

# *Kingston Parish & Church Magazine*



**July 2020**

## **Village Diary**

At the time of going to print,

All scheduled village activities are cancelled.

Kingston Village hall is closed until further notice. However, awaiting Government advice, this is soon likely to change.

## **Wheelie bin collection dates**

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Blue & green bins
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Black bin
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Blue and Green bins
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Black bin
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> July	Blue and Green bins

## **Editorial**

Having lauded 2020 as the year to better 2019, as some commentators have pointed out, we have seen a combination of the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic, the 1929 Great Crash economically and the 1968 race riots in the USA – except all at the same time! What have we done to deserve it? Even in our little backwater, it's hard to avoid the ravages of our times. What we all hope, of course, is that good comes out of all the bad: more civility, more caring, more community, more understanding of the travails of those around us. Before 2020 it was comparatively easy to ignore the ills amongst us. Maybe the biggest gift of 2020 is this is no longer possible. As one hotelier, who has taken homeless people into his empty establishment, has said, previously he walked on by rough sleepers. No longer, he said.

Celebrating our lovely environment are Heather Ginn's photos, one of which appears on the cover, and articles from Paul Wright and David Heath are much appreciated.

Peter Holly [pjholly45@gmail.com](mailto:pjholly45@gmail.com) 01223 264 556

## Vicar's Letter

How much of the earth's surface do you think is unexplored and unmapped? You might think, with the likes of the great Victorian explorers, and Ordnance Survey, that it's not very much.

So it might surprise you to know that the answer is 57% - nearly three fifths of our planet's surface is unknown to us in any greater detail than things about a kilometre across.

You've probably worked it out – I'm talking about the ocean floor. 71% of the earth is covered by ocean, and we so far have detailed maps of less than one fifth of it.

Psalm 8 verse 8 (in the King James translation) speaks of "whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas" which to me is a wonderful phrase. We know there's stuff down there, but we don't know what it is, or where it is!

While it's true that we know far more about our world and our universe than previous generations, and our knowledge is growing all the time, each new scientific advance brings with it a new area of ignorance. The things we don't know expand faster than the things we do, and sometimes, as in the case of covid-19, that ignorance can have tragic consequences.

The point of Psalm 8 is that while we might not know what's going on under the ocean waves, God does, because the universe is the "work of his fingers". The psalm continues, speaking about human beings and saying that God put all things "under our feet" – but that doesn't mean we have to stamp on them.

It might be deforestation, overusing fossil fuels, destroying protective ozone with CFCs, hunting species to extinction, overfishing, eating unsafe meat, poor farming practices or many other things, but we have messed up God's amazing world.

Covid-19 has been a terrible thing for the many hundreds of thousands who have been infected, or even bereaved by it. Let's attempt to redeem some of that suffering by not letting things slip back to how they were before, but by gaining a new respect for the work of God's fingers, and a new humility, given our own ignorance.

How will you make our new world a better place?

***Rev. Steve Day***

## Church reopening

We are very pleased to announce that the church has now been reopened for private prayer on **Wednesdays** and **Saturdays**, from 9.30 to 5pm. Please use the hand sanitiser provided and keep to the social distancing guidelines. The church cleaning and flowers and brasses rotas can now also resume. The church will be closed for two weeks from the 27<sup>th</sup> July: see below. The church is also open for funerals *with attendance by invitation only*, but not yet for services of worship.

## Church services for July

Worship continues online using the application Zoom. Go to [www.papworthteamchurches.org](http://www.papworthteamchurches.org) for details and sign up for the weekly newsletter.

### Daily Morning Prayer online at 8.15am

For further information contact the Revd Stephen Day [revdsmday@cantab.net](mailto:revdsmday@cantab.net)

### 11.15am Sunday service by telephone

A short service of the word using your telephone rather than the internet: further details from Nigel Pearson at [njfarm@gmail.com](mailto:njfarm@gmail.com) or 01954 719637.

## Church cleaning

1st Sunday	Peter and Suzy Stokes
2nd Sunday	Donal and Monica O'Donnell
3rd Sunday	Peter Reynolds
4th Sunday	Janet Clear
5th Sunday	Linda Rimmer

## Church flowers and brasses

July 5 <sup>th</sup>	Christine Stone
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Christine Allison
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Janet Clear
July 26 <sup>th</sup> –	no flowers: church closed (see below)

## Wall painting conservation 27<sup>th</sup> July – 7<sup>th</sup> August

The Perry Lithgow Partnership were all set to carry out the conservation of the nave arcade wall paintings in April: the work has now been rescheduled for the two weeks 27<sup>th</sup> July to 7<sup>th</sup> August. Please note that during this time the church will be closed.

## DIANA MARY KITSON

Diana Kitson, of Hardwick, formerly of Rectory Lane, Kingston, died on the 28<sup>th</sup> May, aged 76. Diana was the daughter of the late Joyce and Cyril Miller, of Payne's Farm, and the wife of the late Trevor. Sincere condolences to all her family. R.I.P.

## Dr PHILIP OLIVER 8<sup>th</sup> November 1948 – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Philip Oliver, Emeritus Fellow of St Catherine's College, long resident at 2 Chantry Close, Kingston, died unexpectedly in Addenbrooke's Hospital on the 13<sup>th</sup> June. An obituary will appear in next month's issue of the magazine. R.I.P.

## DAVID JOHN ELLAR

**3<sup>rd</sup> August 1939 – 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020**

The three adjacent houses built in Crane's Lane in 1967 became something of an enclave of north-easterners: the Mellors at Tollfields were from West Hartlepool; Jeff Eddington, at Wainstones, was of Northumberland origin; and Joan Reynolds, at Pincote, was a native of County Durham. The Ellars came to Kingston via Comberton, succeeding the Eddingtons in 1973. David was also from the North-East but there was little love lost between him and his home town, Middlesbrough. He liked to tell people that he was christened on the day war was declared, having been born a month earlier. He was an only and probably lonely child, growing up during the war and the austerity of the 1950s, and this must have coloured his experience.

After grammar school David went to Leeds University but left after two years to begin a career in journalism with The Yorkshire Post. He soon decided, however, that his real interest was in science and returned to Leeds to finish his degree. In 1963 he went to Syracuse University to study for a PhD, which is where he met Miki in 1964; they were married in 1965. The U.S.A. in the 1960s had a huge impact on



the young post-graduate David's life: he loved and responded to the country's openness and vitality. His first post-doctoral post was at New York University's Medical School. David would visit The States and lecture there frequently during his subsequent career. Three of his four children – Beverley, John and Matthew – would eventually settle there; Jennifer, the eldest, remaining in Cambridgeshire.

David was elected a fellow of Gonville and Caius College in 1968, where he also became Director of Medical Studies. He was appointed, successively, a University Demonstrator, Lecturer, Reader and – from 1999 – Professor of Microbial Chemistry. He was an active member of his college, serving on various committees. One of his great interests was wine and his appointment as the college's Wine Steward gave him great pleasure. He became a Life Fellow of Caius in 2007.

David's main focus of research was in the micro-biology of bacteria. But teaching was perhaps his real life's work, and this teaching, over four decades, has had many important practical outcomes and a real legacy. His pupils, including 69 PhD and post-doctoral students, are to be found all over the world, engaged in cutting-edge research and development, particularly in medicine and biotechnology.

Quite apart from his very considerable university and college commitments, and a growing family, David found the time and purpose to serve the community here in Kingston in a number of roles. During the 1970s and 80s he was Chairman of the Parish Council, a member of Kingston Village Hall's Management Committee, and a member of the Parochial Church Council. In those days there were often controversial issues to be debated and decided, and there were strong personalities in the village, such as John Wilkinson, Joyce Miller and Lily Collet, with forthright views and no fear of expressing them. David liked to get things done, but his approach was always to allow people to be heard and then to attempt the resolution of opinion. He also made sure that the Parish Council's views were made known to the District and County Councils. David had a strong belief in the importance of state education: he served as a governor of Comberton Village College and as Chairman of the Board of Governors of Bourn Primary School.

David was sociable and promoted and enjoyed community events. He took leading roles in Jim Burnell's memorable Christmas pantomimes; a natural actor and an excellent mimic, he wasn't afraid to make a fool of himself. Not himself a royalist – in fact he was a republican socialist – David played a leading role in organising the ambitious programme of celebrations for H M the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

David was a professional scientist, occupied in meticulous research in the quest for certain knowledge but, at the same time, he was open-minded: he understood the importance of sentiment, opinion and faith. He believed in engagement in the public

domain: he would often say that ‘the price of freedom is eternal vigilance’. But David wasn’t solemn: on the contrary, he possessed an infectious sense of humour; nothing was ever taken too seriously.

In recent years David somehow found the strength of character to come to terms with a long period of debilitating illness: he was sustained by professional support, but above all by the devoted care and love of Miki and his family. His 80th birthday last year was a very happy occasion, with old friends, neighbours and family attending. If ever a life was well-lived, it was David’s.

R.I.P.

*Peter Reynolds, with thanks to Miki Ellar*

As we go to press David’s funeral service is due to be taken by the Revd Dr Cally Hammond, Dean of Gonville and Caius, on July 8<sup>th</sup>, to be followed by his burial in the churchyard, in accordance with his wishes. Sadly, attendance will be limited because of the coronavirus regulations.

## **A SUCCESSFUL TEST AND TRACE PROGRAMME IN KINGSTON**

**From Cambridge Daily News 27 June 1889**

**Report to the Caxton and Arrington Board of Guardians**

Transcribed by Paul Wright (no relation of Dr T.P. Wright)

### **DIPHTHERIA TRANSMITTED BY A TRAVELLING CARAVAN**

Dr T.P. Wright, medical officer of the Union, said he had brought before the Board at their last meeting a number of cases of diphtheria at Longstowe and other places, which originated from an infectious travelling caravan owned by a man named Shaw. Since the last meeting of the Board he has made an investigation into the outbreak of diphtheria at Wimpole and Longstowe and had traced out the whole of the cases. Taking the movement of Shaw’s van first, he found that Shaw left his home at Buntingford on April 18<sup>th</sup> and went to Royston. He remained at Royston until April 23<sup>rd</sup>, when he went to Kingston. On the 26<sup>th</sup> April he left Kingston for Foxton Fair, and leaving Foxton again on April 29<sup>th</sup>, he went on to Foulmire (sic). On May 4<sup>th</sup> he arrived at Croydon, and went straight through to Wimpole. There he remained some days, but on May 17<sup>th</sup> Shaw and his wife left Wimpole for Cambridge, leaving their caravan and children in the charge of a nurse girl at Wimpole. On that day or the day following a Mrs. Lewis, living at Kingston, took one of Shaw’s children home to tea with her. In this woman’s house was a little girl suffering from a very bad throat, but not receiving any medical attendance. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst. Shaw left the district for Guilden Morden and the child that went to tea with Mrs Lewis was seized with diphtheria. On Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> Shaw went to

Bourn and stayed until the following Friday. When at Oakington they called in Dr. Fox of Cottenham. On May 30<sup>th</sup> the child was sent to Addenbrooke's hospital and died on the following day, the rest of the family going on to Barrington, the children having been put into another van. The van was disinfected between Barrington and Orwell on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. On June 5<sup>th</sup> another of Shaw's children was taken ill at Longstowe. The van was ordered home that day, reaching Buntingford on June 7<sup>th</sup>. A third of Shaw's children was taken ill at the same place on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

Then to trace the cases which occurred at Wimpole. The feast took place on May 18<sup>th</sup>, and two of Mrs. Gifford's children and their servant attended it. The children purchased sweets off Shaw, and the servant kissed one or more of his children. The servant contracted diphtheria within ten days of the feast, and the two children also took it. Shaw's child, however, at this time was not ill, and there was no evidence that there had been even a sore throat in the van previously. The child at that time, he thought, was incubating the disease, and probably the disease was communicated in this manner. It was, however, open to doubt that the disease could be transmitted at so early a stage. At Thornbury-hill Farm, Wimpole, four of Ellis Miller's children took diphtheria. They were seized respectively on May 31<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup> and June 9<sup>th</sup>, the child taken ill on the 6<sup>th</sup> (a child of five years old) dying within twenty-four hours. These children did not attend Wimpole feast, but he (Dr. Wright) was given to understand that they visited Gifford's children, which would account for them taking the disease. Another child at Wimpole was taken on June 7<sup>th</sup>, also suffering from severe sore throat. This case was taken by the child attending the feast; her name was Alice Bullin, and her age five years.

To turn to Longstowe, a youth named William Thompson, aged 18, attended Longstowe feast on the 4<sup>th</sup>, and having visited Shaw's caravan, exhibited diphtheria on the 6<sup>th</sup>. This case occurred in one of Captain Stanley's cottages at Longstowe where there were ten children. Six other cases followed. The lad William was sent to the hospital on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Sarah Amy (of the same family), aged 11, was seized on the next day; Bertie, aged 5, on the 14<sup>th</sup>; Harry, aged 15, on the 15<sup>th</sup>; and Frank on the same day. Edward, aged 13, and Lizzie, aged 3, also exhibited the disease on the 16<sup>th</sup>. These children were progressing favourably, and there were up to that date no further cases reported.

The above facts, said Dr Wright, seemed to show conclusively that the disease commenced at Kingston, and was communicated to Shaw's child there, whence, by means of the caravan it was spread to the other places, as reported. The fact of the child at Kingston receiving no medical attendance accounted for the disease not having been recognised.

Adverting to the sanitary arrangements and the action taken by himself, he (Dr. Wright) had analysed the waters used for drinking purposes, and found them all to be more or less polluted.





**From Kingston  
Towards the  
Eversdens**



## Cloth Face Masks by Kay Forsythe



With the lockdown gradually being relaxed in stages and the increased encouragement and in some cases requirement to wear cloth masks in order help reduce the spread of COVID-19, I thought I would remind anyone interested that I am using my love of sewing to make masks available to those in our village who might want one when we venture beyond the safety of our homes.

NOTE: These masks are NOT medical grade masks and cannot be said to protect the wearer from getting COVID-19 or any other illness. However, the current thought is that we can prevent spreading disease by wearing a mask. If we all wear masks when we go out into the community, we will avoid the spread and protect each other.

The masks I offer are the recommended three layers: 2 layers of quilter's weight cotton with an internal third layer of cotton interfacing. There is a choice of elastic ear bands or adjustable cotton ties. The masks are machine washable but I do not recommend tumble drying as the bands will tangle and stretch out of shape. I have 3 size options: Small (expanded size approximately 3.5in x 7.5in) - suitable for children (please note that masks are not recommended for children under 2 years old); Medium (expanded approximately size 4.5in x 8.5in) - suitable for teens and many women; and Large (expanded approximately size 5.5in x 9.5in) - suitable for many adults. There is also the option of dark coloured fabric or light coloured fabric. Each mask



is reversible with different fabric on each side. I have a large variety of fabrics with many themes for fashion coordination (too many to picture here!) from flowers and bees to nautical to rainbow to stripes - batiks - plaids - sports - and of course plain so please let me know if you have something special in mind.

I am charging only to cover my materials costs and similar items (although often without the recommended 3rd layer) are selling for 3 to 4 times as much on Etsy and other online sources. Pricing is Small £4; Medium £5; Large £6. I will take orders at [kay4cy@gmail.com](mailto:kay4cy@gmail.com) and orders can be picked up at 2 Field Row or I will deliver by arrangement. Payment will be by contactless card or BACS transfer. I prefer not to deal with cash at this interesting time.

Orders emailed to [kay4cy@gmail.com](mailto:kay4cy@gmail.com) should include the quantity of each and:

Size: Small \_\_\_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_\_\_ Large \_\_\_\_\_

Fabric Choice: Dark \_\_\_\_\_ Light \_\_\_\_\_ Both \_\_\_\_\_ given they are reversible!

Elastic Ear Bands \_\_\_\_\_ Fabric Ties \_\_\_\_\_

## Record of the Month

“Just a Little Lovin’” by Shelby Lynne

In compiling my recent non-stop playlist that got me through the lockdown, I kept coming back to tracks by Shelby Lynne. Shelby had a tumultuous upbringing. When she was seventeen, her abusive father shot her mother dead before taking his own life. Shelby herself was married and divorced within the year.

Like her sister Allison Moorer, however, Shelby had a voice to reckon with. Reared in mainstream country, it was natural that she made her way in the Nashville factory system. But like many of her fellow performers, she eventually rebelled against its formulaic restrictions, moved to California, changed producers and began to make music from her heart. In 1999 her album “I Am Shelby Lynne”, containing the lovely track “Dreamsome”, won her the Grammy Award for best new artist (which, as she herself has joked, was several albums too late).

Steadily moving away from mainstream country music, she began to occupy a more comfortable position as an Americana artist singing songs that are a fusion of country, folk and rock. Following this new path, in 2008 she teamed up with ex-punk rocker Phil Ramone to produce one of the greatest LPs ever recorded. “Just a Little Lovin’” is a hum-dinger of a record. First and foremost, it’s a tribute album to Britain’s very own Dusty Springfield, all the songs on the album being taken from the Dusty Springfield songbook. By re-working the songs, however, they take on forms previously unglimped. Gone are the over-the-top histrionics of many of Springfield’s 1960s hits. Take “You Don’t Have to Say you Love Me” for instance. It becomes a slowed down, intimate, wistful and bittersweet peon to lost love. It’s a grown-up song from a grown-up singer. Every track is extremely well recorded and benefits from the sparse production and Shelby Lynne’s wonderful interpretations. In his own recording career, Phil Ramone specialized in hyperbole; here, as producer, he creates stripped down versions of songs that are familiar to us all but which, with this new sensitive treatment, become new and dynamic. He clearly had done his homework. Back in 1969, Dusty Springfield had escaped the confines of her production team (led by arranger Ivor Raymonde) and gone to the USA, in the process recording the brilliant “Dusty in Memphis” LP. It was these recordings that hinted at not only the new Dusty Springfield but also what the Ramone/Lynne combination were able to concoct some forty years later.

Stand-out songs are the title track, “Just a Little Lovin’”, “You Don’t Have to Say You Love Me”, “I Only Want to Be with You”, “The Look of Love”, and “Breakfast in Bed”.

Since that triumph, Shelby Lynne has continued to plough her own furrow, founding her own record label, and producing records of real class. In 2011 she released

“Revelation Road” and her 2017 release was “Not Dark Yet” with Allison Moorer. The latter provides rich evidence of her penchant for Americana, containing an eclectic mix of songs by the likes of Merle Haggard, Bob Dylan, Nirvana and The Killers. Not a bad mix for a good ol’ country girl.

***Peter Holly***

## **SNAPSHOT OF KINGSTON IN 1881**

A House Through Time was a fascinating BBC2 programme (still available on iplayer) about the history of a Georgian house in Bristol from the 18th century to the present day, gathered from local public records, newspaper articles and the national census. It inspired me to find out about who has lived in the School House since it was built in the mid-1870s. I started with the 1881 census, but got no further as I was waylaid by a snapshot in time of Kingston in the second half of Queen Victoria’s reign.

Kingston then had 58 households with 238 inhabitants ranging in age from one month to 83. Only fifteen were over 60, of whom five were in their 70s and three in their 80s.

Of the population, 134 were male and 104 female. This imbalance was probably due to domestic service being the main employment for women and they would have gone elsewhere to find work; Kingston being a mainly working class village at that time.

Common surnames in the census are familiar to those who have looked at our gravestones and pictures of WW1 soldiers in the Village Hall. These are Clear, Pryor, Lindsey, Allgood, Chapman, Curtis, Custance, Custerson, Wayman and Jacklin.

Kingston men, unsurprisingly, mostly married locally with wives registered as born in Kingston, Caxton, Bourn, Toft, Hardwick, Longstowe, Harlton, Wimpole and Eversden. Only the Clears seem to have looked further afield, finding wives as far away as Bassingbourn and Stocking Pelham.

The school mistress was Annie Roland from Ipswich and she was only 20. She had a live-in domestic servant, Catherine Chapman, aged 12, who came from a large Kingston family. The young age of the latter is surprising until you find the 1870 Education Act only required children to be in school from the ages of five to ten. In 1881 there were 61 children in the school, aged between four and 12. Miss Roland was assisted by a school monitor, 18 year old Albertha Chapman, whose family lived in Church Lane. Sixty one children in that age range would have been almost impossible for two young people to manage and teach, so perhaps they had several sittings.

The rector was 75 year old Daniel Sampson from Petersham in Surrey. He lived in The Rectory with his 59 year old wife Henrietta, from London, and Margaret Robertson, an unmarried 48 year old domestic servant from Norfolk.

There were two pubs in the village, run by Robert Custerson at The Chequers and Matilda Cato at The Rose and Crown.

There were two grocers shops. Bennet Clear his wife Mary and two children (aged 14 and 15) ran a grocery and post office and William Pryor (aged 82) and his daughter Betsy are also registered as grocers. The latter lived in Field Road, so this must be what is now called Pryor's Cottage.

There were seven farmers, including Sam Clear of Bourn Road who lived with his 83 year old mother, Mary, and farmed 224 acres.

Apart from the rector, school mistress and farmers the villagers were mostly agricultural or domestic servants. Some identified themselves as "indoor servants", reflecting the importance Victorians attached to social hierarchy. There were 18 who registered a trade as their occupation.

These are thatcher, baker, dressmaker, wheelwright, miller, farrier, publican, bricklayer, gardener, engine fitter, rag and bone collector, hawker, carpenter, grocer and harness maker.

Interestingly, there is no blacksmith, but they often preferred to identify themselves as farriers, of which there were two in Kingston. Also absent are dairy maids who must have existed in what was a mixed, semi-self-sufficient farming economy. The census in other places lists this as a trade but there are none in Kingston, so maybe the farmers' wives did this work, assisted by their "indoor farm servants".

An interesting entry relates to Samuel and Mary Blows, aged 82 and 79, both born in Kingston who are described as "allowed by parish". I would imagine this means they were supported by a parish charity.

**Paul Wright**



- ✎ Corns and calluses
- ✎ Difficult or painful nails
- ✎ Nail surgery
- ✎ Sports injuries and orthoses
- ✎ Children's feet
- ✎ Diabetes
- ✎ Verrucae
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✉ info@pennfarmpodiatry.co.uk

🌐 www.pennfarmpodiatry.co.uk

📍 3a Penn farm Studios, Harston Road, Haslingfield, CB23 1JZ



## **Crinkle Crag and Bowfell Unconquered**

The first time I visited Hampstead Heath I was more than impressed. The elevated area of Highgate and Hampstead, a stone's throw from central London, are fascinating in themselves and they are centred by an amazing island of splendid, hilly countryside within a fully urbanised location. Woodland and open spaces scattered with undulating paths and tracks plus attractive lakes and ponds culminate in Parliament Hill with a great view over the City. The jewel in the crown is the Kenwood Estate, its splendid house full of art treasures and fronted by one of the lakes.

On the far side of the lake is a domed, igloo style, structure which sheltered orchestras giving annual, light classical concerts. I attended some of these concerts over the years with Geoff Foster, a keen walker. Like me he had started to take an interest in local rambling. We had not experienced much of the mountains and fells of the North and a Holiday Fellowship walking group providing experienced leaders seemed a good idea and in due course we found ourselves at a base in the Lake District. Our first walk was to start from the Dungeon Ghyll Hotel in Langdale, well known for its twin peaks and our party was to be conveyed there by coach.

A watery sun greeted the motley but eager crew which stumbled out of the coach on the hotel forecourt clutching assorted rucksacks and wearing a gaudy mix of garments which added colour to the scene. Footwear ranged from good walking boots to trainers and flimsy inadequate shoes barely suitable for a walk in the park. Indeed one optimistic lady was sporting high heels! Our confident young leader gathered his flock together and said we were to use a track which we could see climbing out of Langdale alongside a ridge called the BAND. It would lead us up to the main ridge including CRINKLE CRAGS and BOWFELL our intended destination. He told us his name was Paul and set off immediately without further comment.

It was fairly bright and we could at first make out the tops of the twin peaks on our left. Easy walking along the valley soon got us to the start of the climb which was gentle at first and we all kept up with Paul in our straggling crocodile. As the route grew steeper and rougher the valiant and better equipped pressed on and this included a well shod determined lady, aged 70 years she told us. Predictably 'High Heels' was the first to give up and turn back. Sadly, spots of rain and an ominous deterioration in conditions began to affect morale. Geoff and I plus a few others kept going on but those with common sense decided, as worse seemed likely, to finish their upward effort and join "High Heels". Meanwhile Paul just kept solidly on ahead without apparently being concerned that he was steadily losing most of his party.

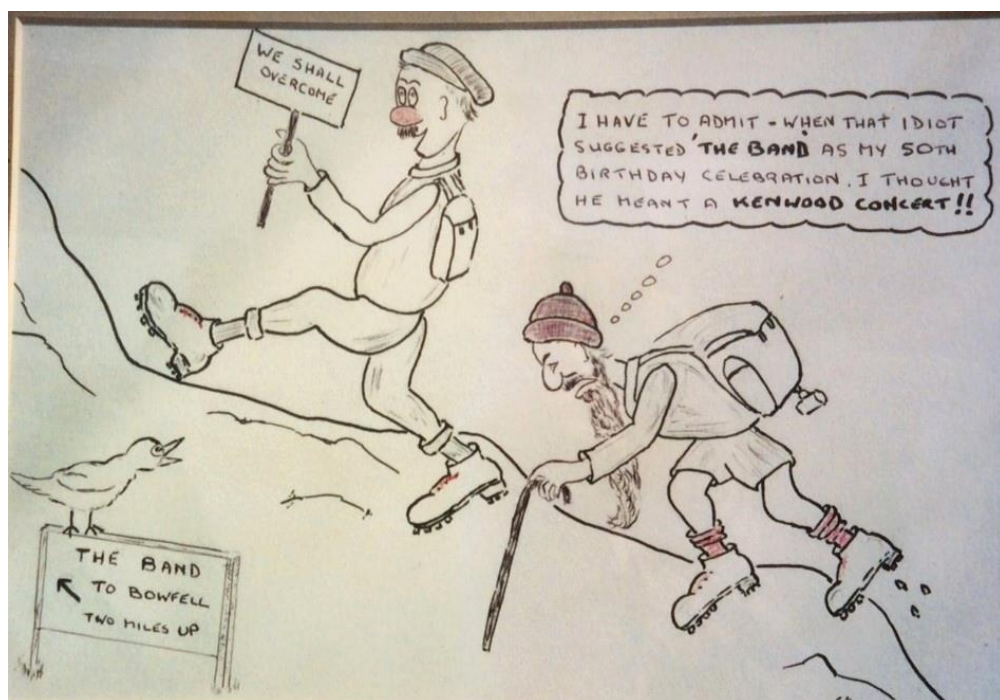


Sure enough it did get worse, the higher we got. The rain increased and the mountain tops had disappeared as the clouds came down. Visibility reduced on either side and the very rocky path could be seen only a few yards ahead. The time came when our tough 70 year old, who was close by Geoff and I, said she was not going any further and we realised that we were the only ones left to carry on. Reluctant to quit Geoff suggested that we should carry on if Paul did and, with some misgivings, I agreed so we blundered on. Paul actually disappeared into cloud for a few minutes but to my relief he suddenly loomed out of the gloom facing our way. As he reached us he cheerfully commented "Sorry chaps, it's not worth going on. Follow me down".

Sometime later as we staggered through the door of the Dungeon Ghyll bar, soaked to the skin with water dripping all over the bar floor we were greeted with dry and smug faced walkers, most clutching pints of ale. I was not unduly aggrieved. Geoff and I were damp but undefeated for it was the leader who had turned back!

### ***Dave Heath.***

The accompanying cartoon was in the possession of David's friend Geoff and concerns the events referenced above.





## Papworth Team Ministry (C of E)

The Papworth Team Ministry Team Office:

Lower Pendrill Court  
Ermine Street North  
Papworth Everard  
CB23 3UY

Email: [papworthteamministryoffice@gmail.com](mailto:papworthteamministryoffice@gmail.com)

Web: [www.papworthteamchurches.org](http://www.papworthteamchurches.org)

Our Team Administrator, Chris Westgarth, works in the office normally on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings; serving the parishes of Bourn, Boxworth, Caxton, Conington, Croxton, Elsworth, Eltisley, Graveley with Papworth St Agnes, Kingston, Knapwell, Lolworth, Longstowe, Papworth Everard, Toseland and Yelling.

For enquiries about weddings, baptisms, funerals and general parish matters, please contact Chris (as above), visit the website or speak to one of our clergy...

> The Revd Nigel di Castiglione,  
Team Rector – 07770 697240 -  
01954 267241

> The Revd Stephen Day,  
Team Vicar - 01954 264226

### KINGSTON VILLAGE HALL

## FOR HIRE

- One large and one smaller hall
- Both newly refurbished
- Up to 50 people sitting
- Tables and chairs supplied
- Fully equipped kitchen
- China, glassware and cutlery
- Fridge
- Alcohol licence
- Disabled access and facilities

#### Hire charges per hour:

**Kingston residents:** Before 7pm - £5. After 7pm - £7

**Non residents:** Before 7pm - £10. After 7pm - £13

Enquiries: Sarah Wright (secretary)

01223 263500 or 0787 999 1068

[kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com)



## A VERY BIG THANK YOU

On behalf of the Kingston Community, a very big thank you to all those who have helped get us through the lockdown:

- Of course, to all those who work in the NHS, in local hospitals, doctors' surgeries, and care homes;
- To all those who have volunteered to help their neighbours with vital supplies, including meals, prescriptions and face masks;
- To our unsung bin men who have arrived in our village week in, week out;
- Similarly, to our postmen who have never deserted us;
- To all those van drivers who have striven to deliver our online purchases in a timely fashion;
- To all those in local shops who have kept us fed;
- And, lastly, to all our fellow villagers who have helped to protect us all by willingly and cheerfully abiding by the social distancing regulations.

It's always good to know that we're not alone in these difficult times. Several neighbours have said they are looking forward to having a party on the Green when things improve. I definitely second that idea!

***Peter Holly***

## The Lockdown has Changed Us – and Mostly for the Good

According to a Vox Online News survey, as we go forward these 8 positive habits will guide our future behaviour:

1. Reducing consumerism;
2. Slowing down and putting less pressure on ourselves;
3. Prioritizing family and friends;
4. Ethical action and activism in our highly connected world;
5. Exercising daily;
6. Baking, vegetarian cooking and growing herbs;
7. Spending more time in nature;
8. Working from home, if possible.

Sounds like a good set of guidelines to live by. Oh, and I would add, of course,

9. Reading good books;
10. Playing good music.

***Peter Holly***

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## Book of the Month

Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger

This is a fine novel by a master story-teller. Set in southern Minnesota it is so evocative of an area that I know well. Having lived just across the border in northern Iowa, I know well the feel of the place: the railway tracks, the grain silos, the downtown shops in the small burghs, the local Independence Day celebrations, the unbearably hot summers and the unbearably cold winters. It's a very local book about the big issues of life.

Set in New Bremen, Minnesota, in 1961, the baseball team, the Minnesota Twins, are playing their debut season, ice-cold root beer is selling out in the local drugstore, and President Kennedy is newly elected. For the central character, 13 year-old Frank Drum, it is a grim summer during which death visits frequently and in many forms: accident, nature, suicide and murder. With his long-suffering Methodist minister father (who has his own devils arising from his experiences in World War Two), his passionate and artistic mother, his Juilliard-bound older sister and his wise-beyond-his-years younger brother, Frank finds himself thrust into the adult world of secrets, lies, adultery, betrayal and racism and is called upon to demonstrate maturity and gumption way beyond his years. This is a book about growing up – with a vengeance. The story is told, retrospectively, some forty years after the fateful summer.

Billed as a crime thriller, the book is so much more besides. It explores issues regarding religious faith, family and small town relationships, coming-of-age dilemmas, and, above all, death and its after effects. All these issues are approached with compassion and sensitivity but also a refreshing realism. The book has been likened to "To Kill a Mockingbird" and I understand why. Call it the "Atticus Factor" if you will, there is a tradition in America of gentle, caring and compassionate liberalism which has been all but drowned out by the extremist, rancorous, polarized and hysterical politics of the Trump years. This tradition promotes nuance, ambiguity, thoughtfulness, perspective and moderation and this book is written in this tradition. In the book's Epilogue, Frank, now well into his fifties, looks back at that summer of '61 and describes his current life and viewpoint:

I'm a teacher of history in a high school in Saint Paul and what I know from my studies and from my life is that there is no such thing as a true event. We know dates and times and locations and participants but accounts of what happened depend upon the perspective from which the event is viewed. Take the American Civil War. The residents of the beleaguered Confederacy recounted a very different history from the one touted by the victorious Union. It's the same with

the history of a family. Whenever we talk about New Bremen I'm aware that Jake [his brother] and my father recall things I don't and what we remember together we often remember differently. I'm sure each of us has memories that for reasons of our own we don't share. Some things we prefer to remain lost in the shadows of our past. Of that summer in New Bremen in which so much death occurred we hardly speak at all.

Wise words that are often sadly lacking in today's ferment of debate.

**Peter Holly**

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## Kwirky Korner

### Name Changers

Deano Wilson, an audio and visual installation engineer from Gosport, Hants, is a jokester. He has always wanted to see his name up in lights, so he has changed his name to "Fire Escape". According to Deano (or should I say "Fire"), "one day I will be so famous, the whole world will recognize my name – what better way to do so by having my name in lights in every building, in every country, in every language all over the globe. No matter where you go, my name is illuminated".

This story reminds me of the petty criminal who changed his name by deed poll so that when he next appeared in court the usher would have to call "Naughty Rascal" to the stand.

### Not a Smart Move

A military training college recruit went out drinking with his mates in South Wales and became so drunk that he tried to break into nearby houses. Branded "Mr Idiot" by police, when law enforcement – including a German Shepherd and her handler – arrived, the recruit tried to attack the dog which was not a smart move. Arrested, he was charged under the recent Finn's Law which makes it an offence to attack service animals including dogs and horses.

These tweets were taken from the HuffPost funniest comments from women during the lockdown,

- One woman described how her mug of coffee wouldn't fit in her microwave, so she poured away some of the coffee and tried again.
- "Being attracted to men is so embarrassing but someone's got to do it".
- What a Pickle  
"Me: What do you want for lunch?  
3 year old: A pickle  
Me: A pickle is not a meal  
3 year old: Two pickles"
- "Having a third kid is like having a sixth drink. You're going to be miserable in the morning anyway, so why not?"
- "The honestly worst purchase of 2020 was a 2020 planner".
- "A woman and her 15 friends tested positive for COVID after a girls' night out. This is terrible, of course, but the bigger question is who the heck has 15 friends?!"

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<b>Ashcroft Vet Surgery</b> 169 St. Neots Rd, Hardwick	01954 210250
<b>Cambridge Rail Station</b> general inquiries	0845 7484950
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<b>Camdoc</b> (out of hours)	01223 464242
<b>Chinese</b> , Fish and Chips 2 High St. Toft	01223 263337
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<b>NHS 24hr health Advice Line</b> (talk to a nurse/doctor)	111
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nigel.dicastiglione@gmail.com or 0777 0697240

**Rev Nigel Pearson** 01954 719637

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