



# KILKHAMPTON PARISH NEWS

[www.kilkhampton.news](http://www.kilkhampton.news)

February 2025

*A quick reminder - Kilk fete AGM will be on  
**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30pm at the New Inn**  
New volunteers welcome - please support your village fete!*

*Welcome to the first issue of 2025! Happy New Year to all, and I hope you continue to enjoy the Parish News and send in your news, posters and anything else you feel you would like to submit*

*Inside this issue...*

*P 3 Xmas fayre 2024 'guess the weight of the cake' result, and Pancake Day*

*P 4 St James services, and a celebration of 80 years since WW2 - fancy knitting or crocheting a few poppies? Knitting pattern provided*

*P 5 Methodist services, and words from Rev Richard and Albert*

*P 6 Floodlighting, and Bude Metric Brass thank you and Feb charity concert*

*P 7 The family of Mary Crews from Kilk - more of Jane Ricobi's story*

*P 8-9 Kilk school news and photos from December activities*

*P 9 Coffee and cakes, Kilk lunch*

*P 10-11 Tree book group reports, plus Kilk Krafts reports and Feb meetings*

*P 12-14 Council minutes from Dec 24 and Jan 25*

*P 14-16 Bude Look Group Dec 24 and Jan 25 meetings*

*P 15 KATS Comeback - report and photo from Cinderella, November 24*

## **DOG FOULING IN KILKHAMPTON - NAME AND SHAME**

Kilkhampton Parish Council adopts a "Name and Shame" policy with regard to dog fouling.

Individuals are encouraged to take pictures of any dog they see fouling the village.

This picture will then be sent to our local dog warden to single out the offending pets and their owners.

Please help to keep our village tidy, clean up after your pets.

Hannah Collett, Parish Council Clerk

07970 918401 [clerk@kilkhampton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@kilkhampton-pc.gov.uk)

## St James the Great, Kilkhampton

<b>Priest-in-Charge:</b>	<b>Reverend Teresa Folland</b> Teresa.folland@gmail.com	01288 352599
<b>Retired priest</b>	<b>Reverend Richard Ward-Smith</b> 31 Priestacott Park, Kilkhampton R.wardsmith@btinternet.com	01288 321991
<b>Safeguarding Officer:</b>	<b>Hilbre Watts</b>	01288 321331
<b>Churchwardens:</b>	<b>Mr. Kevin McGrath</b> <b>Mr. Luke Francis BEM</b>	01288 321277 01288 321270
<b>Lay-Chair of the PCC:</b>	<b>Rachel Jenkins</b>	01288 321671
<b>Treasurer to the PCC:</b>	<b>Mr. Peter Hobbs</b> Wrasford, Kilkhampton EX23 9RL	01288 321551
<b>Secretary to the PCC:</b>	<b>Ms Val Hopper</b> northkernowchurches@gmail.com	
<b>Organist</b>	<b>Mr. Luke Francis</b>	As above
<b>Bell Tower Captain:</b>	<b>Mr. Tony Davis</b> Highfield House, 1 Baileys Field West Street, Kilkhampton EX23 9QE	01288 321292
<b>Flower Coordinator:</b>	<b>Mrs. Jeanette Norman</b> Ching's Lodge, Penstowe Road, Kilkhampton, EX23 9QT	01288 321404
<b>Electoral Roll Officer:</b>	<b>Mrs. Jennie Read</b>	01288 321020

---

## Kilkhampton Methodist Chapel

<b>Church Stewards:</b>	<b>Mr. John Brooks</b> Killarney Park, Youlstone EX23 9PX	
	<b>Fiona Cleave</b> Higher Pigsdon Farm, Launcells EX23 9LQ Roland Nancekivell	01288 321261
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Mr. M. Metherell</b> Stapleton, Whitecroft Way, Kilkhampton EX23 9RE	01288 321248
<b>Room Bookings</b>	<b>Contact Fiona Cleave on the above number</b>	

---

## Grenville Rooms

<b>Room Bookings</b>	<b>Contact Alan or Tracey Hockin</b>	01288 321710
----------------------	--------------------------------------	--------------

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor. The editor cannot be held responsible for the content of any articles, notices or other submissions to this newsletter. The editor cannot guarantee inclusion of articles or notices submitted for publication, and the layout and size of all articles (unless paid for) is at the discretion of the editor.

## EDITORIAL



Dydh da pubonan,

Just a quick hello this month as the parish news is pretty full!

So just one question for all: Does anyone know anyone who might be a candidate for taking on the adverts and website editing? It's not an onerous job, most months are unchanged, and the website just needs the new files and the text updating every month. If you know someone, please get in touch with me! Thanks a lot, *Jill*

## **Kilkhampton Christmas Fayre December 2024**

I'm sure all those who attended the Christmas Fayre in December at the Grenville Rooms will agree it was a great event! Stalls, food, mulled wine, entertainment, music and a visit from Santa meant there was something for everyone.

Thanks once again to the organisers and all the help in setting up etc.

One of the craft stalls had a 'guess the weight of the cake' competition - the cake was 4lb 4oz, and the winner was Liam Bunning, who got within 2oz of the correct weight. For those of you who don't understand imperial weights, in kilograms the cake weighed 1.92kg!

Roll on Christmas 2025! (Did I really say that??)

## **PANCAKES PANCAKES PANCAKES**

**Shrove Tuesday – March 4<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon to 2pm, in the Chapel Room**

**Savoury or Sweet Pancakes**

**£4.00 including tea/coffee, biscuits and lucky ticket**

**Proceeds for Church Flower Fund**

### **ST JAMES CHURCH FLOODLIGHTING SPONSORSHIP**

Please clearly write or type your notices for the church floodlighting page, put them in an envelope with the £5 fee, and give them in at the Spar by the 11th of each month.

If you have any queries, please contact Tracey Smith at [kilkchurchlights@gmail.com](mailto:kilkchurchlights@gmail.com)

or phone her on 321432 or 07740 520459

Cheques should be made payable to 'KILKHAMPTON PCC'.

### **Kilkhampton Parish News Editorial team**

Please use the contact details below to enquire about anything related to advertising (Martin), or send in submissions for the editorial page (Jill). We are happy to be contacted in the first instance and we're happy to accept notices of events and news items. Adverts need to be submitted by 1st of the month for the following month, and editorial submissions by 12th of the month.

Committee:

Chair, sales and printing manager: Martin Cross [martin@kilkhampton.news](mailto:martin@kilkhampton.news)  
01288 321806 or 07484 147056

Editor and Secretary: Jill Rodgers [jill@kilkhampton.news](mailto:jill@kilkhampton.news) 01288 321144 or  
07747 006601

Distribution manager: Marie Trowbridge [mariemrj@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mariemrj@hotmail.co.uk)  
07795 546319 or 01288 321789

## St James Church Services

### Sunday 2nd February, Candlemas (White)

11am Holy Communion with Reverend Teresa  
Welcomers: Margaret and Lyn. Reading: Malachi 3, 1-5. Hilbre

### Sunday 9th February, fourth before Lent (Green)

11am Morning Worship with Hilbre  
Welcomers: Myra and Tracey. Reading: Isaiah 6: 1-8 (9-13). Gillian

### Sunday 16th February, third before Lent (Green)

11am Holy Communion with Reverend Jane  
Welcomers: Rachel and Rita. Reading: Jeremiah 17: 5-10. Ian

### Sunday 23rd February, second before Lent, Creation Sunday (Green)

11am Morning Worship with Ian  
Welcomers: Jennie and Joyce. Reading: Genesis 2: 4b-9. Peter

**If anyone is unable to make their appointed date please arrange a replacement**

**Daily Morning Prayer: 9am** Everyone welcome to drop in on any day

ZOOM Meeting ID 818 0754 3068 Password 342 493 Telephone 02030512874 or 02030515237

## 2025: 80th anniversary of the end of World War II

To mark this important date on Remembrance Day in November, we are planning a large display of knitted or crocheted poppies coming down from the outside of the church (detailed planning to come later!). So we need lots of poppies! Anyone can join in, a labelled box will be in St James Church for you to leave your poppies once completed – every one counts!

Any queries: please contact Marie Trowbridge on 07795546319 or Joyce Davis 01288 321292  
Thank you!

Here's a knitting pattern for poppies – or you can of course use one of your own!

Double Knit wool, size 5 or 6 needles.  
Red and black wool. 1 ball of red wool will make a number of poppies, each of which needs just a small amount of black wool.

### Body of Poppy – Red wool

Leaving a tail of wool to start, cast on 60 stitches  
Rows 1-10: K2, P2, repeat to end.  
Row 11: K2 together, repeat to end (30 stitches).  
Row 12: S1, K2 tog, pss0, repeat to end (10 stitches).  
Break off the yarn with a long tail, thread this back through the remaining stitches and pull tight.  
Keep the tail of the wool (this and the tail at the beginning will be used to attach the poppy).  
Join the 2 side edges to make a circle, then thread the end of the yarn back to the centre and leave about 4 inches (10cm) of yarn ready for the poppy to be attached to other ones.

### Centre of Poppy – Black wool

Cast on 8 stitches.  
Row 1: K to end  
Row 2: P to end  
Continue until you have a square (probably 9=8-10 rows). Break off the yarn with a long tail, thread this back through the remaining stitches, and tighten this a little, with the purl side outermost, and tuck the edges of the square underneath to form a round. Make sure you leave about 4 inches (10cm) of yarn, as with the red yarn, to attach the poppy to other ones.

### Finishing off

Stitch the tucked-under part of the poppy centre to the middle of the body of the poppy and over stitch with black yarn.  
Alternatively you can use a black button as the poppy centre.

## Methodist Chapel Services

<u>Date</u>	<u>Preacher</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Coffee</u>
2nd February	Rev. Richard Ward-Smith	Sue Brooks	Pam Metherell
9th February	Rev. Joy Wilson	Susan Beswetherick	Roger & Brenda Dunstan
16th February	Pastor Albert Sloman	Brenda Dunstan	Joy Moore
23rd February	Mr. Barry Bryne	Fiona Cleave	Sandra Holmes

### FROM REV RICHARD

We are well into 2025. And I reckon that now is good time to look back and give thanks for the past. I have been thinking recently of all those saints who chose to settle here in Cornwall, giving up home and family, to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to this land. You don't have to go far down the road until you meet a village named after a "St Somebody". They were called 'peregrini', these wandering pilgrim saints. That is why the Church in Truro chose the Peregrine falcon as its emblem. The Peregrine falcon is the fastest, most wide-ranging and powerful of all falcons. It is a rare and beautiful bird. You can find it nesting on the sheer granite cliff faces surrounding our Cornish cliffs.

And so here we are today, following in the paths of those who walked before us. We too can be 'peregrini' people if we look around and open our

eyes to the beauty of our Cornish land. For it is perhaps, in the rocky shore, the rolling farm land, the sea and sky; in the eyes of all we meet along the way, that confirms to me that in spite of all that we hear and see in the world which is not good, be that as it may, we of all people can tread with confidence and joy into the future. For the very land itself confirms that it is a place of possibilities, of challenges, and opportunities.

So my message for this New Year is for us to look back and celebrate the past. To look forward with hope. To look upward with thanks and to look outward with love.

Our land of Cornwall is a blessing for all of us to share.

*Rev Richard*

### ALBERT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

Well, here we are, a month into 2025. All of those New Year's resolutions already forgotten about! And signs of Spring beginning to show, as there is always a bit of excitement at the prospect of Spring.

The other day I read this:

*A sick man turned to his doctor, as he was leaving the room after paying a visit and said, "Doctor, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side."*

*Very quietly the doctor said, "I don't know."*

*"You don't know? You, a Christian doctor, do not know what is on the other side?"*

*The doctor was holding the handle of the door, on the other side of which came a sound of scratching and whining, and as he opened the door a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness. Turning to the patient, the doctor said,*

*"Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and*

*when the door opened he sprang in without fear. I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing: I know my Master is there, and that is enough. And when the door opens, I shall pass through with no fear, but with gladness."*

It reminded me of what church is really about. Church is not a middle-class club where perfect people go. No, it's where "sinners saved by grace" prepare for when the door of this life closes and opens to the next life, and what we learn means we look forward with excited anticipation.

More people than ever in this country are starting to go to church. One, to discover how to live and two, to know who is on the other side of the door.

So, why don't you join the trend of people going to church to find an exciting way to live and an exciting way to die.

Every blessing to you all and have a great month.

Albert Sloman, Pastor

albertsloman@outlook.com

## St James Church Floodlighting Sponsors February 2025

### GILBERT & VANSTONE

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the formation of our business on 16th February 1985. Many thanks to all our customers past and present for their support.  
Always happy to support the Floodlighting Fund.

### BELL

In loving memory of Trevor Bell, who passed away February 5th 2004.  
Always in our thoughts.  
Love Celia, Ann, Kevin, Arya & Lucy.

Remembering my dear husband **ARTHUR HARRIGAN** on our Wedding Anniversary.  
5th February 1955.  
Miss you so much, love Edith xx

### PARKYN & NANCEKIVELL FAMILY

In memory of the Parkyn and Nancekivell family, late of Herdacott Farm.

### BIRTHDAY WISHES

Wishing our dear sister Sheila (nee Cornish, Penstowe Road) a very Happy 70th birthday on 9th February. Lots of love from Stewart, Jean, Paul, Annette and all the family xxx  
Pleased to support the St. James floodlighting.

### MARY KITCHINGHAM

Remembering dear Mary, our friend and neighbour, who passed away 3 years ago on 6th February.  
Happy memories forever in our thoughts.  
Sylvia and Ann.

*From the editing team: we would like to say thank you for the continued support for the floodlighting fund, your generosity is much appreciated*

*Church floodlighting sponsors: see information on page 3 of this newsletter*

**BUDE METRIC BRASS**  
presents  
**A CHARITY CONCERT**



7.30 pm 22nd February  
**BUDE METHODIST CHURCH**  
Tickets £10 under 16's free  
Bude Tourist Information Office

## BUDE METRIC BRASS

Hello everyone, and Happy New Year from all of us at Bude Metric Brass.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the people of Kilkhampton, Bude and the surrounding area for your support over the Christmas period. You were amazing and the band were well-received wherever they went. The band played at 27 different events in December, that's the busiest we have ever been, which was amazing but ever so tiring and it was a great thing that we managed to share them out by using smaller ensembles. We are pleased to say that we raised nearly £3000 over Christmas which will be used to pay our insurances and for running costs such as instrument repairs, rehearsal room rental, storage and new music. Any excess will be donated to our charities after our concert – we are currently rehearsing for our 'Band Together Around the World' concert in February (see poster), and we are hoping to be joined by our friends from around the country. Please come and enjoy the evening. Tickets will be on sale soon.

Once again thank you for your support and Happy New Year

## The family of Mary Crews from Kilk

For those who enjoyed Mary Crews' story, this is about her children and some of her grandchildren. I'm starting with her second son Thomas, my great-grandad, as I know most about him and his family.

Thomas was born Thomas Cruise in Kilk in 1858, the fifth child of Mary Crews. Mary married his father John Hockridge in 1860. At some point in the 1860s, Thomas added Hockridge to his name.

In 1871 Thomas lived and worked as a farm labourer at Barn Farm, Kilk. At this time he met Jane Cornish (though they met as children her grandparents lived in Kilk). Jane was born Sarah Jane Cornish in 1859. She was the oldest child of Daniel Cornish and his wife Sarah Jane Grills at Coombe, and in 1871, Jane was living and working as a kitchen maid at Lee Barton. Her family moved up to Stibb in the late 1860s where her father worked as a farm labourer.

Jane gave birth to the first of hers and Thomas's 14 children in 1877. She named him Thomas Crews Cornish after his father. Thomas junior later added the name Hockridge. They had a little girl Clara Anne who was born in Stratton workhouse in 1879. I don't know why they were in the workhouse, maybe for hospital care.

Thomas and Jane married in Kilk church on 6th December 1879. Thomas was 21 and Jane was 20. Why did they wait, was it family influence?

A wedding should be a happy event but baby Clara, now known as Annie, caught whooping cough and died 10 days later, aged 9 months. They had another daughter Florence Mary on 18th January 1881 in Kilk, during the great blizzard. The family story is that the snow was so deep, Thomas senior had to climb out of the bedroom window to fetch the doctor as he couldn't open the front door because of the snow. Another story is that he was a coachman for a doctor; Thomas had to carry the doctor on his back across a field to get to a patient because the snow was too deep for the horse.

When Florrie was a few months old, the family moved to Grenville's Gate, Poughill, which is just past Wooda caravan site. Like so many men who worked on the land in the late 1800s, Thomas had to move around to find work. The next 2 children were born in Kilk: Ada in 1883, and John (Jack) in 1885. Jack was the father of Jack Hockridge the barber in Stratton. When Jack was a few months old they moved to Jacobstow where Maud was born in 1886.

Then things improved for Thomas for a while. He got a job as a labourer on the canal at Helebridge. The family lived in 1 Wharf Cottages, Helebridge

for about 10 years, and this was where Kate (1888), Gertrude (1890), William (my grandad, 1892), twins Richard and Bertha (1894) and Alice (1897) were all born. Unfortunately the twins died, Richard at 3 months and Bertha at 9 months. I believe one or both of them had measles.

As I'm sure you know, the canal closed in 1891. When grandad was born, Thomas was back working on a farm. There wasn't a lot of farm work in the 1890s, so Thomas got a job as a navvie on the Holsworthy to Bude railway.

Grandad had fond memories of his childhood at Helebridge. He remembered his mum making pasties with their initials on, for them all to take to school. They walked to school up the incline with the pasties in their pockets like hand warmers. When they got to school they put the pasties on the stove to keep warm until lunchtime. Everyone said Jane was a great cook even though she couldn't read or write. There was no school in Coombe. Jane took in washing, I think from the Falcon Hotel. It was grandad and his brother Jack's job to take the pram full of washing back to Bude, walking along the canal, then bringing the next lot back home. Being boys, they just had to go on the beach while they were there! Grandad said the tide could come in faster than he could run. I wonder how many times he had to explain to his mother how he got wet.

The railway reached Bude in 1898, going through their front garden at Helebridge. Grandad and the other children from Marhamchurch school went on the first train. The oldest child, Tom, went to work on a farm at Morwenstow, possibly from the age of 7. One day he was ploughing the field, he looked up and Queen Victoria was going past in her carriage. He also remembered the first car in Bude, with a man walking in front with a flag.

Once the railway opened, Thomas Hockridge senior was out of work again with a wife and 8 children to support (not the last of their children!). *Part 2 of this story next month.*

Jane Ricobi, 07714 769088

[janer92386@gmail.com](mailto:janer92386@gmail.com)



3 of Thomas 'Junior' Hockridge's sisters, photo taken about 1970, not in Cornwall

# KILKHAMPTON JUNIOR AND INFANTS SCHOOL

As this is the first edition of the parish news in 2025, I would like to wish you a Happy New Year from all of us at Kilkhampton Junior and Infant School.

A lot has happened since my last article. We staged our Christmas plays in front of the parents, Key Stage One performed, 'A Wriggly Nativity,' whilst Key Stage Two performed, 'Away with the Manger.'



Above and all photos below: Key Stage Two Christmas performance 'Away with the Manger'



Above and below: Key Stage One Christmas performance 'A Wriggly Nativity'



The children also enjoyed a day of Christmas craft workshops. Children learnt to make (and took home) many different items including chocolate truffles, festive bunting, Christmas tree decorations and reindeer food.

Sadly, the winter weather caused some disruption at the school. In late November we had to close for the day due to heavy snowfall and in early December, we lost several slates and bits of guttering due to Storm Darragh. All damage has since been repaired and we were spared the snow chaos that plagued the rest of the country in early January. With the field waterlogged, I am looking forward to warmer drier days that will hopefully accompany the start of spring.

With it being a new term, the classes are focusing on new learning areas. In Reception, children are answering the question 'What is in the sky?' whilst in Year One and Two in history, the children are investigating changes in travel over time. Meanwhile Year Three and Four are learning about the Amazon rainforest and answering the question, 'Why are rainforests important?' Year Five and Six pupils are learning about desert habitats, particularly focusing on the Mojave Desert in California, their question being 'Would you like to live in a desert?'

We also have a new range of after-school clubs on offer. These range from sporting clubs such as dance, athletics and handball to cooking clubs, Lego and board games. If anyone reading this has any Lego they no longer need, any donations would be gratefully received!

(Continued on page 9)



(Kilk School, continued from page 8)



Sandymouth enjoying their first class Christmas party



Having fun making chocolate truffles



Year One and Two cooking



More Christmas crafts

This is a busy term, we are looking forward to next week when the children will be taking part in workshops linked to their PSHE (Personal Social Health Education), where they will be learning about recognising and managing feelings and positive mental health. Later in the term we will be celebrating Saint Piran's Day, World Book Day and Comic Relief, where we will hold out annual talent show, 'Kilk's Got Talent' to raise money for a good cause.

I look forward to sharing details of these and other events and learning across the curriculum in upcoming editions of the parish news. I have also included pictures of our Christmas performances and learning from around the school.

*Michael Watson, Head Teacher*

**KILKHAMPTON  
COFFEE &  
CAKES**



**SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> Feb**

**10.30AM - 12.00 NOON at**

**METHODIST CHURCH HALL**

**A VERY WARM WELCOME TO ALL!**

The Charity for February is Oriel Ministry


STALLS

**KILK COMMUNITY LUNCH**

Brought to you by Kilk Coffee & Cakes Team

**2 COURSE HOT MEAL FOR £6**

ON  
**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb**



At 12.30 pm  
AT  
**THE GRENVILLE ROOMS**

Limited numbers so please book  
to ensure a place  
contact 01288 321073

transport could be arranged

## TREE BOOK GROUP December 24: GORSE by Sam Horton

The story, set in 1786, is about the tension in the Cornish village of Mirecoombe between the growing Christian faith and the pagan folk beliefs. The villagers often find themselves embracing the new ways whilst trying to keep the old, leaving neither satisfied.

In Gorse, the creatures of the Undermoor are real - there's the headless hunt, brownies, piskies and spriggans as well as many other creatures from myth and folklore. A lack of offerings in more recent times has led to resentment, and it's the Keeper Lord Pelagius (Pel) Hunt's job to maintain the fine balance of power between the fey and the human world. He's supported in his endeavours by Nancy, a girl he helped who was stolen by fairies as a baby and therefore can also see the usually invisible Undermoor creatures. Nancy has power that Pel never had and he never lets her use. As Mirecoombe falls into darkness, perhaps her time has come. The tension becomes unbearable when the villagers realise a killer is in their midsts, as more and more people are found on the moor with strange markings on them. Pel and Nancy must find out who

stalks Mirecoombe and stop them.

The book is so rich in its imagery, and you can feel the author's passion for the North Cornish landscape in every chapter he writes. The visceral depictions of the power of nature and his interpretation of myths and legends of pagan folklore are brilliant.

Sam K Horton's epic story started as a bit of a slow burner, but it is definitely worth persevering. By the end I was totally immersed in this world and completely invested in solving the mystery of the deaths on the moor. The building of both the human and fairy realms in 18th century Cornwall is fascinating. By setting it in this period, the author throws the gradual move away from folklore towards scientific understanding into sharp relief. What happens in a community that starts to reject its ancient traditions? This dilemma is explored in a creative and intriguing way.

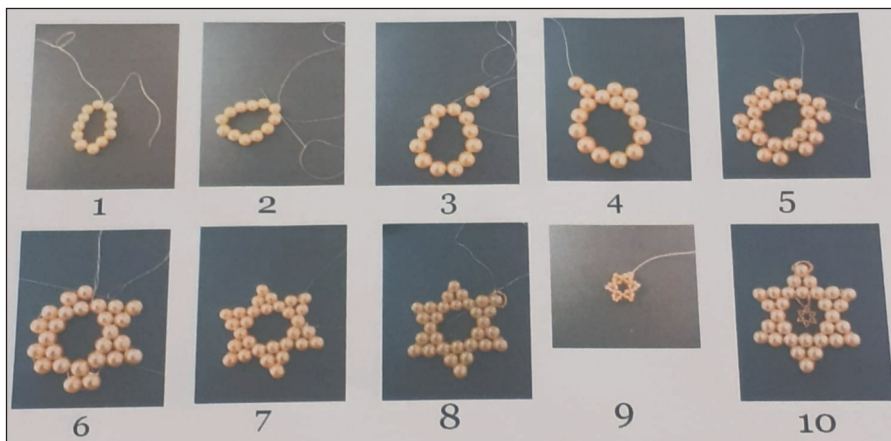
A poignant and lyrical examination of faith, love and grief. Gorse asks what do we choose to believe, and how does that shape who we are? There was a satisfying ending with a fabulous cliff-hanger and I can't wait to see what happens next!

## KILK KRAFTS REPORT

It seems a long time ago now because of the Christmas break, but on 27th November, Kilk Krafts once again got together, this time to make beaded star Christmas decorations. To begin with, they made a larger star using pearl beads, threaded and tightened to first make a circle and then to add more beads to make the outer points of the star. The photos show how the star is made step by step.

Following that, they could then add a smaller star in the centre using seed

*(Continued on page 11)*



## TREE BOOK GROUP Jan 2025: How to say Babylon by Safiya Sinclair

How to Say Babylon, Jamaican poet Safiya Sinclair's memoir, is a raw, wrenching story of a young girl's struggle to find her voice and follow her own path in a culture that expects her to stay silent and fall in line, and a testament to the power of words to raze and rebuild.

Sinclair was born in Jamaica in the mid-1980s, the firstborn daughter of a devout Rastafari couple, and her book is a fascinating, unsettling look at a unique community. Thanks to the enduring popularity of Bob Marley, the trappings of the Rastafari are considered by many to be synonymous with Jamaica and Jamaicans: dreadlocks, marijuana and reggae. However, through her family's story and carefully-inserted episodes from her country's history, Sinclair paints an illuminating picture of a persecuted, marginalised minority group. I was genuinely surprised to learn that Rastafari account for just 1% of Jamaicans according to the most recent census data. With this background established, it is far easier to understand why Sinclair's father behaved in the way he did - even though it does not justify or excuse his actions. Certainly the notion of Babylon, the Rasta word for the systemically racist institutions which oppress Black people, is a very real concept with tangible implications far beyond Jamaica's borders.

Unlike some more mainstream ways of life underpinned by religious beliefs, Rastafari has no universal doctrine or scripture which unites its disciples, but rather relies upon ideas spread by word of mouth (and, latterly, the internet). Sinclair describes how her father 'found himself most called to the unwavering discipline of the Mansion of

Nyabinghi', the strictest and most radical sect of Rastafari, constructing the man he would become around it. Sinclair describes this as demonstrating unarguably how this fracturing led to the breakdown of her own family, empowering her father as it did to see himself as 'a living godhead, the king of his own secluded temple'.

In the acknowledgements, Sinclair pays tribute to her homeland for inspiring and nourishing her, and the text sings with vivid descriptions of the Jamaican setting, from isolated country villages to postcard-perfect beaches. She describes people, ideas and even the most mundane events with a poet's lyricism, weaving in notes of magical realism to highlight the theme of feeling trapped and doomed, and bringing her family members – particularly her mother – to life. Sinclair's father too is written with great love and sensitivity, even at his most brutal moments, and I thought it was a very honest portrayal of her relationship with a man whom she felt tremendously disappointed and angered by and yet deeply connected to. The enduring grace and empathy she has for both of her parents is quite remarkable.

Some sections of the book felt overlong or a little repetitive, and there were episodes which seemed neither particularly noteworthy nor important in the long term. The ending felt like it was building towards a crescendo which then receded, but it seems churlish to criticise this, as the author is surely not making decisions in her life with an eye to what would be the most profound or dramatic.

Dorothy Flaxman [derekflaxman@btinternet.com](mailto:derekflaxman@btinternet.com)

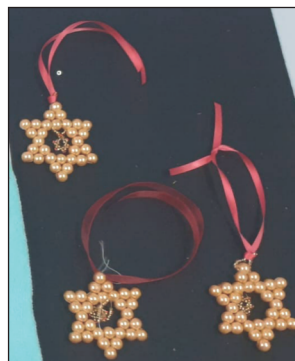
*(Kilk Krafts report, continued from page 10)*

beads. Nimble fingers and a lot of patience were needed as the seeds were tiny. Photos number 9 and 10 show the small star completed and then added to the inside of the larger star, ready to hang with red ribbon. The results were lovely as you can see, and everyone enjoyed the session.

The final meeting of the year was on 11th December – 'Christmas bingo with Reg' – enjoyed by all.

KK is becoming increasingly popular, so I look forward to bringing you more reports and photos through 2025 – see the box on the right for February's sessions.

*Photos here and previous page: stages of star making and some of the finished results*



### **KILK KRAFTS FEBRUARY MEETINGS**

Wednesday 12 February

Valentine theme

Wednesday 26 February

Bunting-making with Hannah and Sally

Venue: *Methodist Chapel, Kilkhampton*

Time: *2pm to 4.30pm*

Cost: *£2 per session plus small material costs as needed*

Any questions, contact:  
Joyce (01288 321292) Or  
Lorna (01288 321706)

## **Kilkhampton Parish Council**

Reports of the regular meetings held on  
2 December 2024 and 6 January 2025  
[www.kilkhampton-pc.gov.uk](http://www.kilkhampton-pc.gov.uk)

### **2 December meeting**

**Attendance:** Kingsley Bryant (KB), Reg Hambley (RH), Tim Cottle (TC), Joanne Timmins (JT), Lee Bond (LB), Vinnie James (VJ), Keith Ovenden (KO).

**Apologies:** Phil Sluggett (PS), Ian Heard (IH).

**Absent:** Cornwall Cllr Shorne Tilbey (ST)

**Chairman:** Clive Vanstone

**Clerk:** Hannah Collett

Good evening to all by the Chairman.

**Minutes** Approved by all and to be signed by the Chairman at the end of the meeting.

**Adopt Code of Conduct**

**Declaration of Interest** None

**Public Speaking Session** No one attended

#### **Planning Applications**

1. PA24/07648 Proposal Listed Building Consent for the reconstruction of four metres of a cob wall on the north end of the boundary. Location The Old Rectory Kilkhampton Bude Cornwall Applicant Mr Paul Constantine. Already dealt with at the last meeting.

2. PA24/08646 Proposal Works to trees in a Conservation Area for Beech (Tree 1) - removal of some boughs and topping of others, and shortening of several branches. Works intended to rebalance tree (which has become dangerously unbalanced by winds) and to prevent the overhanging of both mine and my neighbour's property. Beech (Tree 2) - removal of some branches and reduction of tree height. Works intended to rebalance tree and to allow more light into garden. Location Cobblestones West Street Kilkhampton Bude Cornwall Applicant Mr James Hurles. The Conservation department will deal with the outcome of this application.

3. PA24/06285 Proposal Replacement Dwelling Location Bryder Farm Stibb Level Stibb Bude Applicant Mr Marcus Spence. The Chairman discussed this planning application. Knocking down a building and re-building. RH reiterated the planning information. KB felt it would be more in keeping than it is now. Images shown and discussed. RH proposed approval and KB seconded. All in favour.

4. PA23/01803 - Construction of a dwelling - Penstowe Holiday Village, Kilkhampton, Bude - Appeal dismissed. This was for information only.

5. PA24/07400 | Proposed Agricultural Shed and formation of new access. Stursdon Farm Coombe Valley Bude Cornwall EX23 9HU. RH discussed the details and didn't feel any issues. KB proposed approval of this application and LB seconded. All in favour.

#### **Matters**

1. Car park and Toilets: £103.80 taken. Nil else to report.

2. Playpark Budgeting: The Chairman reminded of the emergency work needed to be done at Lamb Park and the funds required from the playpark budget. We will be making a large application to the Solar Farm fund – RH joining the committee with VJ to assist. Mrs H Bond also

happy to stay involved. The Chairman mentioned the two seats that need to still be fitted

3. CCTV at Lamb Park: The cameras need to be put up (ideally before Christmas). SIM card to be sorted. Clerk to contact network provider to discuss requirements and sort.

4. Precept: The Chairman talked through, in detail, the levels of precept and what the outcomes would be if we increased by different figures. Last year they implemented a system where holiday homes pay more Council tax, which subsequently puts more houses on our precept. We have kept the precept the same for numerous years. Discussions had with the advantages of increasing the precept to £32,000. KO proposed an increase to £32,000 and VJ seconded. All happy to increase. Clerk to sort accordingly. Increase goes into the village.

5. Other matters arising from the minutes: None

#### **Reports**

Footpaths: IH and PS not here to report. Figures allocated to us sent through.

Playing fields and Lamb Park: New heating work started at Lamb Park. Some security fencing to be sorted for the new tank etc. Images of tank shown by the Chairman. VJ stated that we need to know what we need to apply for with regards to the play equipment and how much extra we need. Need to decide what we want so we can allocate our available funds and apply for the remaining funds required. Mrs H Bond happy to also help out with this. VJ stated she was leaning towards the large climbing frame (approximately £40,000). VJ discussed the details of the climbing frame and changes they have made. Can see sizes online of other work done for reference. Changed the frame slightly to suit children up to approximately 12/13 years old. VJ mentioned we may also be able to pay in two sections as previous. Would like to say to the company in January that we want to go ahead, as it will still take another couple of months before anything starts.

School: LB has a Governors meeting on Thursday.

Grenville Rooms: RH mentioned another leak. Mr P Cottle came and sorted. Letter of thanks to be sent to M V Plant for the gift of the oil tank. Payment for storage unit received. Letter of thanks to be sent to Mr L Francis for pantomime work. KB and TC noticed lots of blocks are loose etc, out by the fire door especially. Someone to walk around and assess. Mr P Cottle to be asked to look into by RH. Christmas fayre is in two weeks.

**Month's work** Read through and approved by all.

#### **Members**

RH – Christmas trees are coming Wednesday. Discussed as to when to be put up and with who etc. Mr R Dunstan to be asked to lead the singing. The Chairman has the lights (extras required due to faults).

KB – Further letter of thanks to be sent to Mr L Francis for the Remembrance Day event.

TC – Mentioned the soldier and when he should be put back into the Church (see Chairman's discussions).

JT – Dog Fouling. 3 lots outside her house alone – such an issue. Asked if someone was seen not picking up their dog's mess, can a picture be taken and forwarded to the Dog Warden? Yes. JT has had people pointing out other

*(Continued on page 13)*

(Council December minutes, continued from page 12)

people's dog fouling to her. Feels it has escalated recently. Notice to be put in Parish Magazine by Clerk.

LB, VJ, KO – nothing.

The Chairman suggested days and times for moving the soldier back into the Church. Wreaths to be put around the soldier inside also. RH to mention to Mr L Francis.

The Chairman also asked if anyone had issues with the new process at the refuse centre? Time slot bookings now required. VJ felt this would lead to more fly tipping issues. Also proof of address will be required.

The Chairman mentioned an application to make Kilkhampston Common a common land had been received from Mr Tomas D.J.S Hill. Mr Hill lives in Kent and apparently does this kind of request all the time. The Chairman displayed pictures of the areas Mr Hill wants to make common land. The Chairman mentioned he had spoken to Mr John Duncan. We can't support as this is private land and has been since the 1960s. All of it is private land with a footpath through. In 2012 a registered charity Western Countyside Stewards Trust (No 07417526) was set up to manage it, Mr Duncan did a lot for the common.

A detailed discussion was held on the history of the land. All in favour of opposing the application because it is privately owned and is managed by a conservation trust. Email to be sent accordingly by the Clerk.

**Correspondence** None

**Finance** Read through by Chairman. Invoices to be paid: £72.00 S Gifford (litterpick); £59.98 Gilbert and Vanstone (lights); £432.00 K W Sluggett (trimming); £46.73 Bridgmans (toilet supplies); £15.50 Bridgmans (toilet supplies); £180.00 West Creative (website); £500.00 Savilles (Glebe). All in favour to be paid.

Thanks to all by the Chairman and declared the meeting closed.

## 6 January meeting

**Attendance:** Kingsley Bryant (KB), Reg Hambley (RH), Joanne Timmins (JT), Lee Bond (LB), Vinnie James (VJ), Keith Ovenden (KO), Ian Heard (IH), Cornwall Cllr Shorne Tilbey (ST).

**Apologies:** Phil Sluggett (PS), Tim Cottle (TC).

**Chairman:** Clive Vanstone

**Clerk:** Hannah Collett

Good evening and Happy New Year to all by the Chairman

**Minutes** Approved by all and to be signed by the Chairman at the end of the meeting.

**Adopt Code of Conduct**

**Declaration of Interest** None

**Public Speaking Session** No one attended

**Planning Applications** None

**Matters**

1. Car park and Toilets: £45 taken. Have been closed over Christmas time due to caretakers needed absence. Noted that the light isn't working in the gentleman's toilet and two taps in the disabled toilets are sticking down and on once pressed. Mr Somerfield does have the original box and feels it has a guarantee. RH mentioned this to KO to liaise with TC before re-opening, so all maintenance can be attended to first.

2. Playpark Budgeting: The Chairman said we know what we have planned for, per last meeting. RH had spoken to Mrs H Bond, who is still willing to help in anything we need on applications etc. Confirmation from VJ that the climbing frame will cost approximately £40,000. To complete as originally planned would still cost approximately £70,000. In hand. ST mentioned Community infrastructure levy fund and others available. The more you apply for, the better, as it shows you are trying to spread the costs.

3. CCTV at Lamb Park: KO set up telephone with google account. Clerk to speak to Vodafone and set up dd for as little costs as possible.

4. Other matters arising from the minutes: None

## Reports

**Footpaths:** IH mentioned the third cut has now been done. Few extras due to the storms. Down at Hessaford there is a very large oak tree that has blown down. IH said may need to go with a chainsaw for clearing so that people can still use the footpath. Virtually blocked off at the moment. Rest to be sorted in the summer. Barn Lane needs cutting back again once it's less wet.

**Playing fields and Lamb Park:** The Chairman informed that the new oil fired heating system is in. £500 been paid over to assist in paying heating bills. The Chairman has now taken over as Treasurer. Needs to get the bank account set to an online one. Electricity bills should start to vastly reduce now. Chairman to sort with electricity company.

**School:** Back to school today. Meeting on the 30th.

**Grenville Rooms:** Oil tank all completed etc. RH to speak to Mr P Cottle re: walls deteriorating. Excellent Christmas Fayre and good evening had by all. Thanks to all the organisers.

The Parish Council wish Mr Rob French all the best.

**Month's work** Read through and approved by all.

## Members

VJ, LB, JT – Nothing

IH – mentioned that today inside the shelter at Lamb Park he noticed foul language written on walls and ceiling. To be covered asap. More vandalism, once again, at a cost to the Parish Council.

KO – stated need to replace the duck sensor on the light over the defibrillator.

KB – asked about the Audi A6 still abandoned at Dipper Close. The Chairman will look into once again. Wifi not working also in the Grenville Rooms. Chairman to look into this too.

RH – Thanks to the Chairman for sorting the taking down of the Christmas tree etc.

The Chairman mentioned the very sad passing of Mr Jeffrey Cherrington. Mr Cherrington had been helpful to the Parish Council for many years and the Chair of Governors at the school. Very sad to hear and the Parish Council's thoughts go out to all the family.

ST – Been in contact with Mr Oliver Jones at Highways on a monthly basis, to get the road improvements done. Will be in the new financial year now – funds not there at the moment. Formal consultation can't take place until the

(Continued on page 14)

(Council January minutes, continued from page 13)

funding is in place. The Chairman said we haven't agreed to a final decision yet. ST will mention to Mr Jones tomorrow. Chairman reiterated that we hadn't received a reply to our last email with suggested alterations. Chairman to send a copy to ST.

Highways maintenance on surface treatment programme. Intend to resurface existing carriageway through to refuse centre.

ST has been on to Bunnyhomes regarding their issues on their section of road surface etc. Bunnyhomes should sort their area before the County resurface.

ST talked about the refuse collections at Aldercombe Lane. Email read through by ST – reply to be sent back by ST. Question to be asked about what can actually be taken due to some confusion being felt. ST can give detailed report at next meeting.

IH mentioned East Road at Thornes Cross. Two bad accidents. Can we ask Mr Jones how many incidents there have been and raise it. The Chairman said there had been at least 4 in the last 4-6 weeks and were not weather-related. Possibly people don't realise there is a bend there and also don't see the curb. A crash at Ivyleaf also – can we get statistics on these too so that something must be done. ST to ask. Concerns generally on road safety.

The Mini parked up on A39 for weeks has been reported per ST.

**Correspondence** None

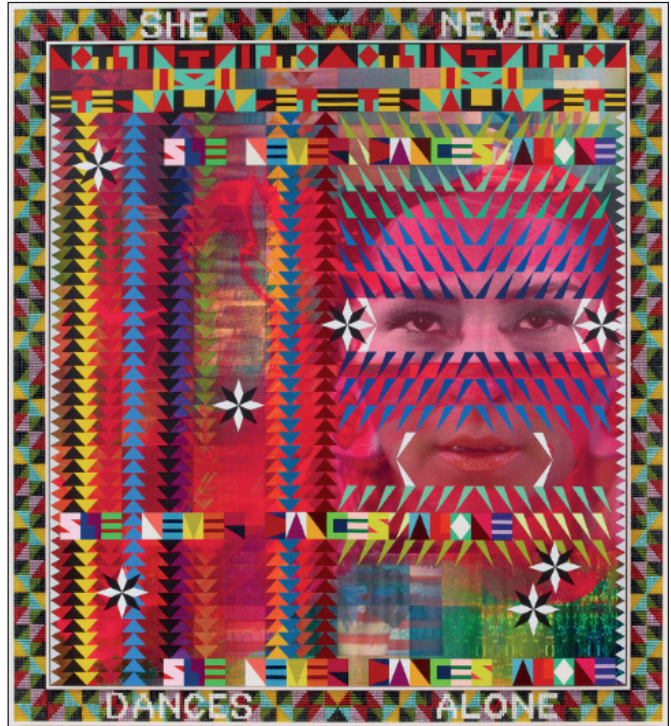
**Finance** Read through by Chairman. Invoices to be paid: £90.00 S Gifford; £630.00 Archies Gardening services; £540.00 Archies Gardening services; £364.00 Morwenstow Parish Council; £46.73 Bridgmans; £4.50 Bridgmans; £104.10 A P Cottle. All in favour to be paid.

Date of next regular meeting: 3rd February 2025, 7.30pm, Grenville Rooms.

Thanks to all by the Chairman and declared the meeting closed.

## BUDE LOOK GROUP *December 2024*

Having spent some time discussing art from the past, this month we were bang up to date in focusing on contemporary American artist Jeffrey Gibson. Born in 1972, he is an extraordinary man who struggled to be recognised for his art until recent years and now he has been recognised internationally. He was chosen to represent the USA at the Venice Biennale in 2024.



*She never dances alone, 2020*

*There is a video linked to this work which focuses on the 'jingle dress dance', which was shown in Times Square in New York at midnight for 3 months in 2020*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o24uQLly3M>

Gibson's father was a civil engineer attached to the army, so he was brought up in Germany and Korea, went to school in England, and art college in both America and England. Whilst at university he was a research assistant at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, and he spent holidays on the reservations of his Cherokee and Choctaw grandparents. Now happily married to a Norwegian man, he has felt the brunt of homophobia, racism and classism. All these different worlds and experiences impact on his work.



View of the exhibition *The Body Electric, 2022*

Gibson began as an abstract painter, then learnt many of the traditional skills of indigenous Americans such as bead work basket making and the use of bark and hide, so these techniques and traditional patterns are incorporated in the modernism of his work. Now he has a team of artists helping him in the time-consuming detailed designs in his creations.

Gibson sees how similar people are across the divides of gender, communities, and nationalities. He recognises how the love of family can encompass ancestors, chosen family, shared beliefs – even the planet or universe – and he tries to communicate these ideas.

*(Continued on page 15)*



*This Place I Know, 2013*



*Birds of a Feather, 2017*



*War Is Not the Answer  
Feel Something Real, 2020*

In both of the images above, the titles of the works are within the beadwork. The second image is a punch bag which has been softened by the apparel.

Gibson's art is bright, joyous and hopeful. He wishes to represent his indigenous people and all minority groups as positive, powerful and modern. Sensitivity to the preservation and needs of the planet we come from is the other equally key theme. (January Look Group report is on page 16)

## K.A.T.S. COMEBACK

Kilkhampton Amateur Theatre Society's last production was 'Treasure Island' in December 2019, so we were all delighted to get back on the stage after such a long break for our production of 'Cinderella' written by Alan Frayne. We welcomed back some old faces and gladly introduced some new faces!

We were excited to be performing for five nights, Tuesday 26th to Saturday 30th November. Ticket sales went extremely well (thankyou to Gilbert and Vanstone for being our Box Office). All five performances were very well attended, most nights were complete sell-outs.

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support without which our efforts would be in vain. I am very conscious of the commitment in time, effort and expertise needed to maintain our standards. I am extremely grateful to everyone and anyone involved with K.A.T.S. in any sort of way - thank you very much. I am immensely proud of you all.

Special thanks to my very talented brother, Luke Francis, who directed the production superbly.

Thank you one and all – Anna Balsdon (Chair and Producer).



*Full cast photo from left to right;*  
*Back Row: Finley McBrinn (Dandini), Nicola Finn (Fairy G), Jo Hutt (Gertrude), Vicky Davidson (Grizelda), Finley Jewell (Buttons), Bethany Francis (Cinderella), Steph Smeeth (Prince Charming), Livvy Cann (Leggett), Mark Rosser (Bodget), Paul Curtis (Baron Hardup), Samantha Merrett (Baroness), Sophie McBrinn (Chambers).*  
*Front Row: Catherine McBrinn, Katrina Heard, Annie Day and Derek Pearse (Chorus).*

## BUDE LOOK GROUP *January 2025*

Our Look Group began 2025 by discussing the artists who sought a new kind of art that moved away from representation - **Synthetism**. The Impressionists had focused on ways of capturing what they saw in a moment in time – particularly the light. Now there was a group of artists in Pont Aven in Brittany who wished to create paintings that emphasised colour, line, form, and their feelings about what they saw. These ground-breaking artists were led by Émile Bernard and Paul Gauguin.

Émile Bernard admired the simplified forms in stained glass and enamel work. Shapes were outlined in black to separate colours, so he did the same in his painting. This was called Cloisonnism, and many other artists (including Gauguin) have used the technique that Bernard was first to use.

We liked the balance of vertical and horizontal shapes, and the curved forms seem like a step towards abstract art.

***Here are some of the paintings we discussed. Do you have a favourite?***



Émile Bernard: *Breton Peasants, 1889*



Émile Bernard: *Breton Women with Umbrellas, 1892*



Dagnan-Bouveret: *Breton Women at a Pardon, 1887*

Not all the artists at Pont Aven were Synthetists. Dagnan-Bouveret was a traditional, Academic artist. You can understand why Synthetism was so revolutionary.

With photography now more accessible, why would artists wish to continue painting in such a representational way?

The Synthetist artists found inspiration in the new work of Post-Impressionist, Vincent Van Gogh, and, also, in the Japanese woodcuts entering the country that were so fresh and exciting.



Hiroshige: *Sumida River First Snow, 1843-47 Woodcut*



Paul Gauguin, *Vision after the Sermon (or Jacob Wrestling with the Angel), 1888*

Gauguin admired the simplicity and piety of the women. Here they are leaving the church with the sermon still before their eyes. Gauguin communicates his idea in bold forms, lines, and colour with no interest in perspective.

Bude Look Group meets monthly at the Parkhouse Centre, Bude.  
Contact [chris.edwards39@btinternet.com](mailto:chris.edwards39@btinternet.com)