

# Roundabout our communities

FEB/MARCH 26

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



Owners pledge new start for The Stockton Cross

## In this issue...

PUB, SURGERY AND BANKING HUB  
ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

CHURCH AND PARISH NEWS

WILDLIFE ACTION

AND MUCH MORE...

OUR GROUPS AND CLUBS

Bi-monthly magazine free to residents, dependent on donations





*Kate Lane owner of the Stockton Cross with Harry Tyler, new chef/manager*



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# WELCOME

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WELCOME to the February March edition.

Some say this is a gloomy time of the year but happily, in our communities there is a buzz of excitement. Not only are we looking forward to the new 'state of the art' surgery opening (scheduled for March), but we have a personal pledge from the owners of the Stockton Cross to get it back on track. That should brighten up those murky February evenings!

All that, plus events for you to enjoy, ways to help our wildlife through winter and new activities popping up as fast as the snowdrops.

But first that lead story.

## OWNERS PLEDGE NEW START FOR THE STOCKTON CROSS

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Customers of our 'local' were delighted to be invited to meet Kate Lane, owner of The Stockton Cross and three other pubs in the Baiting House collection, and young chef Harry Tyler, on Christmas day to hear about their exciting plans.

After yet another closure at The Stockton Cross, it was a welcome surprise for loyal customers.

From the end of January, they learned, a spruced-up Stockton Cross will re-open, initially for drinks and from early February for home-made locally-sourced food, produced by a new bespoke team. And happily, Harry and Kate came again to talk to Roundabout in the New Year to give us more details.

Harry told us: "I am a Worcester boy and have always loved being in a kitchen. I went to catering college and joined the Baiting House Group in 2017 training under Head Chef Charles Bradley. I loved the team there".

"I left to go to London for more experience and worked as a chef in several successful restaurants before taking a trip to Australia for six months".

"To my delight, when I came home recently, I had a call from Kate asking if I would like to take on the Stockton Cross and build my own team. I was thrilled, it was an instant 'yes'. The perfect opportunity at the perfect time".

Kate said; " There was an element of fate about it, I think."

"Andrew my husband, and I had a few difficult years personally, and were perhaps not as 'hands on' recently with the Stockton Cross as we should have been. We always appreciated the loyalty of local customers and now we are delighted to have a great new chef in Harry, and a refurbished pub all ready to welcome them again."



Kate and Andrew met at university, he was from Manchester, but she is very much a local girl.

"My great grandfather farmed at Upton Court, Middleton on-the-Hill, he was Oliver Dowdig Lane. He had 250 acres, staff and servants ...but lost it all gambling in the 1880s. His wife had died after giving birth to my grandfather so, leaving him in the care of relatives, Oliver went to farm in Australia."

"My father was born in Upper Sapey, so when, after living and working in London and Oxfordshire, we moved back, it felt right to buy not only our house but the Baiting House, our 'local' and try to revive it."

The rest is history. They now have three thriving pubs of which they are rightly proud, and hopefully the Stockton Cross will join them once more.

Harry, a Rugby enthusiast and wild swimmer, has already helped them oversee some improvements although he says there is more to be done, but they are all keen to get the doors open again first and carry out more improvements in the months ahead.

"We shall have beer from Wye Valley Brewery with guest ales from time to time and the food will be hearty, home-made and a great combination."

"I have already had some approaches from local people wanting to join the new team and would welcome anyone who is interested."

Harry will be living in the flat above the pub so you can just pop in or contact him for this and any other enquiry on:

01568 612509 or follow The Stockton Cross on Instagram or facebook.

Our photo on the inside front cover shows Kate and Harry at the Stockton Cross.

#### **EDITOR'S APOLOGY**

I apologise to new advertiser Tom Dines, TDE ELECTRICAL who was included in my welcome in December.

I mistakenly said he is based in Hereford, when he is actually in Stoke Prior.

You can find his ad on page 17



## QUIZ AND SUPPER

**Middleton & Leysters Parish Hall  
Friday 17th April 2026 at 7.00pm**

Come and enjoy a great supper with good company and a chance to win

Tickets £12.50 to include the meal but BYO drinks

Book with: Edward Chandler on 01568 750433  
Amanda Griffiths on 01568 750208

## DISPLAY AND TALK ABOUT PASTEL PAINTING

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Come along to a talk and exhibition of pastel paintings by professional artist, Sue Gould, of Bramble Cottage Artwork, Ludlow.

Find out about pastel painting, have a go if you like. Artwork for sale, hot drinks provided.

19th February, 7–8.30pm at Leysters and Middleton-on-the-Hill Parish Hall £3 entry, no booking required, just turn up. Everyone welcome.





## HAMNISH GARDENING CLUB

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 17th February.

Moors Meadow garden has been voted regional winner for the Midlands and East Region of England in the UK-wide RHS Partner Garden of the Year 2025 competition, following a nationwide public vote organised by the RHS so we are very pleased indeed to be welcoming Ros Bissell who will talk on 'Shady gardens'. The competition is for 'Five snowdrops'.

On 17th March we look forward to a talk by Alun and Jill Whitehead from Aulden Farm who will tell us about 'Wild Shropshire, gardens and more.' The competition is entitled 'All things bright and beautiful' so it will be interesting to see what arrives!

All meetings start at 7.30pm with doors opening at 7pm for tea and coffee. Visitors are welcome to join us (£5).

The full programme for 2026 is on the [www.kimboltonhamnish.co.uk](http://www.kimboltonhamnish.co.uk) website.

You can contact the club on [hamnishgardeningclub@yahoo.com](mailto:hamnishgardeningclub@yahoo.com)

## Annual Awesome Auction



5th March Duke of York, Leysters  
Viewing from 6.30, sale from  
7pm  
Funding window repairs at the  
church







## **KIMBOLTON COFFEE MORNINGS**

Kimbolton Village Hall 10.30 – 12.

February 11th	Raffle for Marie Curie
March 11th	Raffle for Guide Dogs for the Blind

## **WI NEWS**

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Kimbolton WI continues to be very vibrant and busy.

We had our usual fabulous Christmas party in December including decorations and Secret Santa, a hilarious pass the parcel style game and a fantastic array of party food and mulled wine.

Sadly, due to the weather warnings our January meeting on Regenerative Farming had to be postponed and we hope to enjoy that at our October meeting instead.

February is our AGM  
March is our birthday meal at the Salway Arms  
April is a Rag Rug demonstration  
May is Reiki healing and alternative therapies.

Anyone who would like to come and join us we welcome visitors at £5 a session. This is to enable those who don't wish to commit to enjoy some of our activities. Meetings are on the second Thursday of the month

More information from Alison Alderson on 07929179042

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## **BANKING HUB TO OPEN IN LEOMINSTER**

If you have been struggling since the recent bank closures you will be pleased to hear that a Banking Hub is opening in Lion's Court, Leominster this spring.

It will be open Monday to Friday and will initially include representatives from Barclays, Nat West and HSBC. Lloyds and Halifax are to join soon...this facility will hopefully develop over time.

More information on facebook or from Cash Access UK/ Herefordshire



# THERE'S NO HOLE LIKE HOME...

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Members of the Leominster area branch of Herefordshire Wildlife Trust, some of whom live in our villages, are intending to put up bird boxes in the local area in February so I want to share with you an article from the Wildlife Trust:

Many garden birds nest or roost in hollow trees and holes in trees. Unfortunately, these days most old and lying trees and branches, which offer the best nesting and roosting sites, are routinely cut down and removed. This leaves fewer places for birds to set up homes and raise families.

Specially constructed nest boxes imitate the holes and cavities in dead standing wood that are usually cleared away.

A bird box can be a real help to garden birds – an estimated 2 million fledglings are reared in nest boxes each year. And it's a wonderful feeling to see a blue tit or robin investigating a nest box that you made and put up yourself.

For simple instructions go to  
<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-build-bird-box>

Do get in touch with us at "leominsterbranch@herefordshirewt.co.uk" for more information.

Diana Emes  
Communications Secretary





# SCHOOL CHRISTMAS A GREAT SUCCESS...

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Members of our WI weren't the only ones who had a great Christmas.

St James' Primary school enjoyed performing a nativity, PTFA Christmas gift shop, a trip to the pantomime in Ludlow and a Christmas lunch.

"One of the highlights was the fantastic performance of *Born in a Barn*."

"The children did an amazing job bringing the nativity story to life with confidence, enthusiasm and plenty of festive spirit. Their hard work truly shone through, and it was a joy to watch them perform so proudly."

"The last week of term began with our much-loved PTFA Christmas Gift Shop on Monday. The children had a fantastic time choosing, buying and carefully wrapping a special gift for a family member. A huge thank you goes to the PTFA for organising and running this event so smoothly – it is always a firm favourite with the children."

"Tuesday was full of festive fun with Christmas Dinner Day, Festive Bingo and our Santa Run. From colourful party hats to big smiles, the school was buzzing with excitement, laughter and good cheer. It was a day full of celebration and enjoyment for everyone involved."

"The whole school enjoyed a brilliant trip to the pantomime in Ludlow. There were smiles, cheers and lots of laughter throughout the performance."

"We rounded off the term with a beautiful Christingle Service at church, followed by a very special visit from Father Christmas himself. It was a perfect way to end a wonderful term, filled with reflection, joy and togetherness."

"Our return to school after the holidays was just as special, finishing the first week with a wonderful snowy day."

"Looking ahead, we are excited to continue our learning, including discovering more about Chinese New Year with a special visit from Glenn and his lion dance. We look forward to all that the new term has to bring."

Charlotte Hyde, Head of School





*"They rounded off the term with a beautiful Christingle Service at church, followed by a very special visit from Father Christmas himself."*



## **KIMBOLTON WITH HAMNISH PARISH COUNCIL**

A reminder that you can report road issues (like potholes) to Herefordshire council: <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/travel-and-transport/roads/report-a-road-problem/>

You can also report drainage and other issues (including Public Rights of Way) around the Kimbolton and Hamnish villages to the Parish Council.

**Tuesday 3rd March 2026** Ordinary Council Meeting

**Tuesday 5th May 2026** AGM and Ordinary Council Meeting (Start 7.30pm)

<https://kimboltonhamnish.co.uk/parish>

Herefordshire County Councillor [john.stone@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.stone@herefordshire.gov.uk)

Member of Parliament (Green Party) [ellie.chowns.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:ellie.chowns.mp@parliament.uk)

## **AND FINALLY.....**

Once again thank you all for your news and your views and to all of you who deliver our magazines each time. If you could help to deliver please ring Rachel Palmer on 07968 233387. If you are already delivering and could do with help or if you aren't receiving your copy, please ring her too.

As ever we love to hear from you. Our addresses are:  
[edteamkimbolton@gmail.com](mailto:edteamkimbolton@gmail.com) (contributions) Judie Welsh  
[advertisingkimbolton@gmail.com](mailto:advertisingkimbolton@gmail.com) (advertising) Rachel Evason

Or, if you would like to contribute directly to our costs our bank details are:  
Sort code 53-50-41 Account 62513761

Cheques should be made payable to Roundabout our Communities, and can be given to any member of the team.

**To view Roundabout online visit [kimboltonhamnish.co.uk](http://kimboltonhamnish.co.uk)  
or Middleton & Leysters Parish Website**

[www.middletonandleysters.groupparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.middletonandleysters.groupparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Input your email address on the website to receive news on forthcoming events and local issues





# EASTERN PARISHES CHURCH SERVICES

## FEBRUARY & MARCH 2026

Sunday 1 February <i>Candlemas</i>	09:00 Holy Communion 09:15 Holy Communion 11:15 Holy Communion	St Mary, Middleton-on-the-Hill St Peter, Pudleston cum Whyte St Luke, Stoke Prior
Sunday 8 February	09:00 Holy Communion 09:15 Holy Communion 11:00 Holy Communion 11:15 Holy Communion	St Dubricius, Hamnish St Leonard, Hatfield St Andrew, Leysters St Mary the Virgin, Humber
Sunday 15 February	09:00 Holy Communion 09:15 Holy Communion 11:00 Morning Prayer 11:15 Holy Communion	St Michael, Bockleton St John of Jerusalem, Ford St Mary, Middleton-on-the-Hill St Peter, Pudleston cum Whyte
Wednesday 18 February <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	10:30 Holy Communion with Ashes 15:00 Holy Communion with Ashes 19:30 Holy Communion with Ashes	The Priory Church, Leominster St Andrew, Leysters The Priory Church, Leominster
Sunday 22 February <i>Lent I</i>	09:00 Holy Communion 09:15 Holy Communion 11:15 Holy Communion 11:15 Holy Communion	St James the Great, Kimbolton St Mary the Virgin, Humber St Mary, Hope under Dinmore St Bartholomew, Docklow
Sunday 1 March <i>Lent II</i>	09:00 Holy Communion 09:15 Holy Communion 11:15 Holy Communion	St Mary, Middleton-on-the-Hill St Peter, Pudleston cum Whyte St John of Jerusalem, Ford
Sunday 8 March <i>Lent III</i>	09:00 Holy Communion 09:15 Holy Communion 11:00 Holy Communion 11:15 Holy Communion	St Dubricius, Hamnish St Leonard, Hatfield St Andrew, Leysters St Mary the Virgin, Humber
Sunday 15 March <i>Mothering Sunday</i>	10:00 Holy Communion 10:00 Holy Communion	St Andrew, Leysters St Luke, Stoke Prior
Sunday 22 March <i>Lent V</i>	09:00 Holy Communion 09:15 Holy Communion 11:15 Holy Communion	St James the Great, Kimbolton St Mary the Virgin, Humber St Mary, Hope-under-Dinmore
Sunday 29 March <i>Palm Sunday</i>	10:00 Holy Communion 10:00 Holy Communion	St Michael, Bockleton St Mary the Virgin, Humber

A midweek Holy Communion Service is hosted at Hennor House every Tuesday at 09:30

Includes tea/coffee afterwards – all welcome! \* Patronal Festival Service

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

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

### Leominster Team Ministry

The Forbury Chapel, Church Street,  
Leominster, HR6 8NQ  
Reception 01568 612124  
Office 01568 612859  
[office@leominsterteam.org.uk](mailto:office@leominsterteam.org.uk)  
Reception is open Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 1pm

### Team Vicar | Eastern Parishes

Mark R D Long  
New Vicarage, Kimbolton, HR6 OEJ  
Home 01568 605054  
Mobile 07754 588478  
[teamvicareast@leominsterteam.org.uk](mailto:teamvicareast@leominsterteam.org.uk)



# PARISH DIRECTORY

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All telephone numbers are 01568 unless shown otherwise.

## Parish Councils

<b>Bockleton</b>	Chair: VACANT	
	Clerk: Carole Hirst	07903 377066
<b>Kimbolton</b>	Chair: Ed Rollings	750476
	Clerk: Annabel Beaumont	kimboltonclerk@gmail.com
<b>Leysters &amp; Middleton on the Hill:</b>		
	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 Rural Dean and Team Vicar

Email: [teamvicareast@leominsterteam.org.uk](mailto:teamvicareast@leominsterteam.org.uk) 07754 588478

<b>Bockleton</b>	VACANT	
<b>Hamnish</b>	Des Hall	760665
<b>Kimbolton</b>	Joyce Marston	615988
<b>Leysters</b>	Heather Shield	750040
<b>Middleton</b>	Robin Moseley	750226
	Gerlinde Atkins-Child	750674

## Village/Parish Hall Bookings

<b>Bockleton</b>	Laura Armishaw	07903 912079
	Email: <a href="mailto:bockletonparishhall@gmail.com">bockletonparishhall@gmail.com</a>	
<b>Hamnish</b>	David Cornwallis	760243
<b>Kimbolton</b>	Denise Burston	07868 349136
<b>Leysters</b>	Linda Jones	750255
	Email: <a href="mailto:lindmarg18@googlemail.com">lindmarg18@googlemail.com</a>	

## Schools

St James C of E Primary School Kimbolton	612691
Nursery School:	614743
Bredenbury Primary	01885 483253

## Clubs & Societies

Kimbolton WI:	Alison Alderson	07929 179042
		<a href="mailto:kimbolton_wi@herefordshirewi.org.uk">kimbolton_wi@herefordshirewi.org.uk</a>
Hamnish Gardening Club:	Wendy Pridie	611398
Kimbolton Air Rifle Club:	Des Hall	760665
Leysters Reading Group:	Linda Jones	750255
Woolpack Knitters and Dabblers	Heather Shield	750040

## Doctors;

Ryland (Leominster)	614141
Bromyard	01885 483253
Tenbury	01584 810343

## Roundabout magazine news:

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

## Roundabout advertising:

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



## CALENDAR

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### FEBRUARY

- 11 Kimbolton Coffee Morning (Marie Curie)  
10.30–12
- 17 Hamnish Gardening Club  
7pm Hamnish Village Hall

### MARCH

- 5 Awesome Auction  
Duke of York Leysters from 6.30pm
- 11 Kimbolton Coffee Morning (Guide Dogs)  
10.30–12
- 17 Hamnish Gardening Club  
7pm Hamnish Village Hall
- 27 Easter Bingo Hamnish Village Hall 7pm

### APRIL

- 17 Quiz and supper  
Middleton & Leysters Parish Hall 7pm

KIMBOLTON WI is on the second Thursday of each month.

**Contact us: [edteamkimbolton@gmail.com](mailto:edteamkimbolton@gmail.com) (contributions) Judie Welsh  
[advertisingkimbolton@gmail.com](mailto:advertisingkimbolton@gmail.com) (advertising) Rachel Evason**

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**Contributions for the next (February/March) edition by Friday 13th March please  
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