

Kilsby Kronickle

Also available on the village website - www.kilsby-pc.gov.uk

Edition no. 170. August-September 2026



Tea and cake at the village hall for the National Open Gardens Scheme

As summer rolls on, this edition is full of the community spirit, neighbourly effort and local pride that make Kilsby such a special place to live. From village events and volunteering opportunities to environmental action and parish updates, there is plenty to celebrate, and plenty of ways to get involved.

The Parish Council has been busy on a number of important fronts: New recycled plastic benches have been installed in the park, providing a practical and sustainable addition for everyone to enjoy. A campaign has been started for a safer crossing over the A5 and there will be a village survey to demonstrate the strength of local feeling.

Nature and climate remain important themes in this issue. Residents are invited to support plans to plant

more trees around the village. This is a positive step for Kilsby's future, providing us with a greener, more attractive environment for all. The local Nature Recovery Strategy highlights six species at risk in and around Kilsby, and residents are encouraged to help monitor wildlife. The Climate and Nature Action Group also reflects on the impact of recent heatwaves and the need for communities to adapt positively and practically to a changing climate.

Our clubs and local groups continue to bring energy and variety to village life. Entries are open for the WI Photo Competition for the 2027 calendar, with prizes for both children and adults. Kilsby Players are looking ahead to the much-anticipated performance of The Vicar of Dibley, now rescheduled for

November, and the History Society will be holding its AGM along with a talk on Kilsby's unique history.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you goes to everyone who gives their time, skills and good humour to keep village life thriving. The Village Shop and Coffee Mornings are currently looking for new volunteers, and even a small amount of help can make a big difference. If you have been thinking about getting more involved, this could be the perfect moment to join in.

As always, the Kilsby Kronickle is a reflection of the people, groups and organisations who make our village what it is. Thank you to all contributors, volunteers and readers and we hope you enjoy this edition.

The Kilsby Kronickle Editorial Team

What's On in Kilsby

August 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2 St Faith's service
3	4	5	6 Coffee Morning (Kilsby room)	7	8	9 St Faith's service
10	11	12	13 WI Meeting	14	15	16 St Faith's service
17 Kilsby Players Church Filming	18	19	20	21	22	23 St Faith's service
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 KGA Produce Show PAT FEST St Faith's service
31 Summer Bank Holiday						

September 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3 School term starts Coffee Morning (Kilsby Room)	4 Oil Order Point Youth Club	5	6 St Faith's service
7 Kilsby Playtime	8 Parish Council meeting	9	10 WI Meeting	11 Kilsby Jazz	12 Cinema Night	13 St Faith's service
14 Kilsby Playtime	15	16	17 History Society Night WI Photo Competition Deadline	18 Youth Club Deadline for Kilsby Kronicle	19	20 St Faith's service
21 Kilsby Playtime	22	23	24	25	26	27 St Faith's service
28 Kilsby Playtime	29	30				

Want to include your event or club? Please email details to kilsbykronicle@outlook.com

KILSBY PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCILLORS		AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY
CHAIR Rob Chamberlain	rchamberlain@kilsby-pc.gov.uk 07952404305	
VICE CHAIR Michael Margetts	01788 824195 07773 768320 mmargetts@kilsby-pc.gov.uk	Recreation Ground - Chair Planning Committee - Chair Employment/Staffing
Robin Nicholls	07807 694524 rnicholls@kilsby-pc.gov.uk	Planning Committee Employment/Staffing
Caroline Haycock	07801 492830 chaycock@kilsby-pc.gov.uk	Planning Committee Facebook/Social Media Internal Financial Control
Oliver Houlton	07738 356413 ohoulton@kilsby-pc.gov.uk	Planning Committee Recreation Ground Website Support
Ian Weston	01788 823332 07587 143939 iweston@kilsby-pc.gov.uk	Planning Committee Highways Warden Cemetery
Tony Kerr	07840 038 701 tkerr@kilsby-pc.gov.uk	Planning Committee Litter-picking equipment contact Village Hall Liasion
Jenna Palmer	jpalmer@kilsby-pc.gov.uk	Planning Committee Police Liaison Representative
Cheryl Sibley	csibley@kilsby-pc.gov.uk	
Howard Gibbs	01788 824718 hgibbs@kilsby-pc.gov.uk	Employment/staffing School Governor Liaison
WEST NORTHANTS COUNCILLORS		
Rosie Humphreys	07890 112504 rosie.humphreys@westnorthants.gov.uk	
Andrew Simpson	07973 560432 Andrew.simpson@westnorthants.gov.uk	
CEMETERY		
Please contact: Clerk Parish Council	clerk@kilsby-pc.gov.uk 07547113996	
DEFIBRILLATORS		
Mike Dowson	01327 220722	Phone box and village hall defibrillators
PARISH CLERK: Mrs Emma GIBSON, Tel: 07547 113996 E-MAIL: clerk@kilsby-pc.gov.uk WEBSITE: www.kilsby-pc.gov.uk		

Revised May 2026

Kilsby Parish Council Chairman's Report

Rob Chamberlain - rchamberlain@kilsby-pc.gov.uk

I hope everyone is well and coping with the unusually hot weather. The Parish Council has had a busy period since I last reported to you in the KK and my thanks to the Parish Councillors and Emma our clerk for their commitment during this busy time. I would like to take this opportunity to especially thank the PC's Mr Fixit Cllr Tony Kerr, who you may have seen mending our VAS traffic signs / painting and cleaning the village gates / installing benches in the park and many other jobs.

In the last couple of months, I have been fortunate to meet the Manager of Kilsby House on several occasions and have been with him to different functions in the village so he can explain the work they are doing and give residents the facts rather than gossip and rumour. They are trying to fit into the village and have advertised some jobs at Kilsby House on the Parish Council website, and I hope Kilsby residents will be able to secure that work. I am delighted to report that they have also sponsored the show programme for this years annual village Garden & Produce show. He has written an article for KK which I hope you will read and understand better what's going on there.

Two new benches have been installed in the park; one is an additional picnic bench which I hope will get lots of use during the summer. I am very pleased that the benches are made of recycled plastic. We are very keen to develop the park so any ideas you have please get in touch with us. Cllr Cheryl Sibley has written a separate article about planting trees in the village, and I hope you will share your thoughts with her about that project.

A Kilsby resident has written to us questioning the postal service and in particular they felt that they were not getting a daily delivery. We have followed that up, but I would be interested in hearing from other residents about their own experience with the postal service we are getting in Kilsby.

We are going to need your support with a village survey which will be delivered through your door soon. Cllr Andrew Simpson has started a conversation with National Highways about the long overdue need for a crossing over the A5 to the Bridleway / Crick / The Allotments / The Cemetery. We need to help him gather evidence to support the idea and I would urge every resident to complete the survey when you get it as a unified approach from the village will help the case. I warn you that this will be a long, difficult campaign and convincing them that our case merits action is far from guaranteed, but we should try. I attended the Junction 18 forum meeting and heard plans for development of that Junction which will have a major impact on Crick but also on us and ultimately the

A5, and we will continue to attend those meetings and try to mitigate that impact. There is also a proposal that will happen shortly to put traffic light signals on the Junction 18 roundabout.

I am pleased to report that in conjunction with the PC Chair from Barby and our 2 Ward Councillors, Mike Margetts and I attended a meeting with the planning officer which resulted in the long outstanding application to extend shooting hours at Barby Sporting club being cancelled. The separate application for the extension of the earth bunds is still in the system, but we have escalated that to the senior management in an attempt to get that into planning committee where we hope it will be rejected.

The Parish Council has now signed the updated debenture which creates the framework for the Village Shop to trade in the longer term, and we have agreed with them to relocate the Book Swap facility to the shop which we feel is a much better location than the phone box. Congratulations to them for the recent improvement in trading and being successful in recruiting new volunteers. The Parish Council is developing its strategy to make the local road network safer and hopefully improve Kilsby as a place to live, and we have done the following so far :

We have relaunched the speed watch scheme and purchased our own speed gun so we can manage it ourselves – we still need 2 more volunteers so let me know if you can help?

We have purchased more 20 Mph advisory signs. I recognise that they have no legal standing, but you will see them around the village soon in an attempt to improve the focus of drivers who go through our village.

We have purchased a mobile VAS sign and will move it around the village to try and slow people down at the Hotspots – we think by moving it around it will be more effective.

I am in active discussion with WNC about a couple of traffic calming measures in the village and these are long term projects which will have to be approved by the council's engineers and then if we get through that stage we will have to bid for the funding. These things are long term projects which may come to nothing, but we will ask and see what happens.

We are in discussion with Prologis about the impact of HGV's coming through Kilsby and we have been invited to a meeting in September to meet the operators of the trucks to make our case and I will update you after that meeting

If there is anything you think the Parish Council should be aware of please email me:
rchamberlain@kilsby-pc.gov.uk.



Kilsby WI Calendar 2027 Photo Competition

**All you budding photographers, we need your
photos of Kilsby**

Please send your photos to:

kilsbywiphoto@gmail.com

**Please include your name, age and a contact phone number .
There are two groups**

age 5 -16

The winner will receive a family cinema ticket

**16 upwards. The winner will receive a voucher towards
a meal at Red Lion - Kilsby**

**Please do not include people in your photographs
photos will be made into a calendar and sold in the village**

**Deadline for Entries
is: 17th September 2026**

Winners announced 1st October 2027

INSPIRING WOMEN

T&Cs All entries will be judged by the WI Committee members and the president's decision will be final



An Update from your West Northants Councillors

Cllr Rosie Humphreys & Cllr Andrew Simpson

1. Council News

a. Council Finances

WNC has reported its provisional financial outturn position for 2025-26 as an overspend of £7m against the Council's £431.8m net revenue budget - equivalent to 1.6% of total spending. The primary pressure continues to be the escalating costs of adult and social care.

WNC had previously forecast an overspend of £9.6m, but had reduced that figure by more than £2m over the course of the year. Risk reserve funding is being used to bridge the financial gap which is the first time that has happened.

b. Parking Charges Dropped

WNC has u-turned on its decision to introduce parking charges for blue badge holders and at Northampton Country parks. Despite a public outcry these charges were to be implemented following the Budget meeting 2026/27 and WNC overlooked the need for a public consultation before the charges were imposed. The consultation generated on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order generated 660 responses and WNC has now relented and parking for blue badge holders and at Northampton Country parks will remain free.

Daventry and Towcester car parks remain free for the first three hours, after which fines are payable. APNR equipment that was installed in advance of a formal decision at Primrose Hill car park in Daventry has been removed.

c. Annual Report

The council has published its Annual Report for 2025/26 which can be found on the website www.westnorthants.gov.uk/reports-and-documents/annual-report. This covers the first year of the Reform run council and shows a mixed picture. Andrew has questioned the customer services performance which is showing 1 in 5 calls not

being answered and an average wait of 6.30 minutes. Escalated and upheld complaints have also increased.

d. Northamptonshire Children's Trust Ofsted Report

On the positive side the Trust, which delivers children's services for both West and North, Northants received an Ofsted inspection in May rating it good across help and protection, children in care and care leavers, and rated outstanding in leadership.

This is a significant improvement from the last inspection in 2022 when the trust was rated as "requires improvement to be good". The Trust was set up in 2020 after the former Northants County Council's children's services were rated inadequate after the deaths of two children in their care.

e. Heatwave Service Updates & Advice

WNC is posting regular service updates and advice for residents on its website during the current heatwave.

'Cool spaces' is an initiative like warm spaces in the winter and in our area WNC is promoting the use of Daventry Leisure Centre and the Daventry Community Larder as locations to visit.

f. Council Group Changes

A former Reform UK councillor who left the party earlier this year to sit as an Independent, has now joined with another Reform councillor who has left the party to join the Restore Britain party so forming a group for that party on the council. This leaves the Reform UK party with 39 councillors to 37 for the combined opposition.

2) Local Issues

a. Cadman Sporting – Planning Application – 2023/5783/MAF

We are pleased to see that the council has finally closed the 2021 application for extended hours at the sporting club, but the 2023 application (to build additional bunds) is still open and waiting for a decision. As your Councillors we share residents' frustrations over how long this is taking to resolve, and we have been trying to get Planning Officers to conclude their work and bring it to the Planning Committee for a decision. WNC Highways have responded to the consultation and are raising objections to the plans and so recommending refusal.

b. Safer Crossings, Cycleways and Footpaths

We have been working with WNC and Kilsby and other Parish Councils in the area to improve cycleway and walkway connections between our villages and to Rugby & Houlton. Andrew has been in discussions with National Highways and WNC about a pedestrian crossing on the A5 to access the bridleway, cemetery and allotments. Whilst funding always becomes an issue there is an opportunity for setting up an Active Travel Forum for our area which would work on plans and funding options. We hope to have further news of this soon.

Get in Touch:

Cllr Rosie Humphreys
Mobile: 07890112504
Email: rosie.humphreys@westnorthants.gov.uk



Cllr Andrew Simpson
1 Manor Villas, Manor Road,
Kilsby, Northants, CV23 8XS
Mobile: 07973 560432
Email: andrew.simpson@westnorthants.gov.uk



Parish Council Meeting dates:

- No meeting in August
- Tuesday 8th September 2026 at 7pm
- Tuesday 13th October 2026 at 7pm
- Tuesday 10th November 2026 at 7pm
- No meeting in December
- Tuesday 12th January 2027 at 7pm
- Tuesday 9th February 2027 at 7pm
- Tuesday 9th March 2027 at 7pm
- Tuesday 13th April 2027 at 7pm
- Tuesday 11th May 2027 at 7pm

The Parish Council may need to change these dates from time to time but any changes will be published on the Parish Council website.



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News from St Faith's

Alastair Wood, Rector of Barby and Kilsby

Greetings to you all from Rev'd Alastair at St Faiths: The bells were ringing long and loud on two days in June when we celebrated two couples married just two weeks apart. Our Church looked nearly as lovely as the Brides on the day, and with bookings being taken now for 2028, why not have a chat and plan your special day.

At the other end of life's journey we also have provided celebrations of life (funerals) as our village comes to terms with loved ones passing.

In the hustle and bustle of modern life I am always pleased to hear that many of you take time to sit in St Faiths and enjoy the peace it provides at the centre of our community. We endeavour to keep Church open most days, so do pop in if you have not done so for a while. And of course you are always welcome to join us for our Sunday services which we publicise on the notice board as we alternate times with our sister Church in Barby.

If you would like to be involved with the efforts to keep our Church in the community we would love to hear from you. Perhaps join the mowing team, give a hand in cleaning the Church, or if you have a skill in fundraising and big dreams- wouldn't it be great if we could redecorate St Faiths?

Best Wishes

Rev'd Alastair



Kilsby Players - Re-Save the Date!

We've decided to push back our performance dates of Vicar of Dibley to give us a bit more time to pull everything together - so save Friday 20th November and Saturday 21st November to your calendars!

Information on ticket bookings will be available in the next Kronickle and on our Facebook page.

Rehearsals are going well and we're really looking forward to entertaining you all with 3 episodes from the much loved sitcom.

On **Monday 17th August** we will be doing a bit of filming in the church to be used during our performances. If you would like to come along to make the church look busy and sing a few songs with us then please join us from 19:30.

We also need your help with some props....

If you have any of the following that we could borrow it would be a great help!

- Golf clubs/bags
- Golf tee flag
- Pulpit/Lectern
- Religious ornaments/pictures

And it's not too late to get involved - any help on prop management/set design/costumes and back stage support would be amazing!

Please get in touch with Polly on 07780601052

Support Needed for Kilsby Tree Planting Scheme

Cllr Cheryl Sibley

The Parish Council is keen to have a plan to plant trees around the village and there are several national give-aways for community groups through which we can secure free native saplings delivered in March and November.

The Woodland Trust provides packs from 15-420 trees per application. The plan to plant more trees needs to have the active support of residents in the village.

That doesn't mean you have to plant them, although all help is welcome! **I would like to hear from you. Please let me know if you support a plan to increase the tree numbers in the village** and if so which locations that you think may benefit, we have had the following suggestions but would welcome your idea(s)

- A361 side of malt Mill Green
- Verges on Smarts Estate
- Infill gaps at the rec
- Behind the new picnic bench at the rec

We think that providing additional trees in the village will have the following benefits:-

- Absorb pollution
- Improve air quality
- Block sound
- Screen roads and unsightly views/objects
- Add diversity by mixed planting
- Maximise wildlife support by providing food and shelter throughout the year
- Help to mitigate the effects of climate change such as filtering high winds and taking up excess soil water in times of flooding and heavy rain.
- Provide shade
- Provide a colourful and attractive addition to their planting location
- Help to improve people's mental health and resilience by communing with nature

Please contact me csibley@kilsby-pc.gov.uk to let me know your thoughts



Kilsby Coffee Mornings

Our Coffee mornings are held the first Thursday of every month (January may change). Run entirely by volunteers - giving up their time to help support our lovely village & providing a warm & friendly space.



You are guaranteed a warm welcome - a good cup of tea or coffee and some delicious homemade cakes - Gluten free also available - all for just £3.

We hold a raffle and include a fruit & veg hamper as first prize.

Raffle tickets available for £1 each.

Our lovely team includes Ann Tailby, Moira Wirtz, Jenny Moore, Gill Redshaw, Adele Roberts and Andrea Brown. Special thanks also to Debbie Marsh, and also to Pauline Dalton who has helped and supported Kilsby Coffee mornings for many years but sadly closed her eyes on 15th July and will be sadly missed.

All monies raised will support projects within Kilsby - previously we have funded projects for St Faiths Church, and we now want to open this up to other groups within Kilsby - If you run a group and have a project in mind - please get in touch to see if we can help.

We also need help with raffle prizes so if you have any unwanted gifts please get in touch.

Could you make a cake? Doesn't have to be every month as we are putting together a cake rota but we really do need some help in the cake baking department. Special thanks to everyone that has made us cakes - sometimes under pressure and especially Elaine Savage who has supported us most months. So if you could bake a cake 1-2 times a year we really would appreciate it.

Or could you spare a couple of hours to help during holiday time - no experience necessary.

If you can help - please contact Andrea Brown - 07861295358 or email andreabrown0909@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you or seeing you at one of our coffee mornings.

Friends of Kilsby

From the Kilsby Kronickle Archives

From 8 years ago - 2018 August-September



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BEST VILLAGE COMPETITION

(From Sarah Stainton, Tel: 822477)

In March a small committee of villagers - Sarah Stainton, Tom Moore, Janet Chappell, Victoria Devaney and Chris Lomas - was formed with the aim of entering Kilsby in Northamptonshire ACRE's 'Best Village' competition. This competition is not about judging floral displays and the cleanliness of the village. Instead the 'Best Village' competition assesses every aspect of village life: community life, involvement of local business, provision for children, young people and older people, how we treat our environment, our sustainability, communication, including our use of information technology, and how we welcome visitors and newcomers.

We were able to pull together a credible application demonstrating what a fantastic village with good facilities and amazing community spirit we have. We were then visited by three judges who were given a short presentation and then a tour of the village. Here they were able to look at some of our facilities including our new shop, the village hall, school, pre-school, play park, church, and URC chapel. They were able to meet and talk to various villagers as they went around and find out how they felt about living in Kilsby.

At the Awards Ceremony on 17th July the committee were overjoyed when Kilsby won the 'Best Newcomer Award' in the competition. For this we received a certificate and guardianship of the Canon Dunn memorial bowl for the year. Both of these are now displayed in the village shop. We will also receive £250 to spend on village projects. A photograph taken at the prize giving (and showing all the committee except Tom Moore, who was unable to be there on the night) is on page 1 of this magazine.

Our thanks go to all the village organisations and to all the individuals who supported us with our entry, and all who do so much to make Kilsby such a great place to live.

Ideas are invited on how our prize money could be spent to benefit the village. Please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council, Clare Valentine, at: parishcouncil@kilsbyvillage.co.uk or on 07581 490581, if you want to put forward any suggestions.

Kilsby House - Innovative Mental Healthcare

Witness Svovse - Kilsby House Manager



Kilsby House is a recently refurbished, specialist mental health rehabilitation unit for adults aged over 18 years. The unit has 21 en-suite bedrooms, divided into 5 separate units, allowing the service to provide appropriate individual person-centred care ensuring that people are supported in the right place, with the right care and the right culture.

Kilsby House aims to promote residents' independence, self-esteem, social inclusion and the discovery or rediscovery of personal identity. Our team consists of a Registered Manager, Consultant Psychiatrist, Counselling Psychologist, Assistant Psychologists, Mental Health Nurses and Support Workers. The service is Nurse-led with a Mental Health Nurse on duty at all times. The service looks after people experiencing complex mental health who are stepping down in services and are willing to engage from residential rehabilitation to aid access and progression into community services.

At Kilsby House, we recognise that the best outcomes are achieved when the individual, their family or carers, community professionals, and our Team work together

to build strong therapeutic relationships with open communication between all parties, ensuring families and community partners are actively involved in sharing information, reviewing progress, and contributing to future care and treatment plans. This collaborative approach places the individual at the centre of decision-making and promotes continuity, consistency, and person-centred care. From the point of admission, rehabilitation is focused on achieving meaningful recovery and enabling individuals to return successfully to their local communities. Where appropriate, people are supported to be discharged back to their own homes, family environments, or other suitable community accommodation, with coordinated aftercare and community mental health services in place to promote sustained recovery, independence, and social inclusion".

Innovative mental healthcare for young people and adults
- Camino Healthcare

<https://www.caminohealthcare.co.uk>



Open Gardens at Kilsby

Janette Weekes.

June 21st was the warm sunny day when eight of Kilsby's gardeners opened their gates for the public. Visitors came from Kettering, Lutterworth, Guilsborough and even Kenilworth and enjoyed an afternoon of beautiful gardens and superb tea and cakes. The gardens were open in aid of the National Open Gardens Scheme which supports the main Cancer Relief Charities such as MacMillan Nurses. Our ticket sales enabled us to boost the NGS income by just over £600. Sadly, visitor numbers nationwide have declined in the past year, but we saw a slight increase in the number of visitors to Kilsby's gardens.

On behalf of the Regional and National Coordinators of the NGS, I extend my thanks to my fellow Kilsby gardeners who worked so hard through this year's weather extremes to produce such lovely gardens. Many of us are at the age when simple weeding is a painful exercise so we will soon need to "pass the trowel" to our younger gardeners. If you are even remotely interested in opening your garden next year, or want more information about the NGS, please think about it soon because even little Kilsby gets a mention and is listed in the national publicity that goes out early in the year. Please don't leave it to the last minute!

For more details contact me at jan.weekes@icloud.com. Thank you.



Village Hall - Open Garden Teas

Thank you to everyone who helped on the day and for the contributions of a selection of wonderful cakes. It was a quieter day than usual, but we did raise £202.20 for the hall. **Thank you again to everyone.**

Julie





KILSBY JAZZ DATE FOR DIARY



Elaine Riches Cool Jazz Collective

Friday 11th September – 8.00 pm to approx.10.30 pm

Cool Jazz Collective 5 piece band features the smooth, mellow vocals of Elaine Riches and Neil's delicate touch on the piano. Elaine's style is captivating as it is versatile, inspired by her love of songs from the musicals , popular classics and of course Jazz, with Neil's sublime rendering on obscure Jazz standards with Latin and Jazz to create a perfect combination. .

Keep a look out for this years acts on: www.kilsbyjazz.co.uk

2026 Diary dates

11th Sept	Elaine Riches Cool Jazz Collective
4th Dec	Alligator Gumbo band.

Want details on future events and ticket sales ?
Checkout www.ticket-source.com/kilsby-jazz-club

www.kilsbyjazz.co.uk



Kilsby WI, Let's Get Quizzical, Quizzical...

Jan Bowden

Our meeting in June was a surprise. We had anticipated a wonderful afternoon at Thenford Gardens for our annual trip, but due to cold weather, the prospect of rain, and travel hiccups, we had a change of plan. We held a quiz for all our members and enjoyed a pleasant, amusing and informative evening, helped as always, with a fizz and finger buffet. Our three teams, 'Katy knows best', 'Careless whispers' and 'Jassy's' competed fiercely with each other but in the end Katy knew best!



The July meeting was, by contrast, held on a sweltering evening but we were delighted to welcome 3 new prospective members all of whom seemed to enjoy themselves. Our speaker was Hilary Minns, a former teacher and University Lecturer, who gave an amusing and engaging talk about story telling through the ages. The title of her talk 'A story out of my mouth' came from the history of Duncan Williamson, a Scottish travelling story teller, who told over a thousand stories which he stored in his head from his grandmother. One night he asked his son if they could read a story together and the reply was, "No dad, tell me a story out of your mouth."



Duncan said we should all realise that children listen; we all have faces, eyes and gestures and there is a whole community of listeners, a chorus of ears with whom we should share our stories and traditions.

The Navaho Indians said "If the children in our village don't know our stories, they will grow to be bad people, but if they do know, they will grow up to be good people."

Date for your diaries.

On Thursday 8th October we are offering a free taster session to Kilsby villagers and friends. We start our meetings at 7.30 but better to come and get a seat around 7.15. The entertainment for the evening is Sonia Turner talking about Stunt Dogs. Refreshments will also be served.

We're always looking for something new.

Look out for our poster about a photograph competition. Winners will be published and collated for a 2027 WI Calender.

For those of you who want to test your knowledge of Northamptonshire, these were the questions for Round 3 of our Quiz.

1. In 2002 the shipping forecast sea area Finisterre was renamed in honour of a man from Grafton Regis. He established the Shipping Forecast; he was the first professional weather forecaster; Captain of HMS Beagle and founder of the Met Office. Who was he?
2. Which of Jane Austen's novels was set in Northamptonshire?
3. We have six railway stations in Northamptonshire-Corby, Kettering, Northampton and Wellingborough, but can you name the other two?
4. The River Jordan is in the Holy Land but which Northamptonshire village has its own River Jordan flowing through it?
5. Two of our villages have Eleanor Crosses, one on Geddington, but which is the other?
6. Once there was a Moorpark fruit tree in every cottage garden, but which village is known as Northamptonshire's Apricot village?
7. In Woodnewton's churchyard is the grave of a very famous Russian, Nikolai Poliakoff. We know him under his professional name- who was he?
8. England's first Poet Laureate was born in Aldwinckle in 1631, name him.
9. Which King stands above the portico of All Saints Church in Northampton Town Centre.
10. Eight rivers rise in Northampton and not a single stream runs into the county from outside- a unique fact in Britain. They are The Ise; Tove; Welland; Nene; Cherwell; Leam and Great Ouse. But which other river rises here?

See back cover for answers....



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Kilsby Garden and Produce Association

Charles Smedley photos from Diane Graham

The Kilsby Garden Association has been busy over the last few months and the flower gardens, vegetable plots, and allotments have been the centre of attention with all the hot weather we have been experiencing.

On Saturday 20th June the Leicester Guild of Judges were busy judging the 20 planters located around the village as well as the three categories of Courtyard, Decorative and Mixed Gardens entered in the Garden Competitions. Winners will be announced at the Produce Show on Sunday 30th August.



On the evening of the 26th June the Association also held a Strawberries and Wine Evening and this event was kindly hosted by Chileen and Michael De Beer at their lovely colourful garden. All those who attended were able to enjoy a bowl of strawberries and cream, wine of their choice and sit in comfort in the beautifully manicured shady garden, chatting to other guests who were enjoying the cool evening and the putting the world to rights long into the evening.



The next major event will be the Annual Produce Show which is open to all residents of Kilsby. A copy of The Produce Show Schedule will be delivered to every home in the village and you are invited to enter any number of the 60 or so categories that make up the show on Sunday 30th August. Even if you don't want to enter yourself, you can come along to the village hall and see what your village neighbours and friends have been turning their hands too. Also enjoy a cup of tea and cake at the same time.



Collection day for Kilsby is Wednesday.



Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust

**Ride +
Stride**

The annual sponsored Ride + Stride is on 12th September between 10am and 6pm. You can plan your own route, including by car.

50% of sponsor money received is returned to the church or chapel chosen by you.

For further information and sponsorship forms contact:

Gill Mason, 28 Main Road, 01788 822658.

KILSBY VILLAGE HALL CINEMA
Saturday 12th September 2026

Come and join us for refreshments at 7:30pm
Film starts 8:00pm (cert PG-12a)



Tickets £7:00 each

Tickets on sale at the Village Shop

Also available from Ruth 01788 823662/07814 106401 or Julie 07940 525272

All proceeds to the Village Hall

Kilsby Residents Climate and Nature Action Group



Submitted by Ian Massey.

This article is being written just after two heatwaves affected the UK in June. It is another reminder that climate change is making extreme weather more frequent and more intense. As global temperatures continue to rise due to greenhouse gas emissions, heatwaves that were once considered rare are becoming increasingly common. Scientists have repeatedly warned that the UK is likely to experience hotter summers with longer periods of extreme heat.

Another factor that could contribute to global warming in the coming months is **El Niño**, a natural climate pattern that occurs when unusually warm sea surface temperatures develop across the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean. An El Niño event is now developing and is expected to strengthen over the coming months, potentially becoming stronger than usual. El Niño influences weather patterns worldwide and typically raises global average temperatures, increasing the likelihood of record-breaking heat. The UK Met Office has said it is “highly likely” that El Niño will cause a temporary spike in global annual temperatures, with the residual heat “potentially making next year the



hottest since 1850”. This comes on top of the long-term warming already driven by climate change. Although El Niño occurs thousands of miles away, it can still have a subtle influence on the UK’s weather, slightly increasing the likelihood of a mild start and a colder end to winter.

Climate change and El Niño are separate phenomena, but when they occur together, their effects can reinforce one another. With the planet already warmer than in the past, the development of El Niño could make future heatwaves even more intense, increasing the risks of drought, wildfires, pressure on water supplies, and heat-related illness. It is another clear indication that adapting to a warming climate is becoming increasingly urgent.

The local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)

The local Nature Recovery Strategy is a national strategy to slow down the rate of decline and to boost biodiversity within all areas of the country.

The strategy will identify the best actions and place for nature recovery and the wider environment.

A consultation took place earlier this year, and the final version is due to be published in August 2026. It will deliver a legally mandated, evidence-based blueprint designed to reverse biodiversity decline and guide environmental investment across the region.

The LNRS considers 57 important species nationally, across a range of different habitats.

There are 6 species identified at risk of decline within Kilsby, they are:

- Basil Thyme
- Common Pipistrelle
- Soprano Pipistrelle
- Picture Winged Fly
- Swift
- Western European Hedgehog

In order for us to understand the prevalence of these six species within our area we are asking if residents could note any they see within the month of August. A form is shown opposite for this purpose, it contains a photo and brief description of each species. Please cut out the form, fill it in and it can be dropped off at the village shop during the first week of September. Numbers will be collated and fed back in a future edition of the Kronickle.

This information can also be posted via the village face book page, but please do not duplicate the information via both media as we need to gain an accurate view of the numbers of each species within Kilsby.

It is my hope that as well as adults taking part, that this may be a fun introduction to species decline and nature conservation for the children within our community to engage in during their summer holiday.

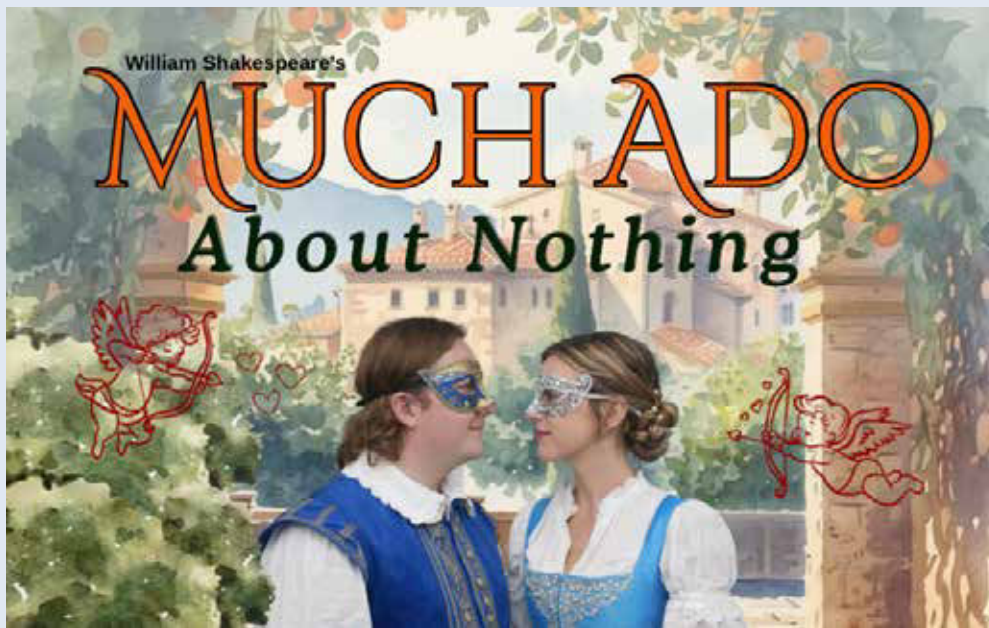
Thanks for your time and support.

Councillor Cheryl Sibley
Climate and Nature representative



Species under threat	Picture	Information regarding species	When and where spotted
Common Pipistrelle		The common pipistrelle is one of the commonest British bats, weighing around 5 grams (same as a 20p piece). A single pipistrelle can eat thousands of tiny insects in just one night! They are the species you are most likely to see around your garden.	
Picture Winged Fly		The larvae of most species in this family are scavengers on decaying organic matter. Eggs are laid in rotting vegetation and the larvae eat this before pupating.	
Soprano Pipistrelle		The soprano Pipistrelle is one of the commonest and widespread of all British Bat species. It is similar to the common Pipistrelle but has a paler face and echo locates at a higher frequency.	
Swift		The swift, a medium sized aerial bird is a superb flyer. Sleeping, eating, feeding and even mating whilst on the wing. They are the fastest bird in level flight with a top speed of 69 mph. Swifts are plain sooty brown with a white throat. They have curved wings and a forked tail.	
Western European Hedgehog		A unique and unmistakable animal, the hedgehog is small, brown and round with yellow tipped spines over its back and a fur covered face. It is highly nocturnal, you may see or hear one snuffling around the garden.	
Basil Thyme		Basil Thyme a member of the dead nettle family is popular with bees and insects. It is 15 cm high and produces whorls of violet flowers with white markings on the lower lip.	

Amateur Theatres to Visit



Rugby Theatre

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING - a timeless comedy following two very different love stories.

Saturday 19th to Saturday 26th September (excluding Sunday)

Rugby Theatre, Henry St, Rugby CV21 2QA ·

Further information: <https://www.rugbytheatre.co.uk/show/the-crucible/>

The Loft, Leamington



The Loft Theatre, Victoria Colonnade, Leamington Spa, CV31 3AA

Further information: <https://lofttheatrecompany.com>

MIDDLE

**Wednesday 23 September
to 3rd October**

By David Eldridge

It's 4.0 a.m.a couple are in the kitchen together as dawn breaks. It is time for an honest conversation – but how much honesty can any marriage take? Middle is a truthful, moving and funny portrait of a forty-something couple whose marriage hangs in the balance.

Is this the beginning of the end, or just the middle?

Kilsby Action Group

Andrew Farrier, on behalf of the Kilsby Action Group.

The latest update is that the target date for the application to build 63 houses behind Rugby Rd is the 29th of July and at the time of writing there is no date for a committee hearing so that is unlikely to happen. We are continuing to monitor the case and are in touch with our ward councillors. When a date is finally announced we will provide a robust objection. We will ask you for your support at the committee hearing because it is undoubtedly powerful for the councillors who sit on that committee to understand the strength of feeling in the village against building in green space .

The emerging local plan is continuing to work its way through its various stages and we are monitoring that as it happens. We recently submitted a formal request to have the village reclassified as part of the consultation process and will keep you updated on that request. We were strongly supported in this by the Parish Council and our Ward Councillors Andrew and Rosie. The Local plan will be submitted to the Inspectorate in December by WNC because failure to do so will mean they have to start that process again in 2027. The change of Prime Minister may possibly impact the National Planning Policy Framework legislation due on Feb 27 if there is a change of priorities in central government .

We were disappointed that the Fund-Raising Race night had to be cancelled. I would be interested to get some feedback if residents didn't like the format or it was the wrong date – summer holidays perhaps ? We will continue with our very popular Quiz and Fish and Chips night in the autumn, and a date will be announced in the next KK. Thank you for all your support financial and otherwise, without you and your support KAG wouldn't exist .



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Kilsby Village Planter No. 6



Thank you to all Planter sponsors and adopters.
Planter no. 6 is made by Andy Tompkins, adopted by
Diana Smith.

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Gardeners' Corner

Ron Kickle

What to do when the rains start

Gardening has been impossible in the recent heat and plants have suffered and died. So let's look at what to do to adapt the garden to be better suited to dry weather.

What about the brown lawn?

The grass will survive drought, there's a lot of it in Africa after all! This is because its growing point is deep down near the roots, so it just goes dormant in drought and the top growth dies off. Once the rains start the growing point leaps into life and within 2 weeks it will start going green again.

Plants for dry weather

Think grass – there is a great variety of large and small ornamental grasses.

Look at your own garden. Which plants have survived the heat without watering? Propagate them!

Plant aromatic herbs such as lavender, rosemary and sage,

Ground cover

Don't leave any bare soil. We grow annual borage. It seeds itself everywhere and flowers from mid to late summer. Just pull out what you don't want. Also small varieties of comfrey are a great ground cover with a long flowering season. Both these are loved by bees and other insects.

Buy small

If you do buy new shrubs or trees, start with small ones and look after them for the first year as they grow the deep roots that will enable them to stand drought in later years

Jobs to do in August

Sow perennials

Get ready for the KGPA Show.

Jobs to do in September

Sow hardy annuals

Start planting bulbs for next year.

Buy and plant your new drought-resistant plants.

Times past...

In "Directions for the Gardiner", John Evelyn, 1686:-

"In the Spring time water in the mornings, in Summer the evenings: In Winter be spare of watering & ever let it be a little warmed"

Good Gardening!

Ron Kickle



Kilsby History Society

Diana Smith - Secretary of the Kilsby History Society

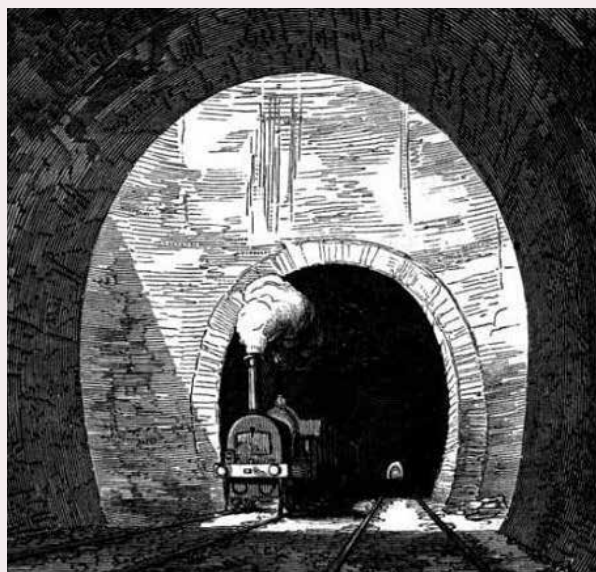
Calling all Kilsby residents both old and new. Did you know that Kilsby is famous for several reasons? One is that the first skirmish of the Civil War took place in our village. Another is that we have a railway tunnel that, when it was built in the late 1830's, was the longest one in the world!

The tunnel was part of the London to Birmingham railway and was built by navvies. These itinerant workers had a huge impact on the little village of Kilsby in the years while the railway was constructed. We even had Robert Stephenson living in the village.

Come to our meeting on the evening of Thursday September 17th and find out what our history research group has discovered!

As this is our AGM there is no charge for attending but the yearly subscription of £7.00 will be due.

Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available. **Everyone is welcome.**





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Buckby Library & Hub



Our **Children's Fun Craft Sessions** continue to the end of August on Tuesday afternoons from **2.30pm–3.30pm**. Each session includes a story, a themed craft to make and take home, and a library hunt. Dates in August are: 4th (space travel), 11th (the sound of the sea), 18th (sea creatures – octopus) and 25th (make a noise!). £2.50/child.

Art in August and September: in August, the Art Club in the Hub will be exhibiting a selection of their own work while in September, Bridget Arregger will be exhibiting for the Northants and Rutland Open Studies and Michelle Kilby and Maria Summerscale will also be showing some of their paintings.

Wild winter remedies, Thursday 10th September. After her fascinating talk in June about herbs and plants to use for common summer ailments, Jenni McDonnell will now give a layman's introduction on what to use in autumn and winter. Jenni has used everything that she is going to talk about herself. Doors open 7pm; talk starts 7.30. Get your free tickets from the library or Peephole in the High Street when available nearer the time. Refreshments available. Donations welcome.

Late summer Craft Fayre: this will be at the library on Saturday 26th September, 1.30-3.30pm. Please look out for further information on our website.

Our new film season starts on the last Tuesday of September (29th) with a comedy: **Mother's Pride**: "A grieving family who own a failing pub have their lives changed

by brewing real ale and entering the Great British Beer Awards." Tickets £7.50 from the library and Peephole in the High Street when available nearer the time. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30 start. Refreshments available.

Volunteering and trustee opportunities: do you enjoy connecting with people and making a difference? We have volunteer and trustee opportunities, in particular:

- We urgently need an **advertising lead** to join our Buckby Buzz team.
- We need people to help with our **events, activities and fundraising**.

Do get in touch: sam.holst@buckbylibraryhub.org, or just pop in to see us!

And finally...we have been chosen by the **Waitrose Community Matters** green token scheme in Daventry. Whether you regularly shop there or occasionally pop in, please support us by donating your **green tokens** to Buckby Library & Hub when you shop there. Thank you!

Do check our website and calendar for our many regular activities.

<https://buckbylibraryhub.org>; <https://buckbylibraryhub.org/calendar/>.



Playtime

Kilsby Village Hall
Mondays 9:45am - 11:45am
Term Time Only



Kilsby Village Shop

A Community Owned Project

At our recent volunteer's coffee morning Emma Gibbs, Parish Council Clerk, gave us a presentation on behalf of Rob Chamberlain, Parish Council Chair. This highlighted the Parish Council's support for the shop which they view as a valuable and important part of the village community. Many thanks to Emma, Rob and to Sarah for putting on such lovely refreshments!

As a result of the coffee morning three new volunteer's came forward and are now receiving their familiarisation and training. A big thank you and welcome to our new volunteers!

We're always looking for new volunteers, especially with our longer opening hours, so if you could spare a few hours each week we'd love to hear from you. We're a fun, friendly bunch and you'd meet loads of people as they use the shop. You'd be given full training of course so you could acquire some valuable transferable skills. For your first few stints we'd pair you with an experienced volunteer so you would have full support as you learnt the ropes! Why not come along and have some fun?

A reminder to our shareholders:- our AGM will be on Tuesday 22nd September at 7pm in the village hall. Do come along if you'd like to hear about our year.

As a village shop we don't just operate as a business. Part of our aim is to be a community hub and also to offer a service for people in the village who may struggle to get out and about. If you're retired why not come in every day for a paper or a few bits; the exercise and the social contact will be good for you!

Remember:

Using your village shop is good for you, the village and the environment!

KILSBY OIL CLUB

The next order point for the Oil Club is:

4th September 2026

We will be open to receive orders for nine days, closing a week on the Sunday following the announcement. Members will be advised of the price and delivery dates when the buying process has been completed early the following week.

Anyone interested in joining the Club, or helping out with the ordering process, should contact:
kilsbyoilclub@gmail.com



**KILSBY
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**Join for just £20
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KILSBY - YOUR LOCAL FRIENDLY CLUB

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Please Get in Touch

We're always looking at ways to improve the Kronickle and add a wider variety of articles for villagers to enjoy. So if you have any ideas of what you would find useful, or you would like to read about please let us know.

Additionally, if you would be interested in writing a regular article or a one off piece for a village group that isn't represented yet, or on a topic close to your heart please get in touch.

Email:

kilsbykronickle@outlook.com

Things to Do

For Kids

- ✓ Fill in A5 crossing survey p4
- ✓ Volunteer for speed watch p4
- ✓ Submit tree planting ideas p10
- ✓ Help out a coffee mornings or bake a cake p11
- ✓ Do Ride and Stride p20

- ✓ Enter the WI Kilsby photo competition p5
- ✓ Log 6 species sightings in Kilsby p23

Kilsby Church 100 Club

Andrea Brown

Thank you to everyone that has supported the Kilsby Church 100 Club from September 2025 - August 2026

Since September we have increased the membership to 88 over the year and currently only 12 numbers left.

Across the 12 months we will have paid out £2140 to 60 lucky winners.

Congratulations to all our winners. 2 payments will also have been made to St Faiths Church. This will be confirmed shortly.

All our members will be receiving a letter reminding them of their numbers/s and to remind them that their 2026/2027 fees are due

1st September. For those paying by S/O, DD these payments will carry on as normal. If by bank transfer - the bank account details are the same.

Full details will be in the correspondence,

If you would like to support the 100 club - please get in touch - there are only 12 numbers currently available.

We will be reviewing the prizes for 26/27 following the increase in our membership over this year.

For any further information please do not hesitate to contact me
andreabrown0909@gmail.com
Mobile - 07861295358.

Thank you all for all of your continued support

Winning numbers for June & July

June Winners

Prize	Ball	Winner
1st	45	M. Longmore
2nd	36	Barry Strong
3rd	22	John Healey
4th	69	Terry Dougan
5th	92	June Bridges

July Winners

Prize	Ball	Winner
1st	92	June Bridges
2nd	76	Kimberly Sitch
3rd	75	Joyce Bartlett
4th	2	Trevor Thomas
5th	80	Jacky Cocks

Contact the Editors at:

kilsbykronickle@outlook.com

Note: When sending in a contribution please could you send photos as attachments, as well as shown within e.g. a Word document for placement requirements. Text can be supplied either within an email or in a Word doc.

Next Edition Deadlines

October Edition - Friday September 18th
December Edition - Friday November 13th

Thank you to all our contributors, distributors and readers.

Editorial team: Polly Redhead, Catherine Peake and Vicki James

Answers to Kilsby WI Quiz on page 17: 1. Vice Admiral Robert Fitzroy 2. Mansfield Park 3. Kings Sutton and Long Buckby 4. Braybrooke 5. Hardingstone 6. Aynho 7. Coco the Clown 8. John Dryden 9. Charles II 10. Shakespeare's or the Warwickshire Avon.