

KILVE NEWS



Issue 374

December 2023 / January 2024



**WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



EDITORIAL

Thank you so much to everyone who has sent a Christmas greeting and donated to our two chosen local charities. You have been very generous this year, in spite of the current economic climate. There are still one or two donations making their way to me, so I can't tell you the final total yet, but you have already raised over £350 to be shared between the Stogursey Forget-Me-not Café and the Quantock Foodbank.

The village is looking very spruce at the moment. Have you noticed the new signs outside the Village Hall? They are very smart, and I particularly like the way they can advertise forthcoming events. Then if you go down Sea Lane, you can admire the beautiful renovation of Parkhouse Cottage, replacing the render and pointing. And finally, the restoration work on the Chantry is now complete. I gather that there will be displays at some stage to explain the building's history. In the meantime we can marvel at the work that has been done.

Do get a copy of the 2024 village calendar if you can. It is even better than last year, with some stunning photos.

Happy Christmas!

Jenny

**Contact the Editor on 01278 741663
e-mail jakent@btinternet.com
or text on 07745 805006**

WELCOME

A warm welcome this month to Tony Nutley and Dhugal Dennison, who have moved into Millands Lane with their beautiful cat Michael.

And the renovation of The Nutshell in Sea Lane has advanced sufficiently to allow Bernard and Laura Tasker, with their dog Bren, to move in. We're glad to welcome you officially at last.

We hope you will all have a long and happy time in Kilve.

Last month we welcomed the Jones family to Sunray. They can barely have finished unpacking when their number was increased by the birth of baby Edith Amanda; her arrival is celebrated by Robbie on page 3.

VILLAGERS V CLUB CRICKET

It has been traditional to have up to three cricket matches through the season between Kilve villagers and Kilve Cricket Club. But we need more villagers!

If you are interested in joining the mixed "amateur" team please get in touch with Sarah & Pat at the Mill, or the club and they will point you in our direction! We will have some practice and a bit of help from the club from early May. The first match is planned for Sunday 26 May. See page 11 for a review of the club's year.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2023

This year our joint ladies' and gentlemen's lunch will be held on Tuesday 12 December at The Hood at 12.00 for 12.30.

We have limited numbers so, if you would like to join us for a wonderful meal and some laughs with friends, please contact either Kelly or Arthur to book your place! Menus will be sent out nearer the date.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!!



Kelly Stone
741149

Kelly78stone@hotmail.co.uk

Arthur Williams
741429

Art_1948@yahoo.co.uk

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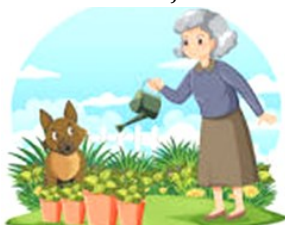
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NEW NEIGHBOURS

It's a longstanding tradition of *Kilve News* that a welcome is given to new residents of the village and Jenny very kindly did this on behalf of us all last month to the Ward family and to our particular new neighbours the Jones family. Coincidentally just a day after receiving my copy of *Kilve News* I was thumbing through a new book which I had just acquired (a very old book of poems entitled *Green Fingers* written by Reginald Arkell and published back in 1934) when what should I be reading but this poem:



My next-door neighbour, Mrs Jones,
Has got a garden full of stones;
A crazy path, a lily pond
A rockery, and, just beyond,
A sundial with a strange device
Which Mrs Jones thinks rather nice.

My next-door neighbour, Mrs Jones,
Puts little plants between the stones.
They are so delicate and small
They don't mean anything at all.
I can't think how she gets them in,
Unless she plants them with a pin.

My next-door neighbour, Mrs Jones,
Once asked me in to see her stones.
We stood and talked about a flower
For quite a quarter of an hour.

'Where is this lovely thing?', I cried.
'You're standing on it', she replied.

'Our' Mrs Jones (Finley) will not be having so much time to devote to gardening right now, as she gave birth to a beautiful baby daughter on 25 October. Many congratulations to Finley and husband Myles, and a big welcome to Kilve's youngest resident, Edith Amanda.

Robbie

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READING GROUP



After almost 14 years the Reading Group has really blended into a very relaxed collection of people, who are now totally at ease in one another's company. There is always some laughter, no matter how dark the tale. No one is afraid to voice their views, even if they are the only dissenting opinion. In fact it makes for a more entertaining meeting if there is some disagreement! All views are respected and considered. It is safe to say that we enjoy more books as a Group, than we don't. All this is borne out by the fact that we have a very loyal following with people only leaving for geographical reasons.

Now for this month's book! *A Terrible Kindness* was the first novel written by Jo Browning Wroe, and we all viewed it with trepidation as the opening scenes involved the Aberfan disaster of 1966. Some of us remembered this vividly, the younger members only by historical reference. However, once into the novel (and it was rather a slow start) it proved to be a very interesting story of a young man William, who volunteered as a newly qualified embalmer at the disaster site. This affected his outlook on life for quite a long time.

There were flashbacks to his youth and schooling as he had won a scholarship to a prestigious choir school in Cambridge due to his exceptionally good voice. His widowed mother was desperate for him to follow a career in music, rather than follow his father's footsteps in the family undertaking business. There was rather a frustrating thread of mystery throughout the book, which seemed to take a long time to solve, but the musical references were quite beautiful.

There were many issues raised in this delightfully written book, including breakdown in family relationships, friendships, homosexuality, kindness in adversity and atonement. One member summed it up nicely saying that she thought that theme of the book was redemption and another member finished with the words 'For me the moral of this book was "what doesn't break us makes us stronger" '.

This proved to be a perfect choice for the Group, and we await with interest any future books from the author.

Sue Hares

Don't forget! You can view older editions of *Kilve News* plus much more information about the village on the Kilve village website:
www.kilvevillage.co.uk

To all our friends in Kilve, Holford and East Quantoxhead

Best wishes for Christmas

and a Peaceful and Happy New Year



NORMAN
Putsham Mead

TONY, TRICIA and ARCHIE
Millands Lane

EUGENE, WENDY and
PRINCESS
Old Ham

CLAIRE
Oakdene

PAM and ROGER
Millands Farm

SHEILA
Putsham Mead



JOAN
Millands Lane

SUZY and ALFIE
Terra Firma

NEIL and EDRE
Wayfarers

NEIL, JENNY and JAGO
Millands Lane

DAVID and ROBBIE
Grantchester

ADAM, TRACY, ADDY and
IZZY
The Old Post Office

MARY and ANDY
Old Ham



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Pincop

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YSABEL, GEORGIA,
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Jamara

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KATE and DAVE
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BRIAN and PAT
Streamside

ALISON and BRUCE
Putsham Hill Lodge

SARAH and PAT
Kilve Mill



TREVOR, MARGARET and
RUBY
Church Cottage South

JON and KATHRYN
Steepholme

NICK and NICKY
The Cider Barn

STEVE, JACKIE and MAISIE
Putsham Mead

MARY
Jasmine Cottage

PETER and SUE
Blue Haze

ELIZABETH and family
Great Hanger House

NEWS FROM OUR VILLAGE AGENT

Winter is now here and many households across Somerset will be bracing themselves for a tough few months ahead, trying to stay warm and put food on the table. No one should ever have to choose between heating or eating, but sadly this will be the reality for many in our communities.

The Community Council for Somerset can support anyone who finds themselves struggling to heat their home at a temperature needed to keep warm and healthy. Among our team of Village and Community Agents, we have 'Energy Champions' who work closely with the Centre for Sustainable Energy and can offer clients advice on how to stay warm this winter.

Our Energy Champions can provide support with:

- Boiler efficiency
- Stopping drafts
- Installing thermal curtains
- Making sure there is sufficient flooring
- Checking that you are on the correct tariff and/or moving you to a better one

We can also make referrals to others who can help, such as National Energy Action. Our partners at the Citizens Advice Bureau can help make sure that you are receiving any benefits that you might be entitled to.

If you or someone you know is struggling to stay warm this winter, please pop along to your local Talking Café.

Knit for your Neighbour

We are calling on all knitters, crocheters and quilters in Somerset to make blankets for those in need, helping them stay warm and healthy this winter.

All completed blankets can be dropped off at any of our Talking Café venues. Blankets can then be collected through the Talking Café venues as well, or our team of Village Agents will make sure that blankets are delivered to the most vulnerable if they are unable to get to a Talking Café.

If you don't knit or sew, but would like to donate a blanket, we will also accept new blankets with tags on, but we cannot accept secondhand blankets.

Talking Café details

Your nearest Talking Café is Williton Pavilion every Tuesday 1-3 pm.

Please contact me, your local Village Agent, if you need free help and confidential advice.

Izzy Silvester
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REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

It was an honour to be called upon to remember those from this area who were lost in the '14-'18 War; then to deliver the Exhortation and the Kohima Epitaph. It later occurred to me that some might not know the background to these well-recognised and remembered words.

The Exhortation "They shall grow not old....." is an excerpt from a poem, *For The Fallen* written by Robert Lawrence Binyon in September 1914. There are various suggestions as to the wording of the Kohima Epitaph. I have always remembered it to be the words that I spoke in Church ... "When you go home, tell them of us and say 'For Your Tomorrow We Gave Our Today'".

Peter Hares



This memorial was crocheted by Kelly Stone for the Remembrance Service in St Mary's. David Houghton was so impressed by it that he posted a photo of it on the website of his old Regiment, the Grenadier Guards. Apparently it has now gone viral!

JEANETTE BOLE

Sad news that we lost a member of the village at the end of October. Jeanette Bole of Putsham Mead passed away in the Rosary Nursing Home on 23 October following a lengthy illness.

Jeanette moved to Kilve with her husband Malcolm after Malcolm retired as Rector of Quantock Towers. Jeanette was a Reader, a fervent member of the Mothers' Union, and for some years was Lay Dean of the Quantock Deanery. Malcolm and Jeanette moved to the Rosary when Jeanette left hospital for the last time.

We offer our sincere sympathy to Malcolm, and to his family, in their loss.

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We enjoy all sorts of activities including music, bingo, singing, puzzles, art and craft, in a friendly environment. We also offer a friendly and confidential chat if you need it.

Please note that our guests with memory issues must be accompanied by a family member, friend or carer.

All from the surrounding villages are welcome to come along for coffee and a chat. Helen and Rose look forward to seeing you soon.

Free entry, but a donation towards the running costs of this volunteer-run café would be welcome.

FUTURE DATES

Wednesday 6 December

Wednesday 20 December: **Christmas Party!**

Wednesday 3 January 2024: **New Year!**

Wednesday 17 January **Our 5th birthday!**

Wednesday 31 January **At 2.30pm NOT 10.30am!**

For more information please contact:

Helen: 01278 733451 cuttellhelen@gmail.com

Rose: 07507 374234 rosechalk@icloud.com

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KILVE STORES CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

The shop will be closing at 5.00pm on Saturday 23 December and re-opening Tuesday 2 January at 7.30am.

Anyone with newspaper vouchers can collect them from the shop during the week commencing Monday 11 December to redeem elsewhere.

POND LIFE

Thanks once again to everyone who turned up to help at the recent village pond working party. The previous repair work to the weir dam has held up well despite the weir wall being overtopped by the river during recent heavy rain. That combined with clearing the drains has meant the road has not flooded and I think we can congratulate ourselves for that result.

This time we cleared tree stumps and the accumulated mud from the road verge and removed a lot of undergrowth to create an access path round the back of the pond. As we've so far been unable to find any free mechanical digger assistance we also began experimentally hand digging the pond area. In about an hour 3 people with shovels managed to dig out about a third of the pond to a spade's depth; the mud is soft and easy to dig but that creates the problem of the diggers sinking in and seriously stuck wellies! However it has shown that with a few more volunteer sessions we ought to be able to create a shallow but attractive pond by human power alone. Next time, though, we need some planks to stand on and also to allow us to barrow the dirt away.

A recent report by UCL on restoring "ghost ponds" has shown that aquatic plant seeds buried in old pond sediment can remain dormant for decades. Once exposed to light and oxygen they can germinate, and in less than a year the plant life thrives along with aquatic animals.

As we come into winter we are dependent on the weather, but the ground is soft and the weather cool for some vigorous digging so hopefully we can have another working session on **Wednesday 13**

December at 10:30am. We will be concentrating on digging out so please bring shovels, wheelbarrows and any large planks you may have for use as walkways across the mud.

Pat Hayward

NEWS FROM ST MARY'S



Christmas is on its way! St Mary's Kilve wish everyone Season's Greetings for Advent & Christmas!

Carols this year will be in the Church on Saturday 16 December at 2.30pm followed by mulled wine & mince pies – please do come & join us. All welcome.

This year we are holding a Midnight Service on Christmas Eve starting at 11.30pm so there will be no further service on Christmas Day. Anyone wishing to attend Church on Christmas Day please note that there will be a 9.30am service of Holy Communion at St Mary's, Holford, where you will be made very welcome.

If you cannot attend any of the services, do visit the Church to see all the lovely decorations!

Services for December

3 December	11am Family Service
10 December	11am Holy Communion
17 December	9.30am Morning Worship
24 December	11.30pm Midnight Service of Holy Communion
31 December	11am Benefice Holy Communion at Spaxton

Services for January 2024

7 January	11am Family Service
14 January	11am combined Holy Communion at St Mary's, Holford
21 January	9.30am Morning Worship
28 January	11am Holy Communion

There are many & various events being held around our new Benefice over the Christmas period so do look in your parish magazine and church and village notice boards, or contact a PCC member for more details.

Pam Cuff

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KILVE CRICKET CLUB

The covers have been stowed away for the winter; the plastic slats have been removed from the sightscreens and carefully stored; the new hedge is growing merrily all by itself and the square has been put to bed – a more labour-intensive process than it sounds!

Another cricket season has quietly come and gone. This year, our Saturday team played their cricket in Division 1 of the West Somerset Cricket League following back-to-back promotions and once again they got on rather well. Losing just once all season (to local rivals Holford away) they were named Champions at the league presentation night on 27 October. Additionally, club captain Carl Clemenson picked up individual trophies for the best batting average and the best bowling average – we just need him to work on his coin tossing and he would be a very useful player.

The Kilve Beach Ground also played host to a wealth of other fixtures this season. The Sunday XI held most of their games in May and June but struggled with several key figures unavailable through injury or university studies. Cricket week was a triumph however, with the highlights a visit from a touring side from Boston (Massachusetts) who narrowly beat a Kilve XI and the return of Sou'Westers CC who were also victorious in a low-scoring affair on an Indian-style wicket. Both were proper games of competitive cricket, played in exemplary spirit, celebrated with a beer afterwards. Our women cricketers continued to enjoy Friday night training sessions, although they suffered from the worst of the 'summer' weather, with rain often preventing any play. However, they are taking their cricket indoors for the winter months with several tournaments on the cards as well as some practice sessions lined up. New players are always most welcome – do get in touch or find us on Facebook.

The cricket club is enormously grateful for the support of the local community: our Race Night held in April in the village hall is always a great way to kick-start the season, have a catch-up with familiar faces and raise some much-needed funds to keep the club ticking along, and we are always very pleased to see such a good turn-out from the village. With rising costs even affecting cricket ball prices, it was fantastic once again to see all our match balls sponsored and this year we appointed more Vice Presidents than ever as so many of you made contributions. It was just a shame that the weather

forced the postponement of our VP Luncheon – unfortunately we just don't have the indoor space to carry on regardless. It was truly lovely to have such good support throughout the season too, with many people popping in to check on the score and support the bar. Particular thanks go to Brian Mundy who came down in all weathers to cheer us on.



Our cricket season concluded this year with a wonderful Presentation Evening held at the Hood Arms. After some excellent food, trophies galore were bestowed on a large number of our players. Of particular note: Carl Clemenson won both the batting prize and the Players' Player shield; Josh Calder picked up the bowling trophy for most wickets including several 5-fors; Will Monroe won fielder of the year and Tom Sherburn won Champagne moment for his maiden 50 for the club. The Clubman of the Year trophy went to Ben Gannon for his excellent work and positivity on and off the pitch. Finally, many readers will know that Ray Hancock has had a longstanding affiliation with the cricket club and with his permission, we renamed the captain's award in his honour – this year, fittingly, it was awarded to Tom Smith (son of former player Paul Smith) who played a large role in helping the Saturday side to win the title. Now with the nights closing in and the kit bag safely back up in the loft, our thoughts already turn to next season. Preparation work is already underway with machinery being serviced and some new shelving installed. The fixtures are in hand, with a wide mixture of games and more friendly matches throughout the season. We'd like to recruit some players to all branches of the club and are keen to resume youth cricket, perhaps on a Sunday morning? All ideas for fundraising, questions about cricket and volunteers to help at the ground are most welcome, please do get in touch.

Merry Christmas!

Peter Stone
Chairman, Kilve CC
741149

MORE KILVE SUCCESSES

Many congratulations to David Tansley, who has been busy for the last two years studying Social and Therapeutic Horticulture; our picture was taken at his recent graduation ceremony. David passed his diploma with a distinction.



And there was great excitement in the editorial household when a bottle of Neil's mead won first prize in the Exmoor Beekeepers' Annual Honey Show early in November. As if that wasn't enough, it was then judged to be the best exhibit in the show. Don't all rush to our door, though, because we have now finished the bottle. Sorry!

HOOD ARMS NEWS

Merry Christmas to you all from everyone here at The Hood Arms. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for all your support over the year and we now look forward to 2024.

As Christmas Day and New Year's Day both fall on a Monday this festive season, we will be closed on both those days. We will however be open for Christmas Eve lunch and as opposed to offering our traditional Sunday roast (as most of us will be having roast on Christmas Day) we will be doing a Taste of Christmas. This will follow the same format as our theme nights, with a sharing platter of festive starters, a choice of mains and an assiette to share of Christmas desserts to finish. We will be offering a complimentary drink on arrival to thank you for all your support and it would be great to see as many locals as possible to wish you all a very merry Christmas.

On Boxing Day we will be doing our now traditional Boxing Day Brunch and would strongly recommend booking in advance. The more the merrier, so join with family and friends to enjoy a great day.

On New Year's Eve, we will be closed for Sunday lunch as we prepare for New Year's Eve celebrations. This year we will be stepping back in time with our "School Disco" theme. We have a live band booked and will be offering a Taster Menu for those who wish to dine before joining the party and seeing the New Year in — Hood Style! For those

Christmas
BINGO

**In aid of Cancer Research UK
Holford & District Village Hall**

**6.30pm for Eyes Down at 7pm
Saturday 9th December**

Free entry.
All ages Welcome - why not bring the family!
Refreshments.

Lovely Bingo & Raffle prizes include: Sunday Lunch for two at the Plough, B&B at The Castle of Comfort, Combe House Hotel Meal Voucher, Christmas Cake, Hampers, Aromatherapy Oils and lots of other wonderful prizes!

who have attended before, you will know what a great night New Year's Eve is with fancy dress, great food, great music and fun, fun, fun! For those who have not attended, come and see what all the hype is about! Everybody is welcome and you don't have to dine with us to join the party. For those who do wish to dine, this will require booking in advance and a pre-order. Please contact us by email enquiries@thehoodarms.co.uk or by telephone 01278 741114 to reserve a table and request a menu. We have a new festive menu for December and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible over Christmas and New Year. Why not book a table for a Christmas party with work colleagues, family or friends?

Opening times

Christmas Eve lunch — Open for food 12.00 noon to 3.00 pm - Taste of Christmas Set Menu

Christmas Eve evening — Closed

Christmas Day — Closed all day and evening

Boxing Day — Open for food 11.00am to 3.00pm — Boxing Day Brunch

Tuesday 27 to Saturday 30 Dec — Open normal hours lunch and evening

New Year's Eve lunch — Closed

New Year's Eve evening — Open for food 7.00pm to 9.00pm / Bar till 12.00 midnight.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Our next meeting is Tuesday 5 December at 2pm – do join us if you are interested in what's going on – help is always needed for the events below. If you have ideas for the future please do get in touch: kvh@hayward.uk.net or via any committee member or the village hall post box. We could still do with some additional members to help make the events happen, as we are all busy with other stuff in our lives. If you can get involved please let us know, or come along to the meeting on the 5th. We now have a sum-up machine courtesy of the PCC, as a thank you for our support for the Antiques Fair, which means we will be able to take card payments at the village hall – hurrah!

The 2024 village calendar is here! On sale in the Village Stores and at all village hall events until they run out! £10 each. Or pop a cheque and request in the village hall post box, or drop us a line (see below).



The barn dance with Hopping Mad at the village hall on Saturday 18 November was a great success. Marvellous music, good grub and dynamic (!) dancing made for an evening to lift the heart. So many smiles and hilarity, and lots of appreciative

comments made it an evening to remember – and hopefully repeat. We had a special Pearl Wedding Anniversary waltz too for Joy and Colin Orritt. All the help given by our lovely villagers made it even more of a pleasure. A big thank you to them and the village hall team for organising.

Hiring the Village Hall

Did you know that it only costs £7.00/hr for a villager to hire the main hall for non-commercial use, or £4.50/hr for the Denovan Room? The hall has a public address and sound system and a well-equipped kitchen – it's a great place for a kids' party or a special celebration. To book check out the website: <https://kilvevillage.uk/village-hall/>. Or go direct to our NEW booking system: <https://venuehire.scribeaccounts.com/Kilve-Village-Hall> or email: kilvevhbookings@gmail.com.

100 Club

The winners for October were:

1. Mark Walton
2. Ian Pickering

If you would like to join the 100 Club please contact us – the more members the bigger the prize and the funds raised! The next round starts in January – don't forget to renew by then.

Things to look forward to

Saturday 23 December 10:30am: Christmas Coffee Morning – mulled wine and mince pies!

Saturday 13 January 7pm: Bingo Night called by our very own Eugene Brandon. £5 for 5 cards, more on sale on the night. BYO snacks. Bar will be open.

Saturday 27 January 10.30am: First Coffee Morning for 2024!

Saturday 24 February 10:30am: Coffee morning

Saturday 24 February 7pm: Quiz night! Quiz master – Eugene Brandon, rounds set by various local luminaries! Probably fish & chip supper (tbc) – so price tbc. Bar will be open.

Thursday 21 March 7pm for 7.30: Cri du Canard – a French bal, in association with Take Art. French dance music and simple dances. £12/£10 concession. Tickets on sale in February

For more information and tickets etc contact: Claire (01278 741654), or kvh@hayward.uk.net.

To book the hall: kvhbookings@gmail.com (forms and online bookings are here: <https://kilvevillage.uk/about-kilve/village-hall/>).

Sarah Hayward

DIARY DATES

Sat 9 December 10am—12 noon Christmas Coffee Morning, East Quantoxhead VH

Sat 9 December 6.30pm Christmas Bingo in aid of Cancer Research UK, Holford VH

Tues 12 December 12.00 for 12.30pm Ladies' and Gentlemen's Christmas Lunch, Hood Arms

Wed 13 December 10.30am Pond working party, at the pond, Sea Lane

Thurs 14 December 2.20—2.50pm Mobile Library, Hilltop Lane

Sat 16 December 2.30pm Carols followed by mulled wine and mince pies, St Mary's Church

Thurs 21 December 3.00pm Kilve Voices, KVH

Sat 23 December 10.30am—12 noon Christmas Coffee Morning with mulled wine and mince pies, KVH

Sat 13 January 7pm Bingo Night, KVH

Thurs 18 January 3.00pm Kilve Voices, KVH

Sat 27 January 10.30am—12 noon Coffee Morning, KVH

OUR NEXT ISSUE

Our next issue will be for February 2024.

Please send contributions to the Editor (contact details below) or leave at the Village Stores (marked *Kilve News*).

Please note:

NO LATER THAN 18 JANUARY

If you have reports, adverts or contributions ready before the deadline, please let me have them as soon as possible. It really does help having them well in advance.

Please send contributions in a Word or Publisher file, or just as text in the body of an email. I sometimes need to adjust sizing and layout to fit, and I cannot do this with text contained in PDF and JPG files.

Contact the Editor on 01278 741663

e-mail jakent@btinternet.com

or text on 07745 805006



MEDITATION CLASSES

*Ever been curious to learn what meditation is all about?
Come along to our friendly, informal community meditation group and find out.*

Far from being an exclusively spiritual practice, meditation can have a huge effect on our:

emotional states
stress levels
clarity of mind
relationships with others

It can be a useful tool in helping us cultivate:
greater awareness in the body
resilience to life's changes
compassion towards others

After meditating, my anxieties, stresses and irritations lessen and become manageable.

Helen

I had a sense of being away from life's challenges crowding me.

Mo

The stillness and peace that I find when meditating bring a calming feeling to my mind, body and soul.

Lorraine

Classes are led by a member of the Alfoxton Community.

Holford Village Hall Tuesdays 11.00—12.00

Free entry, donations appreciated

To enquire or book, contact Helen: quantockstudio@gmail.com 07849 408753