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# KILVE NEWS



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Issue 372

October 2023

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## EDITORIAL

It's amazing to realise that next month I shall be inviting you to send me your Christmas messages for inclusion in the December issue of *Kilve News*. We always send any donations received with the messages to a charity which has local significance. Does anyone have a particular charity that they would like to nominate to receive this year's donations? If so, please let me know.

I'm sure many of you will have seen the notices in the shop about the Post Office, and been aware that there were questions about the Post Office's continued existence. Thankfully, it looks as though a solution has been reached, and the village will be able to retain this vital service. For details, you can read Matt's article on page 5.

Please remember that I welcome all contributions for *Kilve News* – articles, news items, photographs, anything that you think other residents would be interested to read.

*Jenny*

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

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## KILVE SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

It is that time of the year when the Short Mat Bowls Club get together for their weekly session of this enjoyable game.

The Club meets in the Village Hall of a Monday evening with a start time of 7 pm and there is always a very big welcome for new members. All the equipment is provided and all you are asked to do is to turn up and enjoy yourself!

If you would like to know any more details, please contact Tony and Angela Russell on 229688 (yes, that is 229688!) or Robbie Rutt on 741594.

We would love to see you!

*Robbie*



*Not something you want to see in your garden! This is the infamous Asian hornet, which seems to be arriving in this country in increasing numbers. It is a major threat to honeybees and other smallish native insects. On the back page you can read a piece from Neil Wellum telling you what to do if you spot one of these invaders.*

*(Photo courtesy of the British Beekeepers' Association)*

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## MORE KILVE SUCCESSES!

Since the last issue I have learnt of more Kilve successes at the Holford Flower Show in August. Many congratulations to Liz Day, who won the Margaret Upson Award for flowers and container plants, and to Russell Bryant, who won the Alan Date award for produce.

Well done, both of you!

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## HILLTOP JUBILEE PATH

Don't forget the Grand Opening on Saturday 30 September at 10am at the Cider Barn end of the new path – you are all welcome.

There will be a short ribbon-cutting ceremony and Peter Gill's bench unveiling (photographs next month) followed by coffee and cake in the Village Hall. This path is a great asset for Kilve thanks to Nick and Nicky Thorne, Lady Dory, and Anthony and Debbie Salvidge, who have consented to its creation. The new permissive bridleway completes a wonderful circular walk plus safe access from Hilltop and Moorhouse Farm to Kilve village centre and the beach.

The Parish Council are sourcing fingerposts to identify the route.

*Bruce Eyley*

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## Table Top/Good as New Sale

**Holford & District Village Hall**

**Saturday 21st October 10am - 4pm**

Contact: Mo Plomgren.

plomdove4145@gmail.com or 01278 741152

Table hire: Large £10 (2 for £15), Small £8

Clothes rail space available - neg. cost

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## GENTLEMEN'S LUNCH

The next gentlemen's lunch is on

**Tuesday 3 Oct**  
**at The Hood Arms,**  
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To book, please contact Arthur  
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## READING GROUP

The Group met in September after a summer break and had been reading *From Crime to Crime* by Sir Richard Henriques. This was a departure from our usual genre, being a non-fiction account of various high profile Court cases with which he was involved. After taking silk in 1986 he appeared in no fewer than 106 murder trials and was appointed High Court Judge in 2000. He also sat in the Court of Appeal, hearing some very famous appeals.

The entire book was a fascinating insight into the workings of the judiciary and contained more information than was reported in the press at the time of the events. Some of the facts were extremely harrowing, particularly in the Jamie Bulger case and the Morecambe Bay cockle pickers, but he gave balanced opinions on the outcomes of all the cases. The Harold Shipman case commanded the largest section of the book and was also very informative. The review of Operation Midland was an interesting chapter too. All in all, it was a very worthwhile read.

It was a beautifully written account and surprisingly an easy read considering the content. It turned out to be a really good choice for the group with so many points raised, and the style of writing meant that it could be read alongside other lighter reads. Sir Richard has now retired. Using his experiences, he has made some suggestions for reforming the criminal justice system. One can only hope he will have some influence.

*Sue Hares*

## KILVE QUIET LANES PROJECT

As reported in last month's *Kilve News*, we have sent our response to Somerset Highways' initial thoughts on the project. There were positives in relation to the A39 speed limit reduction to 40mph, and to quiet lanes status being supported for Pardlestone Lane and Sea Lane. We have reiterated the need for Hilltop and Rowditch to be added and speed limits in quiet lanes to be 20 mph. We have also requested information about the proposed pedestrian crossing near the shop which they did not mention.

The observant will have noticed the Kilton junction chevrons and cast iron finger post were destroyed in a collision recently. This has been reported and followed up with Highways. Kilve Parish Council Traffic Committee continues to push for progress in these matters.

*Bruce Eyley*

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## POST OFFICE NEWS

Most of you are probably aware that we have had problems with our Post Office recently, I will explain why.

During the dreaded network change programme around 15 years ago, when the Post Office tried to close as many small counters as possible in order to save money, Kilve was downgraded from a Sub Post Office to a partner Post Office.

To be honest, it was only my persistent begging and pleading and being generally very irritating to the Post Office management that persuaded them to give me a chance to increase trade and business and keep the Post Office in Kilve (and probably just to shut me up!).

As a partner PO we are contracted to a larger PO and they supply us with all our stock, cash etc; we get paid £50 per week to have the PO in the shop and the rest of the pay is based on transactions, so the busier we are the more money we make.

We fully appreciate how important the PO is to so many locals and passers-by, especially with all the banks closing.

Our recent problems are due to the operators of our partner PO, Alcombe Post Office, who decided to close very quickly without warning. Unfortunately they didn't call me and let me know and they also owe us a lot of money.

Not only has Alcombe now lost its Post Office, a business that had been trading for nearly a hundred years, but Watchet PO has also had to close, and Kilve Post Office was on the brink of possible closure two weeks ago.

However, I'm pleased to say we have now reached an agreement to be partnered with Washford Post Office. The Postmaster there seems to be a very nice professional chap who is highly regarded amongst Post Office regional management.

By the time you read this Kilve PO should be fully restocked and trading as normal.

Although this was a happy outcome, it just goes to show how fragile small businesses can be, especially village shops and Post Offices. Here one minute and gone the next.

Maybe this should serve as another wake-up call, and we remind everyone once again...

## Use it or lose it!!

Matt Hirst

## FORGET-ME-NOT CAFÉ



Jubilee Rooms  
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**Every other Wednesday  
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Forget-Me-Not Cafés provide support, companionship and a warm welcome to those who are recognising issues with their memory, as well as their carers, family, and friends.

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 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 our running costs would be welcome.*

### FUTURE DATES

Wednesday 11 October

Wednesday 25 October

Wednesday 8 November

Wednesday 22 November

For more information please contact:

Helen: 01278 733451 [cuttelhelen@gmail.com](mailto:cuttelhelen@gmail.com)

Rose: 07507 374234 [rosechalk@icloud.com](mailto:rosechalk@icloud.com)

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### A talk by John Eagle

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\*Find out how they stopped it rusting!

**Monday 23 October at 2 pm**

**Holford Village Hall**

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## Here's to the Ladies who lunch

The next Ladies Who Lunch (LWL) meals are on Thursday 28 September and Thursday 26 October, at 12 for 12.30pm at the Hood Arms.

If you would like to join us, just contact me. I send out the menu each month for you to choose and pre-order your lunch.

Kelly (741149)

[Kelly78stone@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Kelly78stone@hotmail.co.uk)

### HOLFORD GARDENERS GROUP

Tuesday 17 October 7.30pm



**Dark and Desirable**

*A talk by Paul Green*

Holford and District Village Hall

Members £1.00 Visitors £2.00

For membership details Tel 01278 741173

### OUR NEXT ISSUE

Our next issue will be for November 2023.

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

**Please note:**

**NO LATER THAN 18 OCTOBER**

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](mailto:jakent@btinternet.com)  
or text on 07745 805006

### SUNDAY SERVICES AT ST MARY'S



- 1 October 11am Harvest Praise
- 8 October 11am Joint Communion Service with Holford & Strington at **STRINGTON**
- 15 October 9.30am Morning Worship
- 22 October 11am Holy Communion
- 29 October 10.30am Deanery Holy Communion at **STOGURSEY** (with commissioning of Lay Pastoral & Lay Worship Assistants)

The Church will be decorated for the harvest service; if you can offer fruit, flowers or veg for the decoration please contact Sally Quinn (07710 420337). Any cash donations made at the service will go to the Food Bank to support people in need in our area. There will be refreshments after the service!

Also, an advance notice for November: there will be an All Souls Service at St Mary's Kilve at 3.30pm on Sunday 5 November. If anyone would like the name of a deceased loved one read out please let me know (01278 741229). Those who attend the service will be invited to light a candle in memory of their loved one (not compulsory). The service is a short half hour one; refreshments will be available afterwards.

The following Sunday, 12 November, is Remembrance Sunday; the Remembrance Service will start at 10.45am in order to hold the 2 minute silence as close to 11am as possible.

If anyone would like further information please contact me on 01278 741229 or email [pam.cuff@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pam.cuff@hotmail.co.uk).

*Pam Cuff*

### COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 21 October

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## VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The children have gone back to school and the sun comes out! Classic! Our next meeting is Tuesday 3 October at 1.30pm – 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](mailto:kvh@hayward.uk.net) or via any committee member or the village hall post box.

### Hiring the Village Hall

Did you know as a villager for non-commercial use it only costs £7.00/hr for the main hall, £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](mailto:kilvevhbookings@gmail.com).

### Kilve Village Calendar 2024 – ENTRIES IN BY 10am Saturday 7 October!

After last year's success we are once again asking our photographers to get out there and capture something that demonstrates "What Kilve means to me" – which could be anything from pets, people, places to something more abstract.

Entries need to be printed out no larger than 10" x 8", either portrait or landscape. Pop them in an envelope marked *Calendar competition*, with your name and contact email and phone number, which you can post in the village hall post boxes or hand in at coffee mornings or to any committee member (you can also email [kvh@hayward.uk.net](mailto:kvh@hayward.uk.net) to let us know you have entered so we can make sure we have received all the entries!).

Closing date for entries is 10am Saturday 7 October. Any suggestions for the calendar format can also be emailed to the above address and we'll see if we can make it even better! Entries will be displayed at the Cheese and Wine evening and you can then vote for your favourites to be included!

### 100 Club

The winners for August were:

1. Sheila Sharpe
2. David Houghton

If you would like to join the club please contact us – the more members the bigger the prize and the funds raised!

### Kilve's Got Talent

How about a talent show? Have you got a hidden talent you'd like to share – song, dance, poetry, sketch, comedy? Let us know if you'd be interested in this, and we will put out a more formal call for entries in a future issue of *Kilve News*.

### Things to look forward to

**Saturday 30 September 10.30am:** Coffee Morning – we need additional help to put this one on please! It will follow the opening of the Jubilee Path.

**Friday 13 October 7pm:** Cheese and wine evening and judging of calendar entries (see above) – free village community event

**Saturday 28 October 10.30am:** Coffee Morning – bacon baps!

**Saturday 18 November 7pm:** Ceilidh / Barn Dance with Hopping Mad, including a ploughman's supper. Music and easy dances to join in. Bar will be open. £15 including supper. Tickets will go on sale beginning of October. See posters for details.

**Early December Saturday:** Village Food Event – date and cuisine tbc. If you are keen to be a village chef (à la Spice Boys) get in touch! (NB This has moved from 14 October.)

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

**Quiz and Bingo Nights** – Jan/Feb 2024: details to follow

**3rd weekend in March 2024:** Cri du Canard – a French bal – in association with Take Art

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

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

Sarah Hayward

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From Issue 114, October 1998

A pine table was advertised for sale, and mature loganberry plants were offered free (both only in *Kilve News*). The table was sold within a day and loganberry plants went to at least four local homes.

So if you have anything special to advertise – something to sell or give away, or a local fund-raising event, why not use *Kilve News*?

this month

**25**

years ago

## NOT WELCOME HERE!

Sometimes you will, if you are lucky enough (depending on your point of view!), see European hornets in gardens in Kilve and in the countryside round about. It is our largest wasp species and quite a magnificent beast. I was in my apiary the other day and heard a low hum. I saw a European hornet fly sedately past the entrance of one of my hives, turn round, fly back, and catch a returning honeybee in its mouth in mid-air! It was a spectacular piece of predatory flying really, though I was sorry for the poor honeybee. The hornet may have taken the bee back to its nest to feed to its young or it may have eaten the meal itself. Such losses are an inevitable part of the cycle of nature and pose no great threat to honeybee colonies.

However, there are growing signs that the Asian hornet could be spreading to UK shores from parts of continental Europe, where it has become established. There have been more confirmed sightings this year than in the last six combined. This non-native species poses a serious risk to honeybees and other insect species. It has a particular liking for honeybee colonies and has caused very serious losses in western France and northwest Spain in recent years. It is also established on Jersey.

A single Asian hornet hovering in the air outside a hive can catch, kill and eat up to 30-50 honeybees per day. This method of killing the bees is called 'hawking' and our native honeybees have evolved no defence against such a threat. If there are Asian hornets hawking by a hive, the honeybee colony can swiftly collapse because the foraging bees are picked off and cannot collect the nectar and pollen the colony needs.

Asian hornets are slightly smaller than our native European hornets. Distinguishing features of the Asian hornet include yellow legs, an orange face and dark brown/black body with a broad orange band at the rear of the abdomen. The picture below shows a useful comparison. It is provided courtesy of the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), Crown Copyright.

The National Bee Unit (NBU) works with the British Beekeepers' Association (BBKA) and more than 1000 specially trained beekeepers across the country to locate and destroy Asian hornet nests. It's quite an operation.

I recently set up a baited trap in my apiary as a monitoring station. The bait is something they apparently find irresistible, though to the editor it smells like nail varnish – and it's bright pink!

This is the time of year to keep an eye out for Asian hornets. Please can you help by keeping your eyes peeled when out in your garden or in the countryside. If you think you

## DIARY DATES

- Sat 30 September 10am** Hilltop Jubilee Path  
Grand Opening by the Cider Barn,  
followed by Coffee Morning at KVH
- Mon 2 October 7pm** Short Mat Bowls, KVH
- Tues 3 October 12.30 for 1pm** Gentlemen's Lunch,  
Hood Arms
- Tues 17 October 7.30pm** Holford Gardeners  
Group, Holford VH
- Thurs 19 October 3–4.30pm** Kilve Voices, KVH
- Sat 21 October 10am–12 noon** Coffee Morning,  
East Quantoxhead VH
- Sat 21 October 10am–4pm** Table Top / Good as  
New Sale, Holford VH
- Mon 23 October 2pm** Quantock u3a, Holford VH
- Thurs 26 October 12 for 12.30pm** Ladies Who  
Lunch, Hood Arms
- Sat 28 October 10am** Coffee Morning with bacon  
baps, KVH

have seen something that resembles an Asian hornet, you can report it via the phone app Asian Hornet Watch – ([https://risc.brc.ac.uk/alert.php?species=asian\\_hornet](https://risc.brc.ac.uk/alert.php?species=asian_hornet)).

Alternatively, let me know by email at [nwellum@btinternet.com](mailto:nwellum@btinternet.com).

A photo would be great, but **take care not to approach or disturb a nest**. Asian hornets are not generally aggressive towards people, but an exception to this is when they perceive a threat to their nest, at which point they can become highly aggressive. This is like any stinging insect, including wasps and honeybees.

Neil Wellum

**Think you've seen an Asian Hornet? Report it!**

Centimeters

3  
2  
1  
0

**Asian Hornet**  
*Vespa velutina*

**European Hornet**  
*Vespa crabro*

**Wasp**  
*Vespula vulgaris*

**Honey Bee**  
*Apis mellifera*

**Report through the Asian Hornet Watch app or [www.bit.ly/asianhornetreport](http://www.bit.ly/asianhornetreport)**

Google play App Store

Animal & Plant Health Agency