



Kettlestone & Pensthorpe Parish News February 2023

If you would like to include an article for publication in the Parish News, please send your item by 25th of the preceding month to the Editor: kettlestonepc@googlemail.com.

Kettlestone Parish website: <https://kettlestoneparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>

Kettlestone Parish Council

Contact details: **Clerk** Joanna Otte, Little Manor, Thursford Rd, Little Snoring, NR21 0JN.

Telephone: 01328 822366

Email: kettlestonepc@googlemail.com

Councillors: Gill Ashby (Chair) 878639; Christine Hipkin 878241; Marlene Hoad 822101; Trevor Hoad 822101; Robert Kilbourn (Vice-Chair) 851633; Barbara Wyvill 878790. Agenda, minutes and other information is available on the village website (address above).

The next meeting is on **Monday 20 March at 7pm** in the Village Hall.

Kettlestone Parish Council email notification

The Parish Council invites you to be part of an email database to be used to notify parishioners of urgent and / or important matters which cannot wait until the next newsletter e.g. major planning applications, health and safety issues. Your details will only be used for this purpose and will not be passed on to other people or organisations.

If you would like to be included in the database, please send your email address too

kettlestonepc@googlemail.com

with 'Kettlestone email database' in the subject box.

Hardship Grants

If you are experiencing need or hardship, please do consider applying for a Hardship Grant from the Parish Council. (Your application will be considered by a working group of parish councillors supported by the Clerk and will remain **confidential**.) Contact the Parish Clerk details above.

Finding Help with the Cost of Living Crisis

Details of the government schemes to help with rising energy costs can be accessed via North Norfolk District Council's website: <https://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/projects/advice-and-support/> or telephone customer services on 01263 513811.

Anglian Water Reminder

Anglian water will be flushing the water system in Kettlestone on the 14 February (Holt Road) and 15 February (Clipstone Lane, Fulmodeston Road, Holbrigg Lane, Lacey Way, Orchard Grove, The Street) between 10 pm and 6am. They advise residents not to use the hot water system- showers, dishwasher etc and to isolate water softeners during this time. For more information use the following links:

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/siteassets/hidden/iya/ppm/gunth5ma.pdf> and

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/help-and-advice/drinking-water-advice/mains-water-flushing/>.

Kettlestone Almshouses Charity Trust

One bedroom, single-storey almshouse available in Kettlestone with garden, and off-road parking.

To qualify to fill this vacancy you should be of good character; in reasonable health; have a local connection to Kettlestone; be in need (either social and/or financial) and able to look after yourself. Applicants must complete an application form and be prepared to produce sufficient testimonials to support the application and be able to attend an interview.

Please write to the Clerk to the Trustees, Little Manor, Thursford Road, Little Snoring, NR21 0JN or email kettlestonecharities@googlemail.com for an application form, stating your name and address.

Churches Trust annual cycle ride.

Once more Brian and Gill Ashby completed the cycle ride. The Churches half of the money they raised came to £305.78.



The PCC appreciate Brian and Gill's support over the years and say a huge thank you. Judy Manuel

Kettlestone Church Services

Communion with Revd Robin Stapleford at 11:15am on 12 March.

More information can be found on the website:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10291/>

100 Club

Nov: 1st P Bishop; 2nd J Merrick; 3rd G Rivett

Dec: 1st P Dixon; 2nd S Rhodes; 3rd B Brown

Christmas Bonus Prize: L Capsticks

A gentle reminder for those of you who want to be included in the 100 Club but have not yet paid! If you want Bank details please contact me.

Many thanks to those who have paid so promptly and good luck. Angie Waterston

Kettlestone Village Hall News

As many of you are included on the Village Email List, I felt I should let you know that I am handing the List over to Corinne, who is the Committee's minute-taker and has helped at countless events and occasions since she joined us. We now have a new email address: info.kettlestonevh@gmail.com. If you wish to publicise anything in the village via the list, please use the that email to contact Corinne.

At the AGM of the Village Hall Committee & Social Club in May, I will be retiring. We are giving everyone advance warning so that those who might be interested in joining may ask current committee members about what it involves. It has been a great pleasure and privilege to work with the team, and it has been a wonderful way to get to know Kettlestone and its residents. I must pay tribute to my co-committee members who all work together to form a really effective team. It has been great working together, through thick and thin (Covid, VE Day, The Queen's Platinum Jubilee etc.). Each year – following the AGM – we have decided on "who does what". It's very much horses for courses. Please get in touch if you would like to know more or discuss ways of contributing to the work of the Village Hall in providing a very active social and community hub for Kettlestone. Best wishes, Erica.

We now have an exciting programme of monthly talks planned for the first half of the year. More details will be emailed nearer the time and we hope we have something to appeal to everyone. Unless indicated otherwise, talks will not be ticketed but donations would be very welcome as most speakers charge, often supporting local charities. If you are not on our email list and would like to receive information by email or for any other queries or comments please contact us at our new email address info.kettlestonevh@gmail.com. To save paper and printing costs we will no longer be sending out the quarterly events leaflet.

Events

- Fri 24 Feb 7pm Talk by Simon Temple 'Sustainable Farming'
- Sun 5 March 10am – 12 noon: Sunday Breakfast
- Fri 24 March 7pm Talk by Catherine Temple 'Cheese Production' and cheese tasting

Regular Events

Bar open every Friday evening from 7pm.

Table tennis groups play on Wed evenings 7-9pm and Fri mornings 10am -12. £2 a session. No need to book. Newcomers very welcome.

Crafts & Games afternoons 2-4pm on the second Wed in the month. The next session: **Wed 8 Feb**. £3 a session includes tea and cake. Currently we have a mixed craft group (bring along your own project) and play Rummikub and cards.

We would also like to welcome Little Snoring residents interested in our events or activities. We have a lovely, warm hall with good facilities and a friendly atmosphere. Do come along and meet us. If you would like someone to accompany you please contact a committee member or email: info.kettlestonevh@gmail.com. Corinne Merrick

How Green is Your Pet?

We love our pets! We protect and pander them. We get much pleasure from having them around. But we have responsibilities: not only to the animal (that it's treated properly and appropriately for its needs) but also to our family (that they are kept safe from any danger), as well as to our community and to the environment.

Nowadays, almost all dog owners are very responsible in dealing with their excretions. But dog-poo-bags aren't always environmentally-friendly: some contain plastic additives, so it is best to use compostable bags made from corn starch. These can go on the compost. See: <https://adiosplastic.co.uk/blogs/blog/how-to-compost-dog-poop>. Cat litter can also go on the compost if it made of compostable material such as recycled paper, wood shavings, corn kernels, or nutshells. Compost containing cat and dog poo is suitable only for use on non-edible plants. Avoid litter-tray products containing sodium bentonite clay because it is mined, a process with environmental hazards.

What about feeding our animals? Meat and fish production is environmentally damaging, although chicken is less harmful than beef, as are certified-sustainable fish products. But dogs don't need meat and fish; like us, they are omnivores and can live well on a plant-based diet. Not so cats, which are obligate carnivores. But insect-based pet foods will soon be available and will perhaps be a more environmentally-friendly option (if you can persuade notoriously fussy cats to eat them!). Buying pet food in bulk reduces packaging and it's better if the packaging is made from recycled and recyclable materials.

When out and about with the dog it is important to think of the possible effects on wildlife – especially the effects of uncontrolled dogs on breeding birds. And while one might be touched to find the 'gift' of a field-mouse or a blue tit on the doorstep, cats can wreak havoc among our native mammals and birds. Some cats are great hunters so should be kept indoors an hour after sunrise and an hour before sunset, and during bird-nesting time. Domestic animals can suffer boredom so toys are a good idea, but choose sustainable, recyclable, and plastic-free options.

High levels of pesticides in rivers may be partly caused by pet parasite treatment, both from topical treatments ('spot-ons'), which wash off into waste-water, or systemic treatments (tablets) which are excreted in urine and faeces. Parasite treatment should not be 'blanket' treatment but should consider the animal's specific needs.

We've discussed dogs and cats here, but humans share their lives with many other kinds of animals: mammals such as gerbils, rabbits, and hamsters; birds, especially chickens; reptiles, such as snakes; and insects. All have their own delights and challenges – and potential environmental impact. Buy thoughtfully and care for them with this in mind and you'll have healthier and happier animals and a better environment.

For further information, see next week's Bus Shelter display.

Climate and Environment Group (wecan@educari.com)