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# KILVE NEWS

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Issue 343

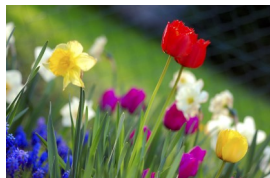
March 2021

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## EDITORIAL

Little did I realise when I sat down at the beginning of December to 'assemble' the January edition of Kilve News that we were all going to be subjected to yet another long and painful lockdown. The statistics have not been good but the roll out of the vaccine has given us all a little ray of hope on the horizon. What else can I say? Well, Alison Eyley, came to my 'rescue' when she forwarded me the lovely poem 'We Wonder'. It 'says it all', and very much better than I could ever dream of writing.



**Stay safe and well'**

*Robbie*

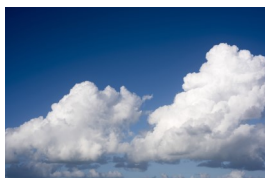
Contact the Editor on 01278 741594  
or e-mail at [davidandrobbie@talktalk.net](mailto:davidandrobbie@talktalk.net)

## KILVE VILLAGE WEBSITE

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## We Wonder

We walk and we wander as  
lonely as clouds  
We wake to another bleak day  
We wonder of news about  
mixing in crowds  
About when we can next meet and play



But counting our blessings of friends we hold dear  
Mostly healthy and doing their best  
So happy for Zoom calls with those far and near  
For our shop and our pub and the rest

Who feed us, and carers who keep us from harm  
(Tho' their efforts are sometimes in vain)  
The nurses and doctors who jab in our  
arm  
Our thanks 'cause you keep us all sane



Now glance out of your window and look  
up on high  
Sun peeking through clouds, skies of blue  
The daffs and the snowdrops, lambs playing nearby  
The hills and the fields' verdant hue

We live near this blissful and delightful shore  
In a village so kind and so dear  
Amongst people so caring with love at their core  
We'll soon meet, raise a glass and give cheer!

## MARGARET PINN

It was with great sadness that the village learnt at the beginning of February of the death of dear Margaret. Margaret with her husband Norman, moved to the village back in 1986 and from the outset, Margaret immersed herself in village life. Amongst the many tasks she undertook was being treasurer of the Women's Institute, treasurer of the Community Car Scheme (KHARS), chair of the Quantock Flower Club, a founding member of the Kilve Short Mat Bowls Club, and not least, flower arranger, extraordinaire, at St. Mary's church.



We salute dear Margaret both for her courageous battle against her illness over such a long period and for the enormous contribution she made to village life.

On behalf of the village we extend much sympathy to Norman and the family.

## WELCOME!

This month it is a pleasure to welcome Helen and Rodger Chambers and their 'two little ones', Arabelle and William who have moved into 'Little Meadow' on Hilltop Lane. We are given to understand that they are really enjoying their new home and we hope they will continue to do so for many years to come.



We also extend a very warm village welcome to Suzanne and Steve Payne who have moved into 'Orchard' on Hilltop Lane.

Four more new residents in Millands Lane. Debbie and Mark Stanway have moved into Tiverton House and Paul and Ann Hewitson into Number 18.

A very big welcome to you all and we hope very much that your stay in Kilve will be a long and happy one.

## EASTER LILIES

There has been a long tradition in Kilve to donate lilies in the church at Easter in memory of loved ones. The suggested donation is £3.50 for a lily and if you would like to be associated with this idea, you are asked to contact Simon Blackley  
Tel:- 01278 741549  
Email :- [simon30p@live.co](mailto:simon30p@live.co)



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## Kilve Quiet Lanes – It's Time for Action!



Anyone using Sea Lane over the past year, whether on foot, on bicycle, on horseback or in a car, can't have failed to notice that it has become increasingly busy with visitor traffic. Sadly, whilst most drivers are careful and considerate to other road users, there is a significant minority who are not. On such a narrow, single-track lane, a nasty and potentially life-threatening accident is surely almost inevitable, so Kilve Parish Council is determined to act before that happens.

In the coming years traffic pressure will only increase. Indeed, this is very likely to occur this year, with Covid restrictions curtailing many foreign holidays once again. We need to create better driver awareness and to reduce vehicle speeds so that vulnerable road users (walkers, runners, cyclists and horse-riders) can share the lane safely with cars, lorries and farm vehicles. The challenge is how to make this happen, whilst maintaining the beauty of the area.

The good news is that there is a relatively new Government scheme known as Quiet Lanes, which aims to achieve just this. Through a mix of effective signage, extended speed limit areas and compelling driver-awareness campaigns, the Quiet Lanes scheme is now being adopted in rural areas across the country. Kilve Parish Council has set up a Kilve Lanes Traffic Committee, chaired by Cllr Bruce Eyley, to drive a project to address the risks on Sea Lane, and on the other lanes in Kilve. Bruce and committee members, Cllr Greg Glendell, Pat Woolley, Karen Scott and Graham Keating, have been working on the challenge over the past 3 months, so this is a good time to update you on progress and, crucially, to ask for your help.

To make changes, we have already engaged with Somerset County Council, whose Highways Department has the responsibility for our lanes and their signage. Inevitably, there are several hurdles to be crossed: we need to have enthusiastic backing from both residents and road users; we need to have accurate data on the amount and type of road use; and, of course, we need to persuade the County Council to take action at a time when there are so many other priorities to be addressed.

We have created a **Kilve Quiet Lanes Video** to show the challenges that we face and to tell you a little more about the project – it's now available on the Kilve Parish Council Facebook Page, the Kilve Community C-19 Facebook page and the Kilve Village website or you can just follow this link <https://youtu.be/zuDuR8yk51Q>. The video features some familiar faces, so please have a look and let us know your thoughts. If you can't access it for any reason, please contact any of the committee.

Finally, and most importantly, **we need your help please!** Attached to the back of this edition of Kilve News is a **Quiet Lanes Project Survey**. For the project to go ahead, it's vital that we have gathered the opinions of local residents and road users, so it's really important to hear your views.

### Win a Magnum of Fine Wine or a Hood Arms Sunday Lunch!

The survey will only take about 5 minutes to complete and, as a little incentive, all completed surveys returned to us by 5.00pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March will be entered into a prize draw; there will be three lucky winners picked at random. The prizes are a wonderful magnum of red wine, very kindly donated by Steve Collins, and two vouchers (each for two people) for a Hood Arms Sunday Lunch main course (takeaway or eat in, depending on Covid restrictions).

We'll of course update you on progress as it happens. Thank you, in anticipation, for your involvement.

*The Kilve Lanes Traffic Committee, Kilve Parish Council.*



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## CYCLING FOR 'DEMENTIA'

In our last issue we mentioned the exploits of Ali Davison and the completion of his challenge to undertake cycling 2000 miles in 2020.. It raised quite a bit of interest and some questions too, so we asked Ali and his wife, Mel, to explain.

'The past few months have been tough for everyone, but coronavirus has hit those affected by dementia very hard and continues to disrupt lives. So that's why I'm getting on my bike and taking on Cycle for Dementia with a further challenge to do 500 miles in 30days. I would very much welcome your support and you are able to donate on line at the 'Just Giving' page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cyclefordementia-AlistairDavison>



The Alzheimer's Society is there for the people who need them most.

As many of you will already know our family carry a very rare genetic form of Early Onset Alzheimer's disease called Presenilin 1 (look it up if you can't sleep and need some bedtime reading) it is caused by a rare gene mutation on chromosome 14.

Most families know or have a loved one affected by a form of dementia such as Alzheimer's. Sadly it still seems to be a taboo subject. We are trying to raise the much needed awareness it needs... we all need to talk more about dementia!

As our family have a high risk of living with Alzheimer's at a young age we are prime candidates to help researchers to learn what is happening to the brain before symptoms start and as the symptoms progress. Our family and I are currently involved in the Dementia Research Centre & The National Hospital of Neurology & Neuroscience in Queen Square, London; where we undergo various monthly/yearly testing, scans, biopsies and drug trials. The drug trials use experimental drugs to see if they can modify the way that the disease progresses - the hope is to find drugs that will either delay the onset of symptoms or slow down the progression of the disease.

This is to benefit everyone around the world with a form of dementia, not those just specific to our family disease. We are all very proud to be part of this research, and to hopefully be part of one day finding a cure.

We have also donated our brains for Researchers to use in the future for many years to come. It's comforting to know all our brains will be partying together in a freezer some day!

(\*Anyone can donate their brain for future research)

To know that something can be learned from our dodgy genes that could help so many people in the future means that something good will come from something bad, and that's why it is so vital to raise awareness.

I hope that I can soon start another challenge with proceeds going to The National Brain Appeal to raise funds for the Rare Dementia Support fund; this is new and exciting as the plan is to build 'one stop shop support centres' around the country for families affected (very similar to the Maggie centres for families affected by cancer)

Thank you for reading, hopefully we have explained and answered the many questions that have already been asked us.

May we both take this opportunity to thank everyone who has donated and supported us, you are all amazing..

Watch this space for more adventures!

Ali & Mel '

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## PLAY ON WORDS!

At the start of the lockdown I enjoyed The Times article about puns about science.

Gyles Brandreth may not be a member of Sage but he knows his onions when it comes to puns about science. Claiming to have been leaked the views of the medical profession on a new lockdown,

Gyles reports 'The allergists say it should be scratched but the dermatologists advise against rash moves.

The gastroenterologists have a gut feeling, the neurologists think the government have a nerve and ophthalmologists consider it short sighted. ENT specialists won't swallow it, pathologists yell 'Over my dead body' and radiologists can see through it'. And what about surgeons? 'They are fed up of cuts and want to wash their hands of it'.

And urologists? They're pis.... YES, we get the idea.



**ALAN MANCHIP**

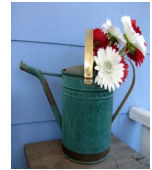
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As promised, the second of his contributions:-

## HONEYBEE DIARIES from Neil Wellum

It's so far so good for the three honeybee colonies, but this winter's dangers are not over for them yet. As I write, we are in the midst of another 'Beast from the East'. There have been plenty of grey, damp, wet and chilly days this winter and this has kept the bees tightly clustered in the hives to keep warm and conserve their energy.

Winter honeybees live much longer than summer ones. They can live for up to 6 months or so, whereas summer bees live for about 6 weeks, literally working themselves to an early demise. The task of the winter bees is to protect the queen and be there in sufficient numbers to support her with brood rearing as the new season starts. They survive on rich fat stores built up in their bodies and on the honey stored in the hives the previous summer. That is why it is important for beekeepers to ensure the bees have enough honey to get them through the winter. By the end of summer, an average-sized bee colony needs to have about 40lbs of honey in the hive, or they risk starvation. Beekeepers can help by hefting hives in September to check the amount of honey stores, feeding them sugar syrup if needs be.

My three colonies have flown occasionally this winter, when the temperature has crept up to about 10C, and when there has been a bit of sun. Towards the end of January, on a warmish, dry day, there was a great deal of excitement and flying activity round the hives for about 45 minutes. It was lovely to see and hear the bees out and about. I think they were enjoying a bit of fresh air and a jolly good wing-stretch. Actually, they were undertaking what is known in polite circles as a 'cleansing flight'! They don't like to leave a mess in the hives and have stretchy rear-ends that allow them to store large amounts of waste until a suitable flying day comes around. Then you can almost hear their sighs of relief!

On 3 February, I noticed an encouraging sign that things were on the up for the bees. It was dry, warm and sunny. Some of the bees went out foraging and I saw them returning with pollen; some white, some yellow and some pale green. They are clever little things to be able to find pollen so early, I think. They have been visiting our rosemary, winter jasmine and hellebore and will be on the lookout for snowdrops too. They also go off after hazel pollen from the catkins and there are plenty of catkins about. Although hazel is normally wind pollinated, the bees don't mind. The good thing about seeing them bring in pollen is that it is a sign that the queens are starting to lay eggs again. Pollen is the bees' source of protein, vitamins and minerals. The nurse bees turn it into liquid brood food to feed to the young larvae, which hatch out three days after the eggs are laid. A larva's job is to sit in its brood cell, feed and grow for six days, until it enters the pupal phase where the wonders of metamorphosis take place. Some 21 days after the egg was laid, an adult worker honeybee will emerge to start duties in the colony.

So, with luck, the three colonies should start to see new recruits in the next two to three weeks, but the Beast from the East is not going to help. I need to stay vigilant.



## THE FOOD CUPBOARD

It has become a monthly habit, but always a pleasure, to report on the generosity of the people of Kilve and their on-going support for the Quantock Food Bank.

Marlene and her team continue to work 'flat out' with the sorting and delivery of so many food parcels to those in need. During this latest lockdown, you are correct in assuming that the demand has been considerable. Any donations in cash or kind may be left at the Village Stores or with me at 'Grantchester' and as always I am very happy to collect.

Many thanks. Robbie



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## TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO

From Issue 88 March 1996  
A full length report on the Annual General Meeting of the Cricket Club took 'pride of place' on the front page of this issue. An interesting footnote to the proceedings read: 'There is no such truth in the rumour that the whole of the Kilve 1st XI had been asked to stand by for the upcoming India/Pakistan tour. Only 6 of them have been asked!'



## READING GROUP

from Sue Hares

"The Beekeeper of Aleppo" written by Christy Lefteri was the book chosen for the February meeting of the Group. This proved to be a harrowing tale of asylum seekers and refugees from war torn countries of Asia and Africa. The main characters were Syrian. There was obviously an element of truth in this fictional novel which made for some very uncomfortable reading. However, the book itself was a pleasure to read being well written and with good characterisation, once the content could be overcome. A good read and one to be recommended. The Group will continue with meetings on Zoom until such time as "normal" life resumes! Unfortunately, the Group is at full capacity and there is currently a waiting list.



## Kilve Village Hall News

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I can't believe it has been almost a year since we shut the Village Hall as a result of the Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak. The Hall will remain closed for all activities until such time as we are allowed to re-open, hopefully very soon! The committee continues to meet and review the situation over zoom and during the lockdown have completed many maintenance tasks. Any comments or enquiries in the meantime can be addressed to [chairkvh@gmail.com](mailto:chairkvh@gmail.com)

In the meantime, stay safe!

Regards

Tony

### The 100 Club

A fundraiser for the Village Hall, this monthly draw offers a lucky punter the chance to scoop the jackpot. The 100 club is a way of paying some of the running costs of our fantastic village hall!

Just £2 a month gets you one number in the draw; 50% goes to the hall and 50% in prizes. There are two prizes each month, drawn on the last Saturday of each month at the Village Hall Coffee Morning and a new period will begin in July. Kilve residents can join at the coffee morning, at Kilve Stores or ring Claire Heather on [01278 741654](tel:01278741654) (Direct debit scheme or via cheque payable to 'Kilve Village Hall'). The draw continues to be made remotely at the moment via a random number generator and the winners for January 2021 were:

**Pam Cuff and Sheila Sharp**

## THE 'GRASSKUTEERS'

from Mark Walton



There has been a long tradition within our village that a team of volunteers – affectionately known as 'The Grasskuteers', band together and ensure that the churchyard is kept in good order.

Our history:

The Grasskuteers was founded around 1998 by Brian West of Putsham Farmhouse, a retired banker who brought his considerable admin skills to the recruiting and rostering of a team of villagers willing to tackle St Mary's churchyard maintenance. Before then, care of the churchyard had been undertaken by Robbie Rutt, who cut the grass and tidied the churchyard single handed, weekly for half a day at least. The new group started with around a dozen members in teams of two. A lawn mower was purchased by the Parochial Church Council. Alan Hopper took over as Chief Grasskuteer from Brian West in 2012 and brought his excellent organisational skills and enthusiasm to the role. Alan decided to step down from the Chief Grasskuteer role at the end of 2020. The PCC and fellow Grasskuteers are very appreciative of all the hard work Alan put into the role. At the start of the 2021 season Mark Walton took on the role of Chief Grasskuteer.

The success of the Grasskuteers, is the generosity of Kilve residents and their willingness to help. Our volunteers work in teams of three persons, current covid restrictions permitting and usually perform their duties two mornings a year. We have two well maintained Honda lawnmowers in situ.

If you feel that you would like to help, ladies or gentlemen, please contact Mark Walton Chief Grasskuteer on 741095

or [mtwalton@btinternet.com](mailto:mtwalton@btinternet.com) for more information.

## OUR NEXT ISSUE

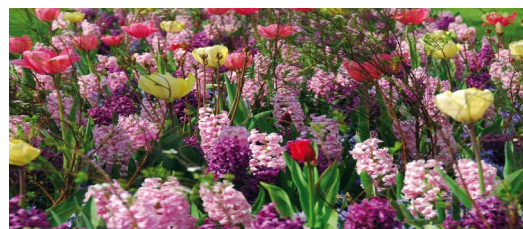
Our next issue will be for April  
Contributions for the 344th edition to Robbie, or the Village Stores (marked Kilve News)



Please note

**NO LATER THAN MARCH 15th**

If you have reports, adverts or contributions to hand before the deadline please let us have them as soon as possible. It greatly helps having them well in advance of the 15th





## Kilve Residents - Quiet Lanes Survey



Quiet Lanes are minor rural roads designated by the Counties Highway authority to make them safer and more attractive to walkers, cyclists and horse riders and all who enjoy them, by encouraging drivers to drive more considerately.

Use of these roads remains shared – traffic is not banned. However, discrete signs and subtle changes to the lanes, can promote a more tranquil rural environment. Lower speeds are encouraged.

### What are the benefits of Quiet Lanes?

By encouraging walking, cycling and horse riding, Quiet Lanes widen transport choices for the community and encourage healthy, recreational activities where people can enjoy country lanes peacefully and with less threat of speeding traffic.

Since Quiet Lanes work best as a network of designated lanes, they can link where local people live, work, shop, and go to school and connect lanes around a village centre, and with local footpaths.

### Tell us what you think.

We are proposing that Quiet Lanes be designated in this area to regain the character and tranquillity of our country lanes. As they are for use and enjoyment by us all, your views on Quiet Lanes, and whether they are a good idea, are essential.

Please tell us what you think, by taking a few minutes to fill in the questions below. We can then consider and analyse all your views to see if there is enough local support for a Quiet Lanes network. We will be passing on our analysis of the responses received to Somerset County Council who would be responsible for developing the Quiet Lanes project in partnership with the community. Personal details will not be shared.

### How do you travel?

1. How often each week do you use the following ways of travelling in Kilve? (Please tick as appropriate)

	Every Day	4 – 6 times	1 – 3 times	Never
Drive				
Walk				
Cycle				
Horse ride				
Bus				

### Quiet Lanes.

2. Have you heard about Quiet Lanes before? (Please tick as appropriate)  
Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you think Quiet Lanes are a good idea? (Please tick as appropriate)  
Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please state why: \_\_\_\_\_
4. If you answered yes, which lanes do you think should be part of the Quiet Lanes network? (Please tick as appropriate)
- |              |  |                  |  |
|--------------|--|------------------|--|
| Sea Lane     |  | Rowditch Lane    |  |
| Hilltop Lane |  | Pardlestone Lane |  |
5. What problems, if any, have you had using country lanes in the area as a walker, cyclist, car driver or horse-rider?

Encourage more considerate driving	
Reduce the amount of traffic on the lanes	
Reduce the amount of vehicles travelling at high speeds	
Encourage safer (more) cycling	
Encourage safer (more) walking	
Encourage safer (more) horse riding	
Other: Please explain.	

7. Do you think the following measures are acceptable in order to set up a Quiet Lane?

	Yes	No
Quiet Lanes signs (displayed on simple wooden posts)		
Reduced amount of traffic signs		
Minor engineering works at entry to quiet lanes (e.g. road narrowing, rumble strips)		
Verges built out of natural materials such as logs to narrow the lane and provide better crossing points		
Vehicle weight limit (other than for access to properties on the lane)		
Use/maintenance of verges and hedges to improve appearance of lane		
Lower speed limits		

8. Any other comments?

9. Would you like to be kept informed about Quiet Lanes in Kilve? (Please tick) Yes: No:

10. Would you like to be involved in the campaign to promote Quiet Lanes in Kilve? (Please tick) Yes: No:

11. Do you wish to be entered into the prize draw to be drawn on 12 March 2021? (Please tick) Yes: No:

**If you answered 'yes' to questions 9, 10 or 11, please fill out your details below (these details will only be used by the Kilve Lanes Project and will not be shared):**

Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Email Address:	

**Please return the completed survey by 5 pm on Friday 12 March 2021 to:**

Streamside, Sea Lane, Kilve

Or

Crossways, Hilltop Lane, Kilve

Or

Kilve Stores.



Additional copies are available from the Village shop, on the website, facebook or by emailing [brucevley@aol.com](mailto:brucevley@aol.com).

Thank you for completing the survey and for supporting safer roads in Kilve. Good luck in the draw.