



KILKHAMPTON PARISH NEWS

www.kilkhampton.news

December 2025 & January 2026

Wecome to this issue!

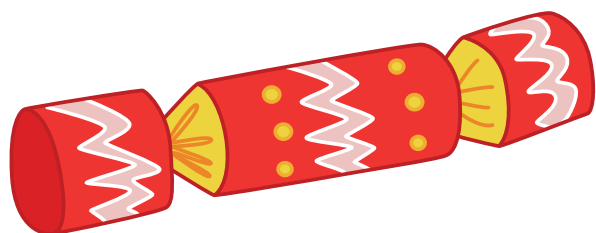
You might notice we have shuffled things around a bit, to maximise the use of space. All the usual features are here, you just might need to search a little to find them!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone from all the team!



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Kilkhampton Churches and Services

St James The Great, Kilkhampton

Priest-in-Charge: Reverend Teresa Folland Teresa.folland@gmail.com 01288 352599
Churchwardens: Mr. Kevin McGrath 01288 321277
Mr. Luke Francis BEM 01288 321270

Sunday 7th December – Advent 2 (Purple) 11am Holy Communion with Reverend Teresa
Welcomers: Rita and Jennie. Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10. Hilbre.

Sunday 14th December – Advent 3 (Purple) 11am Morning Worship with Ian
Welcomers: Margaret and Lynn. Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10. Gillian.

Sunday 21st December – Advent 4 (Purple) *Please note time*
4pm Crib Service with Reverend Teresa and Hilbre
Welcomers: Myra and Joyce. Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16. Ian.

Christmas Eve (Gold or White) *Please note time*
4pm Nine Lessons and Carols with Reverend Teresa
Welcomers: Tracey and Jules. Readings: To be allocated.

11am Christmas Day (Gold or White) Holy Communion (Short service) with Reverend Richard.
Welcomers: Rachel and Rita. Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7. Kevin.

Sunday 28th December (White) – Christmas 1 No service at St James

Sunday 4th January – Epiphany (White) 11am Holy Communion with Reverend Teresa
Welcomers: Margaret and Jennie. Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6. Hilbre

Sunday 11th January – Baptism of Christ (White) 11am Morning Worship with Hilbre
Welcomers: Joyce and Lyn. Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9. Tony.

Sunday 18th January – Epiphany 2, Christian Unity Week (White)
11am Holy Communion with Reverend Douglas
Welcomers: Myra and Tracey. Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7. Gillian.

Sunday 25th January – Epiphany 3
11am Morning Worship with Ian
Welcomers: Jules and Rachel. Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4. Peter.

Kilkhampton Methodist Chapel

Church Stewards: Mr. John Brooks Killarney Park, Youlstone EX23 9PX
Fiona Cleave Higher Pigsdon Farm, Launcells EX23 9LQ
Roland Nancekivell

Room Bookings Contact Fiona Cleave on 01288 321261

<u>Date</u>	<u>Preacher</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Coffee</u>
7th December	Rev Meg Slingo	Marlene Bath	Sue Joyner
14th December	Christmas Service 4pm	Sandra Jones	Joy Moore
21st December	Mr. Barry Bryne	CHRISTMAS	Sue & John Brooks
28th December	NO SERVICE		
4th January	Rev. Meg Slingo	Sandra Holmes	Vivienne Hunt
11th January	Rev. Richard Ward-Smith	Fiona Cleave	Fiona Cleave
18th January	Mrs. Ruth Jones	Joy Moore	Sandra Jones
25th January	Rev. Graham Slingo	Vivienne Hunt	Pam Metherell

EDITORIAL



Dydh da pubonan, fatla genowgh? Yn poynt da ov vy.

Hello everyone, how are you? I am very well.

It's been a busy few months for the parish news team. We've been busy thinking about alternative ways of ensuring the magazine continues, but the money from our adverts no longer covers our annual costs, and that's without factoring in the cost of replacing our ailing printer - £5000 minimum for a second hand machine. There are ways of raising money of course, but it needs to be a workable solution.

You should have received a survey through your letterbox asking what you think of our proposal, which is to reduce the number of copies printed by changing from a delivery to every door, to being able to pick up a printed copy in the village if you wish. This would make outsourcing the printing a viable option, which is a better long-term solution than having to replace the printer. As always, each

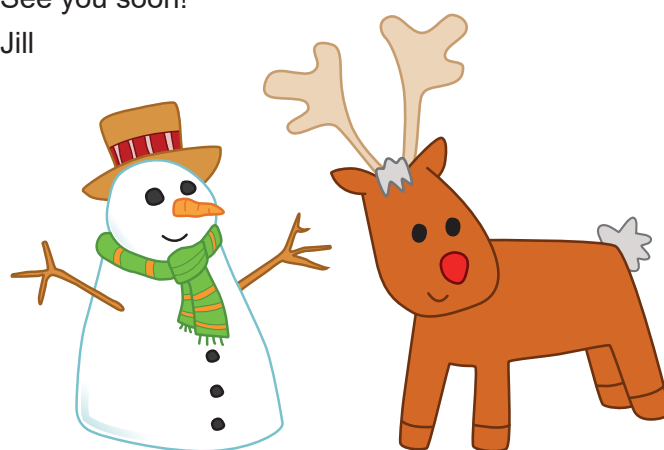
edition is available via our website www.kilkhampston.news

It does feel like a big change to read the parish news online, so we need to know your views. This will help us move forward either with this proposal, or by identifying a different solution. We're looking forward to hearing what you think, and hopefully we will be working towards a new system in time for the next edition in February 2026. Please make sure you return your survey to the boxes in St James Church or the Spar by 10th December.

On another note - I think we can say it now - Christmas is coming!! I hope you all have a lovely festive season and we'll be back in 2026

See you soon!

Jill



Grenville Rooms

Room Bookings

Contact Alan or Tracey Hockin

07399 996720

01288 321710

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 or phone her on 321432 or 07740 520459

Cheques should be made payable to 'KILKHAMPTON PCC'.

Kilkhampston 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.

Martin Cross (Chair, sales and printing manager) martin@kilkhampston.news
01288 321806 or 07484 147056

Jill Rodgers (editor and secretary) jill@kilkhampston.news 01288 321144 or
07747 006601

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.

St James Church Floodlighting Sponsors December 2025 and January 2026

ARTHUR HARRIGAN

Remembering dear Arthur, who passed away 8th December 1995.
Miss you every day. Love always, Edith xx

Remembering with love **MADGE SPRY**, a wonderful loving mum and gran who passed
away on 18th December 2000.

Often on our lips and always in our thoughts, Lyn, Dave and family.

PHIL FRENCH

Remembering a dearly-loved husband, dad and grampy, especially now at Christmas.
Happy memories. From Mer, Rob, Chris, Michele and family xxxxx

EDITH MARY & CHARLES COLWILL CLEAVE

Remembering ever-loving and much-loved parents and grandparents.
Not just at Christmastime, but all the year through.
'Let light perpetual shine upon them'. John

REG and SYLVIA CORNISH

Remembering our parents at Christmas.
Also remembering all our Aunties and Uncles. Happy memories.
Always in our thoughts, especially at Christmas.
Stewart, Jean, Sheila, Paul, Annette and all the family. xxxxx

DOROTHY GARDINER

Sending sincere Christmas greetings to my Kilkhampton friends and
good wishes for a Happy 2026.

ARTHUR JORDAN

Happy heavenly Birthday for our dear Dad on 6th January.
Loved and missed always. Son Keith, daughters and grandchildren.

BABB

Remembering as always our special Dad and Mum, our dear Sister Jo and friend Sharon.
Thinking of you in happier times, never more than a thought away.
Ann & family xx John & Beryl xx

BABB

Thinking of all family, Aunts and Uncles no longer here with us to share special times.
Especially my dear Bry, missed every day and the 3rd Christmas without you.
Love your Annie xxx
Happy Birthday to Gypsy, 18 on 3rd December, and Tina and Lindsey on 2nd December.
Love Nan & Mum xxx

RUTH BABB

Ruth, we miss you and speak of you often, passed away 10th January 2001,
also your 95th Birthday, January 20th.
Also, Aunt Winnie's birthday on January 27th.
Love Ann & family, John & Beryl xxx

JOYCE PADDON

I would like to wish all family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New
Year 2026. Remembering **JIM** on his birthday, January 6th.
With love from Joy and family xxx

Special thanks to **Luke Francis** for organising such special Remembrance displays
and service. Best wishes, Joyce.

(Continued on page 5)

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE OF MEGAN THORNTON

December 29th. You're in our thoughts every day. We love you and miss you.
God bless. From all the family xxx R.I.P.

Birthday remembrance of **IRIS BOND** on 5th December.
Precious and loving memories of a dear friend of many years.
God bless. R.I.P. from Rita xx

LAWRENCE and EVELYN CLEAVE

Remembered with love this Christmastime and always.
Ingrid, Trevor, Nigel, Fiona and families.

Church floodlighting sponsors: see information on page 2 of this newsletter

ALBERT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

As the little girl walked into Santa's grotto, Santa asked the usual "And what would you like for Christmas?" The child stared at him open mouthed and horrified for a minute, then gasped: "Didn't you get my e-mail?" Well, it's that time of year again and, as you can see from the above, I have decided to go a bit nuts this year and make you smile, I hope!

I write this on the third anniversary of my heart attack and believe me I thank God for every day He has given me. I value greatly every day that I have been given, they are precious and not to be squandered.

My Christmas message is the same as last year really: 'If you want Christmas to be different this year, do something different'. Don't do the same and expect something different, remember the choice is yours. And please remember those for whom there will be an empty chair at their table. We will be in Australia this year with our youngest son, so it will be a totally new experience for us celebrating Christmas in the middle of their summer. Does it take anything away from that momentous event that changed history?

No, it doesn't. So, as you attend the Nativity services in the churches in the village, don't limit Jesus to a manger because He grew up to be a man, the Son of God, who died on the cross and rose again on the third day and now sits at the right hand of the Father.

If you want next year to be different than this year, you have to change something. So, how about making January 26 'Positive Statement January'? So every day in January, say something positive and encouraging to someone, as it might change things so much that you may take it into the rest of the year!

So we will finish as we started...

Reasons why Santa Claus has to be a woman!

Men can't pack a bag.

Men would rather be dead than caught wearing red velvet.

Men don't answer their mail.

Men aren't interested in stockings unless somebody's wearing them.

Men don't think about buying gifts till Christmas Eve, when it's too late.

Men refuse to stop and ask for directions when they get lost.

Finally, being responsible for Christmas would require a commitment.

Sorry Guys!!

Every Blessing to you all and have a really blessed time this Christmas and New Year.

Albert Sloman, Pastor

FROM REV RICHARD

The Smile Poem

Smiling is infectious,
you catch it like the flu.
When someone smiled at me today
I started smiling too.

I passed around the corner
And someone saw my grin.
When he smiled, I realised
I'd passed it on to him.

I thought about my smile and then
I realised its worth.
A single smile like mine could travel
Right around the earth.

If you feel a smile begin
don't leave it undetected.
Let's start an epidemic quick
and get the world infected.

By Jez Alborough, published 1991.

Rev Richard



NEWS AND VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE NATIONAL TRUST

Now that the summer crowds have gone home we've been busy walking our 50 miles of footpaths to check what repairs need doing on steps, gates and bridges, as well as carrying out our tree safety surveys.

We've also been restoring wildflower-rich grassland at Maer Down north of Bude, sowing wildflower seed harvested from the amazingly biodiverse hay meadows at South Hole, just over the Devon border.

In December, we'll be holding some volunteer days for local people to try out some of the work we do. These will both be days of scrub clearance to maintain open areas of flower-rich grassland. At Sandymouth we'll be maintaining habitat for a rare wildflower called the Deptford Pink, which only grows at around 24 sites across the UK and needs exposed sunny slopes to thrive. In the Tidna Valley, this will benefit a great population of butterflies including Comma, Silver-washed Fritillaries, and Small Pearl-bordered Fritillaries.

The dates you can join us are:

Tuesday 2nd December – Deptford Pink scrub clearance – meet at Sandymouth carpark at 9:30am

Friday 12th December – Tidna Valley scrub clearance – meet at Crosstown/Bush Inn at 9:30am

Both will involve a full day of working outdoors (9:30 - 3:30) so bring lunch, tea/coffee, waterproof clothing and sturdy boots. If you'd like to attend please email Jennifer.Herbert@nationaltrust.org.uk and we can add you to the list.

Hope to meet some of you soon!



**KILKHAMPTON
COFFEE &
CAKES**

SATURDAY 6th December

10.30AM - 12.00 NOON at

METHODIST CHURCH HALL

A VERY WARM WELCOME TO ALL!

The Charity for December is Children's Hospice South West

STALLS

STALLS

KILK COMMUNITY LUNCH

Brought to you by Kilk Coffee & Cakes Team

2 COURSE HOT MEAL FOR £7

ON

Friday 30th January

At 12.30 pm

AT

THE GRENVILLE ROOMS

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

ST JAMES THE GREAT CANDLEMAS LUNCH

GRENVILLE ROOMS
SUNDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2026

12.30 for 1pm

Roast Beef

Home made Puddings

Cheese and Biscuits

Tea or Coffee

£13.50



Please book
with Joyce
01288 321292



SUPPORT KILKHAMPTON FOOTBALL CLUB!

See the list below for the December and January fixtures for the Men's 1st and 2nd teams, plus Kilkhampton Women's fixtures



<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Teams</u>
6th December	2.30 pm	Kilk Mens 2nd v Indian Queens 1st
7th December	2.30 pm	St Dennis v Kilk Women
13th December	2.30 pm	Kilk Mens 1st v Polperro
13th December	2.30 pm	St Teath 2nd v Kilk Mens 2nd
14th December	2 pm	Redruth United v Kilk Women
20th December	2.30 pm	Kilk Mens 1st v Looe Town
26th December	2.30 pm	Kilk Mens 1st v Callington Town Development
27th December	2.30 pm	Kilk Mens 2nd v Boscastle 2nd
3rd January	2.30pm	Kilk Mens 2nd v St Dominick 2nd
11th January	2 pm	Kilk Women v Newquay AFC
24th January	2.30pm	Kilk Mens 2nd v Looe Town FC 2nd
25th January	2.30pm	RNAS Cudrose v Kilk Women
31st January	2.30pm	Kilk Mens 2nd v Newquay AFC 3rd

KILK KRAFTS REPORT



On 8th October, the members of Kilk Krafts were treated to another cookery demonstration by Yvonne. The first dish was one of her family's favourites – a moist, savoury crustless quiche. Everyone who tasted a portion said they would give the recipe a try at home.

The second dish was chocolate and peanut butter Krispies, which can be made as individual cupcakes or in squares cut from a slab. A delicious crunchy nutty tasting snack.

Yvonne made the third meringue dish at home with rhubarb and raspberries from her own garden, and brought the dish ready-cooked for everyone to taste. This dish can be made with any stewed fruit such as apple & blackberry, stewed pears or any combination of fruit. If you have coeliac disease, substitute the trifle sponge with gluten-free sponge cake or omit them altogether. The members were able to enjoy a taste of all these dishes with their cup of tea or coffee, and are looking forward to Yvonne's next cookery demonstration – possibly in the spring of next year.



Crustless quiche



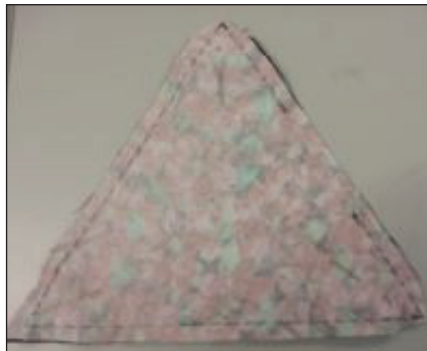
Chocolate & peanut butter Krispies



Raspberry & Rhubarb Meringue

The Kilk Krafts session on 22nd October saw the return of Melissa, after an 18 month absence, with another patchwork article to sew by hand – this time a tree decoration for Christmas. She provided two ready-cut equilateral triangles of contrasting material for each person. These were placed right sides together and a running stitch was sewn with a quarter inch seam around the three sides, leaving about two and a half inches in the middle of one side to allow for turning, after trimming the corners to remove some of the bulk (this step could be stitched by machine).

Once turned, the triangles were pressed flat with an iron and the gap in the seam oversewn. The triangles were then folded in half crossways to find the centre and marked with a pin. The three points were then folded into the centre and secured with a couple of stitches through all the layers, making a two-coloured hexagon. The thread was then taken through all layers to the middle of the underside before turning the material over (this is now the main fabric of the front of the decoration).



Stages of making the tree decoration



(Continued on page 9)

The middle on each unfolded edge was marked with a pin before bringing to the centre thread and stitched in place with a couple of stitches through all layers. The folded kite-shaped points were then manipulated and pressed flat with fingers (not to be ironed) before adding a button over the centre, stitching in place and cutting the thread. To complete the decoration, a hanging loop was added to one of the kite points, knotting the ends and hiding them under the folds in the fabric.

We only had time to make one decoration each. Melissa also showed us how we could build a bigger hanging decoration by making multiples and attaching them by stitching the points together.



The final step...



The finished tree decoration



Multiple decorations stitched to make a bigger one

KILK KRAFTS DECEMBER AND JANUARY MEETINGS

Wednesday 10 December

Christmas bingo with Reg

Wednesday 14 January

Lunch at the New Inn (*please book with Lorna or Joyce*)

Wednesday 28 January

Beetle Drive

Methodist Chapel, Kilkhampton

2pm to 4.30pm

£2 per session plus small material costs as needed

Any questions, contact:

Joyce (01288 321292)

Or

Lorna (01288 321706)



Kilkhampton Chapel

Stay and Play

Kilkhampton Methodist

Church Hall

DATES FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY

Thursday 11th December

8th & 22nd January 2026

9.30 AM—12 Noon

For Children under 5 and their parents, grandparents or carers.

2nd & 4th Thursday of the month

ALL WELCOME - join us to play, chat and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee!

For further information please call or message Fiona on 01288 321261 or 07854

141474



Kilkhampston Parish Council

Report of the regular meeting held on

3 November 2025 www.kilkhampston-pc.gov.uk

Attendance: Reg Hambley (RH), Keith Ovenden (KO), Tim Cottle (TC), Joanne Timmins (JT), Ian Heard (IH), Cornwall Cllr Faye Emery (FE).

Apologies: Kingsley Bryant (KB), Lee Bond (LB), Vinnie James (VJ), Phil Sluggett (PS).

Chairman: Councillor 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

Mr Martin Brennan here to mention the dog fouling bin that used to be on the corner of East Road (was there before the roadworks were done recently). FE to ask Cornwall Council on our behalf and also mention the one that was removed down by North Close. Thanks to Mr Brennan for bringing this to our attention.

Planning Applications

1. PA25/07080 7 October 2025 Retention and completion of partially dismantled building to form an agricultural/forestry machinery/equipment store and site office/worker welfare area Location Applicant Grid Ref Land West Of Aldercombe Cottages Kilkhampston Bude Cornwall Mrs Bridget Macklin. This is the application that the gentleman came to our meeting about in September. Discussed and reiterated what it was he had said he wanted to build this for. The Chairman stated we have to treat this application as it is. The gentleman was polite enough to attend last month's meeting and explain his plans, ideas and potential outcomes. IH stated the area has a few different owners. KO questioned the 3 brick walls surrounding the shed. The Chairman said the gentleman had mentioned wanting it to be extra secure for the contents. No enforcement on there anymore. The Chairman said if everyone wishes we can support for a storage shed. Cannot assume anything further. Cautious due to previous issues. IH approved the shed and JT seconded. All in favour of storage shed.

2. PA25/06542 8 October 2025 Erection of detached 3 bedroom granny annex/holiday let Location Applicant Grid Ref Newhouse Kilkhampston Bude Cornwall Mr Mark Trzinski. Location discussed and area. KO felt it is more of a dwelling than an annexe (which are usually attached to a main dwelling). RH said it's on the same footprint. Can't see any objections. RH approved and KO seconded. All in favour.

3. PA25/07138 15 October 2025 Prior approval for the installation of two new portal framed sheds to

provide cover to existing aggregate storage bays Location Applicant Grid Ref Pigsdon Quarry Road From The County Boundary To The A39 Between Old Kilkhampston Road And Stone Hill Bude EX23 9LQ Anthea Hoey E & JW Glendinning Ltd. Plans discussed. TC moved for approval and IH seconded. All in favour.

4. PA25/07680 Dormer extension to form bedroom and bathroom Location Applicant Grid Ref 11 Lower Village Kilkhampston Bude Cornwall Mr and Mrs Dean and Jane Taylor. Location and details discussed in depth. Pictures of plans viewed and discussed in detail. Concerns on overdevelopment of the site. Flat roof extension concerns also raised. The Chairman mentioned it is in a conservation area. KO feels too big of an extension for the original size of the property. Clerk to respond with concerns as stated. TC moved and IH agreed – all in favour of this response to be made.

5. PA25/07614 23 October 2025 2no replacement dwellings in place of existing games room Location Applicant Grid Ref Houndapitt Farm Kilkhampston Bude Cornwall Mr Antony Heard. Discussed. All ok with all. RH moved and KO seconded. All in favour.

6. PA25/07895|Application for outline consent with some matters reserved for proposed self-build / custom build single dwelling (access only)|Small Trees Penstowe Road Kilkhampston Bude Cornwall EX23 9QT. Documents received. Discussed. FE asked who owns the land behind the boundary – unsure. Questioning if broken the building line. RH questioned if any issues to warrant refusal. KO mentioned the land drops quite rapidly. There is an existing drive, shed and access – just placing this at the back. RH queried the “access only” section of the application. To request more information before the deadline on the 18th November.

Matters

1. Car park and Toilets: £89.80 taken. TC said Mr Somerfield had mentioned a bike had been there for a while. Moved to the back and tried to be stolen.

2. Other matters arising from the minutes: None

Reports

Footpaths: IH stated he will complete the third cut in a few weeks. When last cut is done he will compile a list and send to Cornwall Council as a bulk list of works required. FE was wondering if the broken bridge discussed at the previous meeting should be put in as a request on its own. The Chairman asked who is responsible for all these works? We have grants for footpath maintenance – but not to replace bridges etc. Would we be responsible afterwards? FE feels we should report the bridge to Cornwall Council and they should then come and assess. The Chairman would like it defined as to who is responsible. FE to email on our behalf. The LMP

(Continued on page 11)

(Council minutes, continued from page 10)

grant doesn't cover these types of costs. IH mentioned that all these bridges were put in at similar times, a long time ago – hence they are all starting to break down. IH to make videos and sort lists.

Playing fields and Lamb Park: KO hired a turf cutter – bill to be paid. TC mentioned the dead tree again. FE has contacted Cormac and they have asked for photos and location. If these trees survive – it makes them stronger. FE may try the Environmental Protection for the tree over the footpath. The Chairman will send photos of both dead trees. TC gave details to the Chairman of a possible third tree that looks dead.

School: LB not here. The Chairman said Bude School art people have done some work in the shelter at the Playpark. Will still need to do some maintenance. KO to look into.

Grenville Rooms: Mr P Cottle has done some work on the roof – works still ongoing.

Month's work All Ok.

Members

RH asked if the soldier could come out tomorrow. Yes – to be sorted. All members available to arrive at Sunday Remembrance for 10.40am. Wreaths sorted. Parish Council, Football Club, Church, Chapel and Grenville Rooms. Invoice to be paid once received. The Chairman has been honoured to lay the wreath for the Parish Council each year and all happy for this to continue. The service is in the church this year. Christmas trees ordered for delivery 29th November.

TC – suggested we send a letter of thanks to Mrs Joyce Davis and all the helpers for their work for the Remembrance service and everyone who contributed to making and crafting the 6000 poppies. Also letter to Mr Luke Francis for organising the amazing Remembrance service. Clerk to send these letters.

JT, IH, KO – Nothing

FE – talked about the roadworks – had received some concerns about the drainage levels. TC felt wait until the work is completed to check all ok. Still nothing about Blackberry Lane crossing. Mr Oliver Jones offered to do a walk through (from new houses to the school – concerns). FE to get a date and let us know.

Cornwall Plan being re-done, in line with housing. Discussions on the 14th January, 11am-2pm at The Parkhouse Centre. To be put onto January agenda to decide who attends.

The Chairman mentioned the Community Chest Funding. Application needs to be put in – someone to word it appropriately. FE stated the earlier the application is received the better. Can be used to

part fund a project if needed. Chairman to look into the email forwarded by FE.

Mr Geoff Pullen – moved in at the end of West Street – is an IT expert and told the Chairman he is willing to help out (specifically with the issues people are having with the new email addresses). The Chairman will mention to him again and let know accordingly.

CIL payment been received via Tea Rooms at Northcott Mouth in 2022 (PA22/03442). Nothing from the new houses in the village. FE to check if we can get some more information.

The hedge at Stibb (Old Chapel) needs to be dealt with. It is very difficult to see around it for traffic when coming from Stibb and turning towards Kilkhampton. FE took details and will look into.

Correspondence

We had received an anonymous letter regarding planting in the village. Our policy on these types of letters (nice or otherwise) is that we do not respond. We can involve ourselves with others if they state their name etc. RH said the trough in the centre of the village will be tidied up and re-planted by Mr and Mrs Strong.

Finance Read through by Chairman. Invoices to be paid: £118.00 Alan Somerfield; £72.00 Stephen Gifford; £24.00 Michael Vanstone Plant Hire; £400.00 Archies Garden Services; £560.00 Archies Garden Services. All in favour to be paid.

Total balance before aforementioned payments £25,162.59

Date of next general meeting: 1st December 2025, 7.30pm, Grenville Rooms.

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

Johnny Cowling Concert

Johnny is coming to Kilk - it's just too good to miss!

Sunday 15th February

7pm (doors open from 6pm)

St James Church

£15 including pasty

Tickets available from:

Reg Hambley 01288 321340

and

Joyce Davis 01288 321292

KILKHAMPTON JUNIOR AND INFANTS SCHOOL

It is strange writing for the Christmas edition when it is only mid-November, although the shops have been full of Christmas things for week!

As I write this, the children are starting to practise their Christmas performances and I look forward to sharing pictures from these in the next edition of the parish news. The infants (Reception and Key Stage One) are performing 'Hushaby Nativity.' Years Three and Four will be performing 'Bethlehem Bake Off,' and Years Five and Six will be performing 'Treasure Island.'

During December, we will be having our Christmas dinner, which will be cooked by our chef, Debbie. Our Christmas dinner is always a really special moment, as we manage to sit the whole school and staff together in the hall to experience a shared meal together. We will also have class parties and a visit to the church for a Christingle service.



The children enjoyed the PTA Halloween disco



We had a very good turn out for the PTA quiz night at the Grenville Rooms

Our PTA (Parents and Teachers Association) are very active and held a successful quiz night at the Grenville Rooms on the 14th November. It was very well-attended by parents and people from the community alike and raised an amazing £949 for PTA funds! The PTA are currently creating a sensory garden for the children and this money will really help.



Members of the winning quiz team with their prize



Remembrance Day poppies painted by children in Year 1 and Year

(Continued on page 13)

As well as practising for Christmas, the children have also been hard at work on their lessons. Reception and Key Stage One have been learning about celebrations, a topic which begins with Bonfire Night and looks at different celebrations, including those from other cultures such as Diwali before culminating with Christmas. Before that, the children had been learning about 'People Who Help Us,' a topic I wrote about before half-term with visits from nurses and the police, and which finished this side of half-term with a visit from Bude fire brigade.



Bude fire brigade visiting the school to support the youngest children learning about people who help us



Year Three and Four are learning about World War Two and how it affected the Home Front, notably Kilkhampton. Meanwhile, Year Five and Six have been learning things much further in the past, looking at the changes between the Stone Age and the Iron Age.

Left: Diwali diya made by children in Sandymouth class as part of their learning about celebrations



Members of the school's football teams who took part in the tournament at Bude

I may have been teaching for more than twenty years but the magic of Christmas is particularly seen in a primary school. The excitement and wonder displayed by children is contagious, and I am looking forward as always to the coming weeks of plays, nativity stories, carols and building excitement.

May I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Michael

Michael Watson, Head Teacher

THE PARISH PANTRY

 A double treat – sweet and savoury festive tarts! 

Sweet Mincemeat Frangipane Tart

If you're looking for an easy festive bake this month, this mincemeat, cranberry and almond tart is cosy, colourful, and perfect for sharing.

Ingredients

1 ready-made sweet shortcrust
pastry sheet
200–250g (7–9oz) sweet
mincemeat
50–75g (2–3oz) fresh or frozen
cranberries (optional, but lovely)
100g (3½oz) unsalted butter,
softened
100g (3½oz) caster sugar
2 eggs, beaten
100g (3½oz) ground almonds
1 tsp almond extract (optional)
1–2 tbsp flaked almonds (optional,
for topping)

Method

Preheat the oven to 180°C (160°C fan) / 350°F.
Line a loose-bottomed 23cm (9 inch) tart tin with the pastry, press gently into the edges, and trim. Prick the base with a fork and blind bake for 10–12 minutes until lightly set.
Spoon the mincemeat evenly over the base.
Scatter 50–75 g fresh or frozen cranberries (optional) over the mincemeat. If you prefer them sweeter, toss them in 1–2 tsp sugar before adding.
To make the frangipane, beat the butter and sugar together until pale and fluffy, then add the eggs, one at a time, and stir in. Then add the ground almonds and almond extract, stirring in gently. Spread this mixture gently over the mincemeat and cranberries.
Top with scattered flaked almonds if using, then bake for 30–35 minutes, until golden and slightly domed in the centre. Allow to cool before dusting with icing sugar. Serve warm or at room temperature.
Note: To make individual tartlets, use 1 tbsp mincemeat and 1 tbsp frangipane per tartlet and adjust the cooking time to about half.

Savoury Brie & Cranberry Puff Pastry Tartlets

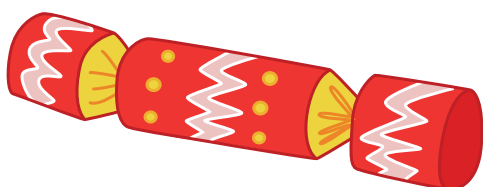
A sheet of puff pastry... a bit of brie... and a spoon of cranberry — and suddenly you've got the easiest and tastiest savoury Christmas party snack!

Ingredients

Makes 12–16 tartlets (depending on size)
1 sheet ready-rolled puff pastry
150–180g (5–6oz) brie, cut into small cubes
4–5 tbsp cranberry sauce
1 egg, beaten (for glazing — optional)
A pinch of sea salt or cracked pepper (optional)

Method

Preheat the oven to 200°C (180°C fan) / 400°F. Line a baking tray with parchment paper.
Unroll the puff pastry and cut it into 12–16 squares.
Place a small cube of brie in the centre of each square and top with half a teaspoon of cranberry sauce (or more, if you like!). Add a tiny pinch of salt or pepper to taste.
To shape the tartlets, you can either leave them as open squares or pinch two opposite corners together for a little parcel shape. Then glaze if wished by brushing the edges lightly with beaten egg for a golden finish. Bake for 12–15 minutes, until the pastry is puffed and golden and the cheese is melting. Serve warm. If needed, they can be reheated in a low oven for 5 minutes.



Enjoy! Lucy Stevens

BUDE LOOK GROUP

The focus for our discussion this month was Samuel Palmer. Born in London in 1805, Palmer's talent was such that at age fourteen he was already exhibiting at the Royal Academy. He loved landscape, was inspired by the atmospheric work of JWM Turner and became a prominent member of the Romantic Movement. In 1824, Palmer met William Blake, who was a frail old man at that time. They shared a love of poetry and Renaissance art; both were very religious, experienced visions, were widely read and radical in their thinking.



The Valley Thick with Corn 1825

Palmer loved texture and pattern: there is so much detail to hold our interest. His hills have rounded organic shapes, the vegetation has sinuous lines that are rhythmic and satisfying. Here a reader (probably Christian from *The Pilgrim's Progress*) is nestled within an idyllic, abundant landscape. Britain was fast becoming industrialised, and here Palmer is looking back to an idealised rural life.

Soon after his meeting with Blake, Palmer moved to Shoreham in Suffolk for health reasons. There, he was overwhelmed by the beauty of the valley. He thought of it as an Eden, and his work reflects intense feeling and mystery. Other like-minded artists joined him there and they called themselves *The Shoreham Ancients*. During these years, Palmer produced what is now considered his best, most unique and skilful work. He was not recognised as a successful artist during his lifetime.



Harvest Moon Drawing for A Pastoral Scene 1831-2

The dark shadows and inclusion of the moon or sun add a sense of mystery and wonder.



Left: The Herdsman's Cottage 1850

(Continued on page 16)

(Bude Look Group, continued from page 15)

Like Turner, Palmer visited Italy and many parts of Britain. The sketch on the right was made when he stayed in North Cornwall. We had fun guessing where this may be. Where do you think this is? We know he painted near Boscastle. I am reminded of a walk from Trevalga.



From Palmer's sketchbook: possibly 1839

Samuel Palmer has work in all the major art galleries around the world, but he is still not widely known by the public. He is known as an artists' artist and has inspired many, including some of our best-known artists of the twentieth century.

Bude Look Group meets once a month at the Parkhouse Centre, Bude.

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TREE BOOK GROUP: *The Last Runaway* by Tracy Chevalier

The Last Runaway is set in the United States in the mid-nineteenth century. Honor Bright, our main character, is a young Quaker woman from Dorset in England. She has led a modest and sheltered life, but her world was turned upside down when her fiancé left her and their close-knit Quaker community for another woman. When her sister Grace is persuaded by her fiancé Adam that they should move to America, Honor decides she must go with her, not only to support her sister, but to escape the oppression of her situation and have some chance of making a life for herself.

Their journey from Bristol to New York is arduous and Honor suffers with debilitating seasickness. As they travel the long distance from New York to Ohio, Grace contracts yellow fever and dies. This places Honor in a further difficult position: not only must she tell Adam that Grace is dead, but Honor is also in fear about where that leaves her as Adam, of course, has no obligation to support her. Honor, however, cannot face going back to England, either because of the journey or the shame.

On the final leg of her journey, Honor has a frightening encounter with a local slave-hunter, Donovan. Honor is appalled both by his profession and his dangerous air, and yet is also strangely drawn to him when he seems to flirt with her.

Honor arrives in the small town of Wellington, close to Faithwell, her intended destination. There, she finds quarters with Belle Mills, the local milliner, who, it transpires, is also the half-sister of the mysterious Donovan. Belle warns Honor about him and it is clear there is a tension between these siblings.

During her stay with Belle, Honor adapts her talent for quilting (quilting, its traditions, the patterns and its place in Quaker culture, are a strong and fascinating motif running through the novel).

Honor first realises there is something strange going on when she finds a black man under a woodpile in the yard of Belle's home. She is terrified, particularly when Donovan comes searching at his sister's property, sensing the presence of the runaway. Honor later learns that Belle is part of a network of citizens who provide a means of escape plus food and shelter for runaway slaves.

Honor is collected from Belle's by Adam Cox, Grace's fiancé, and taken back to Faithwell, to live with him and his widowed sister-in-law and to work in their shop. The domestic situation is uncomfortable for Honor, however, and her prospects only brighten when she is wooed and then married to fellow Quaker Jack Haymaker. At first, Jack is attentive and loving, but quickly becomes complacent and Honor grows increasingly miserable, despite her efforts to feel an appropriate degree of godly gratitude. Tensions deepen when Honor decides she will provide support for runaway slaves passing through their property. Whilst the Quakers are against slavery, they are also against law-breaking and Honor's actions are seen as a threat to their livelihood. Honor finds herself increasingly in conflict with the family until the point where her position becomes untenable. All the while, Donovan hovers in the background, stalking Honor and sniffing out runaways.

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