be hosting a quiz to raise funds in Kingsdon for the MND Association.

Entrance to the Village Hall will be £6 per person (£3 for juniors) for participation in the quiz and your supper. Teams of about 4 please, (but no one will be counting). It would be appreciated if you could buy tickets in advance in order to ensure enough suppers are prepared. Vegetarians catered for - please state when buying ticket.

During the interval there will be a raffle and auction. Donations for this will be very much appreciated.

Tickets can be obtained from the Limons, the Singletons and the Village Shop. who will also be pleased to receive your donated items for the raffle and auction.

The first item for auction will be a bottle of Speaker Martin's 10 Years Old Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky from the Macallan Distillery, signed by the Speaker himself for this good cause.

The quiz is a 'bring your own drinks' event, however tea and coffee will be served during the interval.

Quiz master and question setter will be Wally Elliott.

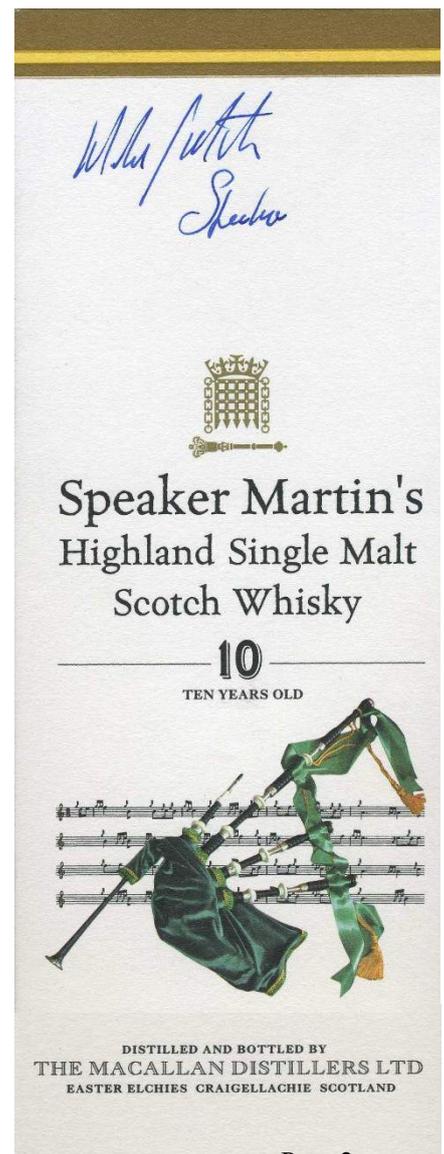
The residents of Kingsdon have always been very generous in supporting such fund raising activities, a fact which is well known in South Somerset, and which we should all be proud of.

I am sure you will once again find it in your hearts to support this very worthy cause.

If you are unable to attend the quiz but would like to support the appeal you can make a donation on the 'Just Giving' web site at the following link

<http://www.justgiving.com/DavidBrettell>

Alternatively you can give your donation to Donald or Joyce, please make cheques payable to Motor Neurone Disease Association.



Kingsdon Postcodes

Over the last few weeks I have carried out a survey of post codes in Kingsdon. As can be seen from the street map of Kingsdon, certain addresses over quite a large area have the same postcode. This can lead to confusion and delay for institutions, commercial organisations and emergency services visiting an address, who are relying on information stored on the Royal Mail postcode database. This database, where small villages are concerned does not always include the names of thoroughfares, and when accessed, you will also find a house number rather than its name together with a post code. This does not stop you at present from using your street name or house name, but these should be in conjunction with your house number (where allocated) and postcode. For those trying to find you without accessing the database, they will still have difficulties until such time as street name plates are installed.

If anyone wishes to have their own Postcode reviewed or changed, they should phone Denise Barns Tel. 01935 462053. who is the Admin Assistant for street Naming and Numbering. This process is quite painless and only takes a few days. It must be noted however that any change could take several months to filter through to end users of Royal Mail's postal address file, as it is reliant on companies updating their individual address databases. There has been one change of post code within Kingsdon recently. In doing it, the District Council notified 31 different organisations of the change.

Victoria Greenwood to be a Paramedic



Victoria Greenwood is at last achieving a personal goal and begins her training towards becoming a paramedic this month. Tors who is 26yrs old and the youngest of three daughters, was born and bred in Kingsdon, she attended the village school, followed by Huish Episcopi School, moving on to Strode college where she studied Performing Arts for two years. Once she left college Tors drifted in various productive areas but finally settled down when she started work at Lufton Manor College in Yeovil, which is a special needs residential college for young adults. She has been happy working there for six years as learning support and for a time, a tutor of learning skills and basic needs. Of late she has felt she wanted to move on and expand her knowledge in a field that she has been interested in for a long time. So throwing 'caution to the wind' and putting her boyfriend and beloved Camper van on hold, Tors went through various interviews and tests towards this and on March 17th will be resident in Bournemouth for two intensive weeks, and another week in Taunton, before she comes home to the Yeovil area where she will take up the first part of this long 'journey'. This entails working as part of a team on none emergency ambulance transport. After a short time she will continue to practise by then going on to university to study for a paramedic science degree. She has a full programme in front of her, we are all very proud of her and wish her well.

Advance Notice—Annual Church Fete

Plans are under way to hold this years Church fete and car boot sale on 14th June. Although it seems a long way off, the organisers are looking to our generous green fingered villagers to spare a thought when they are pricking out and perhaps save any surplus plants (flowers or veg) to donate for the plant stall. *Sally Clapperton*
Norma Black is making a plea for any unchipped coffee mugs that can be used by the Church for fundraising events.

Letters to the editor

One of the crossword clues in the March issue of the Chronicle (Common Village Surname - Attwell) led me to reflect on changes over the years.

Once upon a time the names of Tarr, Parker, Taswell and Hollard were **the** surnames in Kingsdon. They have now gone— and in time so will the Attwells. I cannot see any hope of multiplication of surnames in the future as we have done nothing to encourage young couples to the village. Children who grew up and went to school here have had to go outside the village for affordable housing. Is this not one reason why we are now having to fight for our village school, and our Post Office. *Irene Attwell*

I think we can all take some pride in the solidarity the village is showing over the question of the threat to the school and our Post Office. Community spirit is alive in Kingsdon.

A thought has occurred to me that I would like to share. Apparently, Battery Farms are bad for chickens while Battery Schools are good for children! At least that seems to be the attitude of those who believe that they know best. The children attending the village school get a wonderful start to their educational experience. They learn good habits which will stand them in good stead when the time comes to go forward to the larger learning centres.

My concern is that I am not entirely convinced that those who make the decisions fully understand what the word "consultation" really means. I wonder if they attended a village school in their early years?

I will not go on about the Post Office as the case has been well made. Again that word consultation has been used, BUT! *Jim*

The Humour Page

More Church Notices (from Jean Toole)

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell". Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of some new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will go to cripple children.

Age - by Marilyn Elliott

Have you ever been guilty of looking at others your own age and thinking, "surely I can't look that old"

The other day I was sitting in the waiting room for my first appointment with a new dentist. I noticed his diploma was displayed which bore his full name. Suddenly, I remembered a tall, handsome, dark-haired boy with the same name had been in my Grammar School class some 40-odd years ago. Could he be the same boy that I had a secret crush on, way back then?

On seeing him, however, I quickly discarded any such thought.

This balding, grey-haired man with deeply lined face and a paunch was way too old to have been my class-mate.

After he examined my teeth, I asked him if he had attended the local grammar school. Yes. Yes, I did" he gleamed with pride.

"When did you leave?" I asked.

He answered, "In 1958. Why do you ask?"

"You were in my class!" I exclaimed.

He looked at me closely. Then, that ugly, old, bald, fat, grey-haired, decrepit son-of-a-bitch asked, "What did you teach?"

Humour on the balcony - One is not amused!



Guess the country of origin?

ATTORNEY: Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for blood pressure?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for breathing?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: How can you be so sure, Doctor?

WITNESS: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar.

ATTORNEY: I see, but could the patient have still been alive, nevertheless?

WITNESS: Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law.

Kingsdon Parish Council Planning Meeting

Held on Thursday 6th March at 7pm in the village hall

Present: Council Chairman Tony Masters, Councillors Adrian Balhetchet, Mel Clode, Richard Hollaway, Patrick Leahy, David Morris, Brian Turner, County Councillor Pauline Clarke and District Councillor John Calvert. The minutes were taken by the clerk, Jenny Gamblin. 6 Parishioners were also present.

Minute of Previous Meeting. Were agreed and signed.

Matters Arising.

Brincill Hill - Councillor Leahy outlined the present position regarding the unauthorised work to the verge. SSDC have agreed the work carried out to be incorrect but would not be taking the matter further.

Chapel Hill - The amended application was discussed and it was agreed that the original decision of recommending refusal should stand. (This application has been approved by SSDC)

Application for conversion of barn at Langlands Farm to a dwelling. After discussion and hearing positive representations from residents the application was approved by the Chair's casting vote.

Street Name Plates. An official from SSDC has visited Kingsdon to inspect possible sites for street name plates. There was a discussion on the type, availability, costs and positioning of name plates. This to be further discussed at the next council meeting.

A.O.B. Kingsdon Manor School staff have asked for permission to install a seat in memory of Tom Harris. Agreement in principle was given. Kingsdon Manor School have offered a playhouse to the council for village use, this cost £6,000 2 years ago - to be inspected by the council prior to acceptance.

There is to be a meeting in Somerton on 17th March at 10.15am regarding the B3151 and A372 roads.

The barn to the rear of the Kingsdon Inn is not to be listed.

There is to be a viewing at Springfield Glenda Spooner Farm at 2.30pm on Thursday 20th March in connection with a proposed planning application.

Kingsdon Ladies Club

Annual General Meeting Tuesday 11th March

Lynne welcomed 16 members.

The present committee were all willing to stand for another year but Shirley would like a break from organising the speaker.

The Committee: Lynne Davies – President, Jackie Ellis – Secretary, Jenny Gamblin – Treasurer, Ann Leahy – Posters and Programme, Ann Baldwin, Jean Toole, Phyl Winsor and Shirley Singleton.

Freda was thanked for making the birthday posies, and is prepared to make them for another year.

Margaret Hill was thanked for her donation to the club.

Jenny was unable to have the accounts ready for the AGM but would bring them to the April meeting. Birthday girls were Edna Gordon, Brenda Hodges, Margaret Hill and Shirley Singleton.

The guest speaker, Sandra Potter showed us how she makes her greeting cards, mainly by rubber stamp. Many were very unusual and members were keen to have a go. Freda gave the vote of thanks.

Phyl won the flutter prize. Refreshments were provided by Ann Leahy and Jackie Ellis. The meeting closed at 9.30pm

The speaker next month will be June Bridger, who is to give a cookery demonstration.

Anyone will be most welcome to the meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.

Kingsdon Seniors Club

The March Meeting of the Seniors Club took place on Wednesday 22nd March, 32 members attended. Sir Donald Limon took the Chair. He announced that there were two important meetings about the proposed closure of the Post Office and the School, one was on Thursday 13th at 7.30pm and the other one was on Saturday at 9a.m. with our Local M.P. David Heath. He urged us to attend if at all possible, as it is so important to try to keep our village life as we like it. He then introduced our Speaker, Mary Whitehead, a long standing resident of Kingsdon. She showed us photos of the village in the 1960's.. There were many pictures of local inhabitants, many of whom were in the hall today. One of the photos showed Tony and Thelma Masters' house being built, and another one showed a villager moving her household belongings by hand cart ! There was picture of the Queen and Prince Philip driving through Somerton in 1967. Mary also had some scrapbooks of events in the village since the Coronation, which people looked at afterwards, and found very interesting. We were all amazed at the difference in the house prices today! Sir Donald proposed the vote of thanks, Brenda Hodges and Margaret Hill provided the tea. *Yvonne Barbor*

Copies of Mary's scrapbooks are maintained by the Kingsdon Chronicle and are available for loan.

Good Advice - The following extract was emailed to me from a friend who asked me to email it on to my friends and associates. Well not all my friends have email, and as the information is so important I have decided to print it here in The Chronicle to ensure that those residents in Kingsdon who, like me, know very little about strokes will be better informed.

The FAST Test

Stroke: spot the symptoms

Someone has a stroke in the UK every five minutes. Know what a stroke is and being able to recognise its symptoms can make a vital difference to someone's recovery.

Surveys regularly show that most people cannot name the three main symptoms of stroke, yet stroke claims 67,000 lives a year and is the leading cause of disability. Thousands of deaths and cases of disability could be avoided if people could spot the symptoms and seek immediate treatment.

Stroke is a 'brain attack' caused by a disruption of the blood supply to the brain.

There are two main types of stroke:

Ischaemic: the most common form of stroke, caused by a blood clot which starves part of the brain of oxygen leading to the death of brain cells.

Haemorrhagic: caused by a bursting of blood vessels producing bleeding, which causes damage.

FAST test

The Stroke Association's Face Arm Speech Test (FAST) lists the main symptoms to look out for:

- **Facial** weakness: can the person smile? Has their mouth or eye drooped?
 - **Arm** weakness: can the person raise both arms?
 - **Speech** problems: can the person speak clearly and understand what you say?
- Test** all three symptoms.

“FAST will pick up 90% of strokes,” says Dr Tony Rudd, stroke programme director at the Royal College of Physicians' Clinical Effectiveness and Evaluation Unit.

“If people have one or more of these symptoms they should call 999.”

'Time is brain' is the message from stroke experts. It means that prompt action can prevent further brain damage and help someone make a full recovery.

Delay can result in death or major long-term disabilities, such as paralysis, severe memory loss and communication problems.

Brain cells starved of oxygen will die, causing irreversible damage within three hours. However, if you can get the blood flowing again quickly, the damage can be averted

The minor stroke (TIA)

More difficult to identify is the Transient Ischaemic Attack (TIA) or minor stroke. About 10 to 30% of people who have a TIA go on to have a stroke so spotting a TIA can save lives and prevent long-term disability.

“When you have a TIA, you have some symptoms, as with a stroke, but everything gets better within a few minutes or hours,” says Dr Rudd.

“The problem is that many people, once the symptoms go away, will pretend it didn't happen.”

One in three people who have a TIA go on to have a stroke within a month, and the majority of these will happen within days. “With proper diagnosis you will significantly reduce the risk of somebody having a stroke after a TIA,” says Dr Rudd.

High blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol levels, a family history of stroke, heart disease, drug use, excessive drinking and smoking all increase the risk of stroke.

“The older you are, the greater the risk,” says Dr Rudd.

“People need to understand that stroke is a treatable condition,” he says. “But it's much more treatable if you can intervene quickly.”



Cross Country at Kingsdon Manor School

The health and fitness of the nation's school children has been very much in the news of late – with much concern being expressed about children not being encouraged or given the opportunities to develop their stamina and general fitness.

All those witnessing Kingsdon Manor's recent Cross Country event would have been reassured that our children's health and wellbeing is in safe hands. This annual event is organized by Lawrence Davies, Kingsdon Manor School's Sports and English teacher, and involves over 100 students from 6 schools in the area. The event on Wednesday, 19 March was marked by excellent displays of running prowess, sheer grit and determination and excellent examples of sportsmanship.

Luke Boulton of Kingsdon Manor School won the senior boys' event, Wesley Henry of Larkrise School won the junior boys' event and Rosa Haines of Larkrise School won the girls' event.

Overall team winners were Senior boys' – Westhaven, Junior boys' – Fosseway and Girls' – Fosseway.

The real winners, however, were all of those taking part – encouraged and supported by their school staff.



On your marks. The boys line up at the start of the 2008 cross country race.

Refuse & Recycling

From the week starting 31st March your refuse, recycling and food waste will be collected on a **TUESDAY**.

Please ensure that all waste and recycling is available for collection by 7am.

From the week starting 31st March your recycling and food waste will be collected weekly every **TUESDAY** and your refuse will be collected fortnightly also on a **TUESDAY**. Shown below are the first seven collection dates for **refuse**.

April:	1	15	29	Date changed due to Bank Holiday
May:	13	28		
June:	10	24		

Collections continue on these cycles until further notice.

As this period of change may cause gaps greater than two weeks between collections we will accept an extra sack of refuse for collections from 31st March to 11th April.

GARDEN WASTE COLLECTIONS ARE UNCHANGED.

South Somerset District Council:
Tel: 01935 461046 e-mail: SSDC@southsomerset.gov.uk
www.southsomerset.gov.uk

The Somerset Waste Partnership provides waste and recycling services on behalf of all local authorities in Somerset.



SSDC Tues

Sadly, this may be the last time the event will be held at Kingsdon Manor – with a final decision about the school's future anticipated in April.

All involved in this year's Cross Country event agreed it was a memorable day for all concerned.

*John Holliday
(Headteacher)*



The International League for the Protection of Horses (ILPH) was founded in 1927. It is one of the world's leading horse charities, and ended a four year search for a new Rehabilitation Centre in the South West when it bought the ideal premises here at Kingsdon and moved in at the end of 2006. The property – formerly called Springfield, and purchased from racehorse trainer Nathan Rossiter – improves the ILPH's ability to help sick, damaged and abused horses. Ideally situated with excellent road links, it is hoped this will reduce stressful journey times for equines needing nursing and rehabilitation. The ILPH is the largest re-homer of horses in the UK with over 2,000 former cruelty cases currently in its care, either in its four centres or on its loan scheme with caring and qualified borrowers.

This farm was purchased to replace an existing farm in Herefordshire, and the ILPH have renamed Springfield 'Glenda Spooner Farm' to signify this is relocation rather than a closure of the ILPH's Herefordshire Centre. The Farm was named to commemorate the achievements of Glenda Spooner, a renowned breeder and judge, who also cared passionately about equine welfare. Amongst other things, she was one of a group who founded 'Ponies of Britain', an organisation which helped to preserve our 9 native breeds of horse and pony before most of them had their own societies, and she was also involved in the lobbying of Parliament regarding the passing of the 'Minimum Values' legislation of 1970 which effectively has prevented the live export of horses for slaughter ever since. Transportation is an issue the ILPH has campaigned about from its inception to the present day.

Janet Dale, Manager of the old ILPH Glenda Spooner Farm in Herefordshire, moved here to manage the new centre. She commented: "It was sad to leave such a lovely farm, but ultimately we'll be able to rehabilitate more horses; one of the fields here at the new centre is the same size as the entire farm in Herefordshire that I had been managing! We'll be able to care for up to 100 horses at this centre compared to the 50 we were able to cater for.

Janet commented, "It is a sad fact that there is a need to rescue more and more abused horses in Britain; this new larger centre is helping us to meet this demand, rescuing and re-homing many more horses every year. There's a lot of work still to be done to make this new place fully effective, but the basic infrastructure of the new centre was good enough for us to start rehabilitating here at once. We hope, subject to planning permission, to make this property as visitor friendly as possible so people can see at first hand the work we do. A lot of work has already taken place in identifying how best we can achieve this without spoiling the beautiful scenery here at Kingsdon. Once we have planning permission we will be launching a fundraising appeal." The work when completed will increase the number of staff needed and thereby provide much needed jobs and a boost to the local economy in Kingsdon and the surrounding area, something we are pleased to announce at this time with the ongoing threat to other local employing establishments. It is also hoped that links can be established with local schools and this is something which Janet, who spent many years working as an archaeologist before concentrating on horses, is keen to promote. "Apart from horses and ponies the Farm is home to a wide range of plants, birds and other animals, and a Roman road also crosses the site. We will be delighted to offer teachers and pupils free access to the resources we have on offer. We are happy to link visits in with talks at schools, given either by the Farm staff or one of our Field Officers. As a result of one such talk in October 2007 (and a visit by ILPH Jason to the school assembly!) the children organised a coffee morning and Bring and Buy sale to raise money for us, which was fantastic".

With its headquarters in Norfolk, four Recovery and Rehabilitation Centres throughout the UK, training courses currently taking place in Lesotho, Guatemala, Romania, the Gambia, Cape Town in South Africa, and Mexico, and affiliate organisations in Germany, South Africa, Israel and New Zealand, the ILPH has grown to become the world's leading international equine welfare charity.

The ILPH held its annual seminar for the first time in the West Country last October, attended by ILPH President, HRH The Princess Royal. She was greeted at the entrance by Janet, staff members Emma Cornish and Heather Braine, and ILPH Copper. Speaking at the seminar held at the University of Bristol School of Veterinary Science in Langford, Her Royal Highness described ILPH Glenda Spooner Farm at Kingsdon as 'defining the future of the ILPH, which is going from strength to strength.' She believed that 'the ILPH did more for horses worldwide than anyone else, through relentless campaigning, rehabilitation of horses in the U.K and international training.'

Her Royal Highness went on to say that out of the approximately 150 horse charities in the United Kingdom, the ILPH was 'the leader in the art of rehabilitating horses' and the move from Herefordshire to the larger premises in Kingsdon would make it much easier to help and rehabilitate even more horses, whilst educating the public at the same time. It is hoped that once the development of new facilities is complete she might honour the Farm with a visit to see for herself how much more this centre can offer to equines in need in comparison with the old farm which she opened in April 1998.



Birthday Greetings

"Happy Birthday Mum, on Your 90th. With Love, from Faith, John, Sharon, Shaun, Thomas and Jake."

Highways Meeting for Village Representatives

A meeting was held at Somerton Parish rooms on 17th March for village representatives from Barton St David, The Charltons, Compton Dundon, Keinton Mandeville and Kingsdon as part of the review of 'The Local Transport Plan 2006-2011'

In attendance were Ioan Rees, Head of Highways and Passenger Transport for Somerset, Clive Sutton the Area Traffic Engineer, County Councillor Pauline Clarke, one councillor from Charlton Mackrell, and Richard Hollaway, David Ellis and myself from Kingsdon.

Ioan Rees, speaking on matters pertaining to Kingsdon, was quite honest when he said there was little could be done to reduce the amount of heavy vehicles using the B3151. He accepted that some of this traffic was using the road as a short cut but a high percentage of goods traffic was of a local nature which meant any weight restrictions were out of the question. One initiative that was being actively encouraged however was the production of a Satnav for HGV drivers that would be programmed to keep goods vehicles to trunk roads where possible. In the long term, if global warming continues, the stretch of the M5 where it crosses the Somerset levels would be under water and a new route would be required

In order to make best use of the budget, money was spent where it would have best results. For example road safety improvements were accident statistics led.

Any drastic change at Red Post such as traffic lights was not seen as financially viable. To put a speed limit on the B3151 from the reservoir on Kingsdon hill to Red Post would cost in excess of £20,000.

Clive Sutton asked residents to phone 0845 3459155 to report road defects such as pot holes. (The pot hole outside Jim Master's house in Manor Road has been reported and given a reference No. 170305)

Bingo in the village hall?

John & Faith Barker of 7 Cary Way, Kingsdon, would like to hear from anyone who would be interested in coming along to Bingo sessions in the village hall. If there is sufficient interest, they would be happy to be the organisers. Please contact John & Faith on 01935 840489 or email: johnbarker999@hotmail.com

Kingsdon Cricket Club Annual General Meeting

At the meeting held recently, the following officers were elected: -

- President - Wallace Elliott
- Chairman - Ian Birrell
- Captain - James Schofield
- Vice-Captain Bruce Weddell
- Secretary - Kathie Jamison
- Fixtures - Len Hampson

Match fees and Annual subscriptions to remain at £5 and £35 respectively.

A discussion took place regarding the new field which we will be taking over from 1st April. Ben Carlisle explained the legal position regarding the lease and gave a brief costing of setting up the new field to make it playable for the 2009 season.

This coming year we must make every effort to collect fees and subscriptions. All members were asked to assist with fund raising as, not only will we be working on the new field but will still have to maintain the present Manor School field for this season. Field maintenance costs over the last 4 years have averaged £1,400 per annum.

All expenditure to be kept to an absolute minimum

The 'Crazy Golf, BBQ & Skittles' weekend will be on 21st/ 22nd June.

Members were asked to try and recruit new members and Vice-Presidents

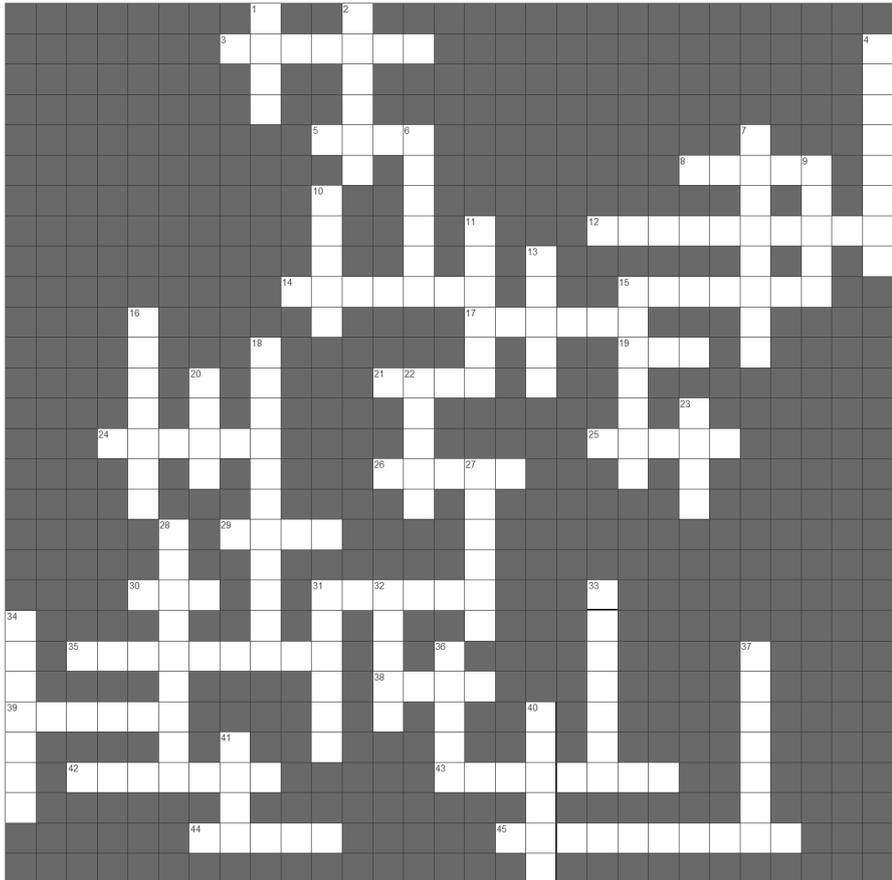
Neighbourhood Watch

Due to the large increase in the prices paid for scrap metal there have been numerous thefts of lead and copper in particular throughout this policing district. Lead is being stolen from roofs of domestic and industrial buildings as well as church roofs etc. Copper wiring and pipes are also being targeted. It is important that any suspicious activity involving scrap metal is reported immediately to the police using the 999 system when necessary.

Sightings of a vehicle required registration number to follow. Sightings of the following vehicle are required which has been seen in suspicious circumstances throughout this district and the South West--- White MAZDA PICK UP TRUCK index number K220 EWC. ---Please report any sightings to the Police on 0845 456 7000 or to Crimestoppers on 0800 555111. If this vehicle is seen in suspicious circumstances use the 999 system. Please quote Ringmaster message F343 and ask for the call to be tagged NHW

Thought for the day - To err is human, but to really foul things up requires a computer!

John Barker's Crossword - Answers in next issue



- Across**
- 3. Harmony Between People (7)
 - 5. A Wise Person (4)
 - 8. Stringed Instrument (5)
 - 12. A Violation (10)
 - 14. Become Greater (7)
 - 15. American Piglike Mammal (7)
 - 17. Russian Horse Drawn Coach (6)
 - 19. Mountain Pass (3)
 - 21. Central Part of a Church (4)
 - 24. World's Deepest Lake (6)
 - 25. World's Hottest Country (5)
 - 26. A Unit of Heat (5)
 - 29. Dam Across a River (4)
 - 30. Channel Islands Rowing Boat (3)
 - 31. Desert Wind (6)
 - 35. Where is World's Highest Waterfall (9)
 - 38. Body's Largest Organ (4)
 - 39. Long Jagged Mountain Range (6)
 - 42. Wine Merchant (7)
 - 43. Situated in San Francisco Bay (8)
 - 44. Wooded District in Kent (5)
 - 45. Coiled Or Twisted (10)

- Down**
- 1. An Islet in a River (4)
 - 2. Large Wasp (6)
 - 4. Of Ruddy Complexion (8)
 - 6. Wrinkled, Corrugated (6)
 - 7. A Private Meeting (8)
 - 9. Friendly Relations (5)
 - 10. These People Were Once Feared (5)
 - 11. Small Punnet (6)
 - 13. Holy Water Basin (5)
 - 15. Peaceful (7)
 - 16. Tiny Pores in Plant Leaves (7)
 - 18. Increase Rapidly (11)
 - 20. British Naturalised Forest Deer (4)
 - 22. Dominant Male Pack Animal (5)
 - 23. Unit of Data (4)
 - 27. Deep Resonant Sound (6)
 - 28. Tramp (9)
 - 31. Large Dung Beetle (6)
 - 32. Remorse (5)
 - 33. Russian Tea Urn (7)
 - 34. South American Evergreen Tree (7)
 - 36. Leg Bone and Rank of Pipes on an Organ (5)
 - 37. A Petty Objection (7)
 - 40. World's Greatest River (6)
 - 41. Narrow Wooded Valley (4)

All Saints Church, Kingsdon Services for April

- 6th 11am - Family Service
- 13th 10 am - Combined service
at Somerton
- 20th 11am - Eucharist.
- 6 pm - Evensong
- 27th 11 am - Eucharist

Rota for April

- Flowers - Angela Sleep
- Brass - Linda Beswick & Sheila Lord

Late news received Thursday 27th March as I went to print!

KINGSDON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Somerset County Council have confirmed that Kingsdon Primary School will be subject to a "consultation" process. A vital part of keeping your school open is for the village community as a whole to express and demonstrate their support for the school. In the coming weeks The Chronicle will be suggesting ways in which you can help. In the near future the school will be distributing a survey asking for your views on how the school and the community can help each other. Meanwhile Somerset County Council will be publishing details of the consultation process which will commence shortly.

Board of Governors Kingsdon C of E Primary School

Kingsdon Parish Council

The next council meeting will be at 7pm on Thursday 10th April in the village hall.