

Roundabout our communities

DEC 23/JAN 24

Kimbolton, Hammish, Leysters, Middleton-on-the-Hill, Bockleton



Our 'reluctant organist' Liz Moore

In this issue...

CAROLS AND CELEBRATIONS

OUR 'THANKFUL' VILLAGE

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PLANS

KEEP DANCING

AND MUCH MORE...

Bi-monthly magazine free to residents, dependent on donations



Roundabout advertiser wins top award, see page 5



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WELCOME

This, our Christmas edition, is packed full of your news, and goodwill to be shared in our communities over the festive period.

Whilst so many suffer around the globe, we celebrate all that is positive in our lives, especially the generosity of spirit that we find all around us.

And our front cover story is exactly that.

OUR RELUCTANT CHURCH ORGANIST

Liz Moore has lived on the family farm in Stretfordbury, since she married her husband Nigel 44 years ago. She describes herself as 'a reluctant church organist' because when she retired from her job as an NHS Manager that's exactly what she became!

She told us:

"I grew up in Bristol and at school we were encouraged to play hymns and church music on the piano. My mother-in-law and sister-in-law both played the organ and so it seemed natural for me to follow the family tradition when they retired."

"I applied to the 'reluctant church organist' scheme to train and never looked back. Playing the organ brought me a whole new community of friends".

Sadly Liz' husband died suddenly in 2022 and she has since decided to move to be near her family in North Somerset, but she has generously agreed to return for one of our carol services this year and for other special occasions.

"I have been so grateful for the support of everyone in these parishes", she said, "and I will enjoy keeping in touch and coming back to play from time to time".

Liz will be playing at Hamnish on Friday 22nd December for the Carol Service.

Details of all our Christmas church services, appear on page 9

You can read more about all our local church music on page 14

THE THANKFUL VILLAGE

Amidst the difficulties surrounding this year's Remembrance services, a joyful historical note, on our very local wartime history.

In the churchyard at St. Mary the Virgin, Middleton-on-the-Hill stands a lamp that records that this parish is 'doubly thankful' in that everyone returned home safely from both the First and Second World Wars.



This parish is now just one of thirteen villages in England and Wales that can record being 'doubly thankful'.

There are none in Scotland or Ireland. In France such communities are referred to as Blessed Villages.

MIDDLETON CAROL CONCERT NEW FORMAT

The format for carols this year has changed and will now feature the Birchpole Singers at 4pm., on 17th December in the church. All welcome

St. Mary the Virgin, Middleton-on-the-Hill PCC

Start your Christmas celebrations this year with a concert

STARRY NIGHT CHRISTMAS

CONCERT

AT THE CHURCH

WITH THE BIRCHPOLE SINGERS

Followed by mince pies and tea

Sunday, 17th December at 4.00pm

All are welcome

For more details phone: Gerlinde 750 674

ADVERTISER VOTED BEST SMALL INDEPENDENT RETAILER

One of our advertisers, Drapers' Lane Deli has been awarded a first prize in the Speciality and Fine Food awards 2023. Their photo is on the inside cover.

Owners Peter and Sam Morgan, who founded the business in 2020 said;

"We have had COVID, Brexit and the cost of living crisis to contend with so we are delighted, blown away".

"To be named the best Independent Retailer is just amazing"

As well as selling a wide range of foods and light meals the couple also host Tapas evenings and other events including private dining and are, of course, loyal supporters of Roundabout.

"Leominster's great, there's a real community feel and we've done our best to get involved and sponsor things"

BALLROOM DANCING GROUP GETTING READY FOR CHRISTMAS

The Ballroom at Leysters' Village Hall may not rival Blackpool but it has certainly inspired some of you to put on your dancing shoes.

"Couples have loved it." Heather reports.

"Allister, the dance teacher goes through the steps (sometimes more than once), and so far we have enjoyed learning the waltz, social foxtrot and rumba...plus a couple of fun dances"

"Numbers are limited but we are compiling a waiting list if we are over subscribed"

At the moment it is only open to couples. If you are interested contact Heather:
mrs.shield22@gmail.com
01568 750040



MOVE EVENTS

WI CHRISTMAS PARTY

7th December 'Bring and Share' Christmas party.
Kimbolton Village Hall 7.30pm

COFFEE MORNINGS

Kimbolton Village Hall 10.30 – 12 noon

December 13th Raffle for Refugees in Leominster
January 10th Raffle for Women's Refuge in Hereford

The AGM of Kimbolton Village Hall will take place on Tuesday January 9th 2024 following the meeting of the Kimbolton Parish Council. Approx. 8.30pm.

REMINDER....CHRISTMAS BINGO HAMNISH VILLAGE HALL

Following on their successful quiz night, Hamnish's committee is holding a Christmas Bingo evening on 1st December 7pm.

All welcome



Bockleton Parish Hall

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Saturday
10th December 7pm.



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AWESOME AUCTION

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**Thursday, 1st February 2024
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goods to be auctioned**

**Auction starts 7.30 p.m.
Proceeds in aid of Leysters church**



HAMNISH GARDENING CLUB

There is no meeting in December.

Annual subscriptions of £20 will become due in January and can be paid either by BACS (the preferred method), cash or cheque. There is a full and interesting programme to look forward to.

Tuesday January 16th Michael Marriot will tell us *How to get the Best from your Roses*. Michael worked with David Austin for 35 years propagating new varieties of roses and, as one of the world's foremost Rosarians, has travelled extensively abroad and in the UK designing rose gardens. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to get the best possible advice for your own roses.

Hamnish Village Hall (HR6 OQW), at 7.30pm. Visitors are always welcome (admission £5).

Competition: to be confirmed.

Chris Beardshaw – advance notice

This meeting has been a long time coming – originally booked before Covid but postponed 3 times owing to the lockdowns. He will now present his talk (Mount Grace Priory Gardens – Redesigning an Arts and Crafts Garden) on Thursday February 15th in Grange Court, Leominster, at 7.30pm.

Booking will be essential. More details will be available in the next Roundabout magazine. Further information from Wendy Pridie (01568 611398), or Alex Millward (01568 750016).

The HGC committee send best wishes to all our members for a peaceful and relaxing Christmas.

RAG RUG WORKSHOPS

December 3rd, 10–4 DAY WORKSHOP, Leysters & Middleton Parish Hall, Leysters (near crossroads on A4112). **HR6 OHP**

Learn Progging & Plaiting/braiding (by request) for recycling textiles. £65 includes beverages and hessian.

January 20th 10–4 DAY WORKSHOP at Leysters & Middleton Village Hall, HR6 OHP (near crossroads on A 4112). Progging & hooking textiles – creative recycling. £70 includes some hessian, drinks, biscuits. Children £25.

Info/bookings: jenni.ragrugs@freeuk.com 01568 750229

EASTERN PARISHES CHURCH SERVICES

DECEMBER 2023 & JANUARY 2024

Sunday 3 December Advent Sunday	Holy Communion 09:00 Holy Communion 11:15 Advent Carol Service 18:00	St Mary, Middleton-on-the-Hill St Bartholomew, Docklow The Priory Church, Leominster
Sunday 10 December	Holy Communion 09:00 Toy Service with Carols 09:15 Holy Communion 11:00 <i>Carol Service 19:00</i>	St Andrew, Leysters St Leonard, Hatfield St Dubricius, Hamnish <i>St Bartholomew, Docklow</i>
<i>Thursday 14 December</i> Sunday 17 December	Holy Communion 09:15 Christmas Carol Service 15:00 Christingle Service 16:00	St John of Jerusalem, Ford St Peter, Pudleston cum Whyle St Michael, Bockleton
<i>Friday 22 December</i>	Christmas Carol Service 16:00 <i>Village Carol Service 19:00</i> <i>Christmas Carol Service 19:00</i> Crib Service 15:00	St Mary, Middleton-on-the-Hill <i>St Dubricius, Hamnish</i> <i>St Luke, Stoke Prior</i> St John of Jerusalem, Ford
Sunday 24 December Christmas Eve	Christmas Carol Service 18:00 Christmas Carol Service 18:30 Midnight Mass 23:15 Midnight Mass 23:15	St Mary, Hope-under-Dinmore St Andrew, Leysters St Peter, Pudleston cum Whyle The Priory Church, Leominster
<i>Monday 25 December</i> Christmas Day Sunday 31 December	<i>Holy Communion 09:30</i> <i>Holy Communion 09:30</i> Holy Communion 09:00 Holy Communion 11:15	<i>St Mary, Humber</i> <i>St Dubricius, Hamnish</i> St James, Kimbolton St Mary, Hope-under-Dinmore
<hr/>		
Sunday 7 January Plough Sunday	Holy Communion 09:00 Holy Communion 11:15 Epiphany Carol Service 18:00	St Dubricius, Hamnish St Luke, Stoke Prior The Priory Church, Leominster
Sunday 14 January	Holy Communion 09:00 Holy Communion 09:15 Holy Communion 11:00 Holy Communion 11:15	St Andrew, Leysters St Leonard, Hatfield St Dubricius, Hamnish St Mary, Humber
Sunday 21 January	Holy Communion 09:00 Holy Communion 09:15** Morning Prayer 11:00 Morning Prayer 11:15*	St Michael, Bockleton St John of Jerusalem, Ford St Mary, Middleton-on-the-Hill St Peter, Pudleston cum Whyle
Sunday 28 January	Holy Communion 09:00 Morning Prayer 09:15* Morning Prayer 11:00 Holy Communion 11:15	St James, Kimbolton St Mary, Humber St Andrew, Leysters St Mary, Hope-under-Dinmore

* These services may be Holy Communion if Clergy are available

** These services are Patronal Festivals

Family and friends welcome at all services

Website <https://leominsterpriory.org.uk/eastern-parishes.php>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/EasternParishes>

QUIZZERS SUPPORT ROUNDABOUT

The October Quiz at The Stockton Cross pub kicked off the winter season with a bang, and raised £143 for your Roundabout Magazine. Thank you from us all. The next one will be on December 7th, in aid of Parkinson's Disease.



The winning team was 'Back to the Fire' (tie break with 'Top of the Crops').



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KIMBOLTON SCHOOL CONTINUES TO DEVELOP

"This year we are working hard to strengthen our links with St James' Church and we've made a great start working alongside our Vicar, Rev'd Mark Long. Mark has been coming into school each week to lead worship, ably supported by Rev'd Fiona Honeysett.

The donations for our Harvest Celebration were overwhelming and the Leominster Food Bank has been most grateful. The money raised will go, as ever, to support our link school in Tanzania to provide lunchtime meals for the children."



Rev'd Fiona with the children

"We have launched several exciting new clubs this term. Chess club has started in earnest with new players learning about the board and the way pieces move, and they have even taught Mr Breakwell and Mr Mears a few rules they didn't know!

Children have also been able to experience a new martial arts club led by Glenn at GP Martial Arts and Fitness in Leominster.

Most unusually we have started a Fencing Club, it is a new venture for us, the feedback so far has been super."

"We are now looking forward to one of our favourite half terms in school this winter, with Carol Services at both St James' and the Priory, Ludlow Pantomime, Christmas Dinner, the Christmas Bazaar, Talent Shows, Bingo and of course our nativity performance. We hope you will be able to join us for some or all of these events."

"Our value for this half term is Awareness and we will be reflecting on the awareness of all those involved with the birth of Jesus, especially the Kings and the shepherds."

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT FIELD ADJOINING A4112 AND CHESTNUT AVENUE, KIMBOLTON.

There has been significant interest in the recent approval by Herefordshire Council of the housing development between Chestnut Avenue and the Stockton Cross in Kimbolton.

The original application dates back to 2018. It has been through various iteration, with the developer seeking to adjust plans and changes to meet new surface and foul water requirements.

The application was finally approved by Herefordshire Planning Committee on 27th September 2023 for 25 dwellings including 6 affordable housing units (4 x 2 bed homes and 2 x 3 bed homes).

The development is broadly aligned with the Kimbolton Neighbourhood Development Plan. The development is a significant proportion of the Herefordshire Core Strategy target of a minimum of 30 new homes in the parish for the period the development plan is in place. The development is also within the built up village settlement boundary. Whilst the development does not meet the target of a minimum of 40% of properties are affordable and made available to meet local needs; the developer has increased the number proposed from four to six.

Kimbolton with Hamnish Parish Council has represented the views of the community throughout the process. Focus has been on ensuring that affordable homes are made available to local people and families with a connection to the village; the design and finish of houses should be in keeping with the village; the surface and foul water treatment design should not impact existing properties, especially those already at risk of flooding events, and finally securing Section 106 monies allocated directly to the parish.

A development of this scale and nature attracts various financial contributions to the parish and wider area, which would need to be secured via a Section 106 Agreement. This includes contributions directly to the parish for education, open spaces and transport infrastructure.

Kimbolton with Hamnish will continue to take an active role in the development as it moves forward, making sure it is fit for purpose and a positive contribution to the parish.

More details on the development and Section 106 heads of terms are available on the Herefordshire Council Planning website (search P181384/F).

The Parish council is also available to contact if anyone has questions. (details of the clerk appear in our parish directory page 18.)
www.kimboltonhamnish.co.uk

KIMBOLTON COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Kimbolton with Hamnish Parish Council is in the process of assessing the viability of a Community Speed Watch scheme in the 30mph zone through Kimbolton village.

Community Speed Watch is a community driven road safety initiative, coordinated by West Mercia Police but managed and run by volunteers in the community.

It involves trained volunteers from the community, monitoring the speeds of vehicles with approved, hand-held speed measurement devices.

Where vehicle speeds are found to be inappropriate, a letter is sent to the registered keeper by the police with the aim of encouraging them to reduce their speed when driving in the future.

The initial steps include West Mercia Police conducting a road traffic assessment to confirm the need for the scheme and risk assessments to ensure the scheme can be safely conducted in the area.

Kimbolton with Hamnish Parish Council also needs to ensure that there is significant support for such a scheme as well as find a minimum of six volunteers to take part in the initiative.

We would like to hear from you:

1. If you support a Community Speed Watch scheme in Kimbolton
2. If you'd like to volunteer to take part in the scheme

Please email kimboltonspeeding@outlook.com to show your support or volunteer.

KIMBOLTON WITH HAMNISH PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday 9th January 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting Village Hall

Tuesday 5th March Ordinary Council Meeting Village Hall

OUR CHURCH MUSIC

All of our Parish churches have a church organ but they are quite different. The only similarity is that they provide the sound that enhances services.

In the last few years the organ at Bockleton has been replaced and that of Middleton on-the-Hill nurtured. Leysters is undertaking the enormous task of raising money to restore their organ. Hamnish has the original compact one hundred year old organ.

Kimbolton's pipes were seriously damaged when the spire was not watertight and the complex electric swell system failed. Over the last eighteen months the organ has been totally restored, the pipes cleaned and the electrical system replaced by Nicholsons' of Malvern.

All of our organs have been played recently, by Liz Moore.

She has often travelled to several churches on one day and had to cope with the vagaries of each instrument, from a keyboard that decides to play all the 'right notes in the wrong places', to one that decides to squeak or just not produce a note!

Without her expertise and guidance during the restoration, the organ at Kimbolton would not sound so splendid.

Bringing music to our churches is a gift that Liz has given us in abundance and we are truly grateful.

Joyce Marston



BOCKLETON 100 CLUB – 2023/2024

October 2023 Prize Draw – The winners were number 2 David Norsworthy, and number 13 John Baker Beale.

November 2023 Prize Draw – The winners were number 34 Jim & Lyne Allen, and number 80 Peter Tyler.

Congratulations and enjoy your winnings.

MIDDLETON-ON-THE-HILL PARISH CHARITY

The above charity is managed by a small group of local trustees. It is their duty to manage the charity's assets and to distribute the income from those assets annually.

In accordance with the original aims of the charity the income is to be used for three purposes: the Church, Advancement of Education and Relief in Need.

It has been the practice of recent years for the trustees to issue grants to Middleton Church, St James School, students in secondary education, senior citizens over the age of seventy and occasional individual cases of need.

The charity owns three small parcels of land, two of which are occasionally available by tender. If anyone is interested, please enquire details from the secretary.

The trustees met recently to distribute last year's income.

If you live in the Middleton on the Hill parish and feel you might qualify and have not received a grant, please contact Mrs C Halls at Highlands 750257.

AND FINALLY.....

'Roundabout our Communities' includes news from and for a group of hamlets and villages to the East of the A49.

We have about 1000 residents and we publish bi-monthly, delivering free of charge to every household in Kimbolton, Hamnish, Leysters, Middleton-on-the-Hill and Bockleton... and a few other places too. Currently it costs around £7 a year, per household, to produce your magazine.

Copies are also available in local public places and as a download on the home page of the Kimbolton with Hamnish Parish website.

www.kimboltonhamnish.co.uk

We are immensely grateful for your news, your comments and your fundraising this year, and we look forward to another successful collaboration in 2024.

Both the editorial team and the delivery team are all volunteers, and if you would like to join us you would be very welcome. Just send a message or speak to one of the team.

We have some new advertisers this time, thanks to the excellent work of Rachel Evason (advertisingkimbolton@gmail.com) and we hope that, in the long term, this will make our magazine self-supporting...but we aren't quite there yet.

If you would like to contribute to our costs our bank details are:

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If you prefer, cheques should be made out to Roundabout our Communities and can be given to any member of the team.

We all wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.
Keep your news coming.

Judie Welsh

edteamkimbolton@gmail.com

*Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the editorial team. We are not responsible for goods and services advertised.
All contributions may be edited at the discretion of the editor.*

CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- 1 Christmas Bingo Hamnish Village Hall 7pm
- 3 Rag Rugs Workshop (all day) Leysters VH
- 5 Kimbolton with Hamnish Parish Council Meeting VH 7.30pm
- 7 Kimbolton WI Kimbolton Christmas party Village Hall
- 7 Quiz ay Stockton Cross Kimbolton 7pm
- 10 Bockleton Parish Hall Christmas Skittles 7pm
- 13 Coffee morning Kimbolton VH. For Refugees in Leominster
- 14 Dabblers Art Leysters Village Hall 7pm

JANUARY

- 9 Kimbolton with Hamnish Parish Council meeting 7.30
- 9 AGM Kimbolton Village Hall 8.30 pm
- 10 Coffee morning Kimbolton VH. Women's Refuge Hereford
- 16 Hamnish Gardening Club Michael Marriot
- 20 Rag Rugs Workshop (all day) Leysters VH

FEBURARY

- 1 Awesome auction The Duke of York Leysters 7.30pm
- 15 Hamnish Gardening Club, Chris Beardshaw, Grange Court

MARCH

- 5 Kimbolton with Hamnish Parish Council meeting 7.30pm

DATES FOR ALL CHURCH SERVICES APPEAR ON PAGE 9

PARISH DIRECTORY

All telephone numbers are 01568 unless shown otherwise.

Parish Councils

Bockleton	Chair: VACANT	
	Clerk: Carole Hirst	07903 377066
Kimbolton	Chair: Ed Rollings	750476
	Clerk: Annabel Beaumont	kimboltonclerk@gmail.com
Leysters & Middleton on the Hill:		
	Chair: Edward Chandler	750433 chandler.leysters@gmail.com
	Clerk: Clare Halls	750257

Local Councillor (Upton Ward): John Stone 01584 711227

Vicar and Churchwardens

Reverend Mark Long Email: teamvicareast@leominsterteam.org.uk

Bockleton	Rosemary Adams	01584 811066
Hamnish	Des Hall	760665
Kimbolton	Joyce Marston	615988
Leysters	Heather Shield	750040
Middleton	Robin Moseley	750226
	Gerlinde Atkins-Child	750674

Village/Parish Hall Bookings

Bockleton	Carol Wall	750463
	Email: bockletonparishhall@gmail.com	
Hamnish	David Cornwallis	760243
Kimbolton	Denise Burston	611596
Leysters	Linda Jones	750255
	Email: lindmarg18@googlemail.com	

Schools

St James C of E Primary School Kimbolton	612691
Nursery School	614743

Clubs & Societies

Kimbolton WI:	Rachel Palmer	Email: kimboltonwi@gmail.com
Hamnish Gardening Club:	Rowena Gale	615855
	Wendy Pridie	611398
Kimbolton Air Rifle Club:	Des Hall	760665
Kimbolton Badminton Club:	Liz Davies	615367
Leysters Reading Group:	Linda Jones	750255
Woolpack Knitters and Dabblers	Heather Shield	750040

Website information: www.easternparishes.org

For all Leysters & Middleton village news: www.middletonandleystersgroupparishcouncil.gov.uk

For all Kimbolton and Hamnish village news: www.kimboltonwithhamnish.co.uk

Roundabout magazine news: edteamkimbolton@gmail.com



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Contributions for the next (February) issue by Friday 12th January please
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