

# KENDAL

Winter 2021

More than a market town – Your newsletter from Kendal Town Council

## Merry Christmas

from Cllr Doug Rathbone, Mayor of Kendal

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone who lives and works in Kendal a very happy Christmas and all very best wishes for a safer, happier 2021.

It is a time of year when local communities come together which has been particularly important this year and is something that our Town Council, and I as Mayor, have tried to encourage as we continue to live with the challenges of the ongoing pandemic.

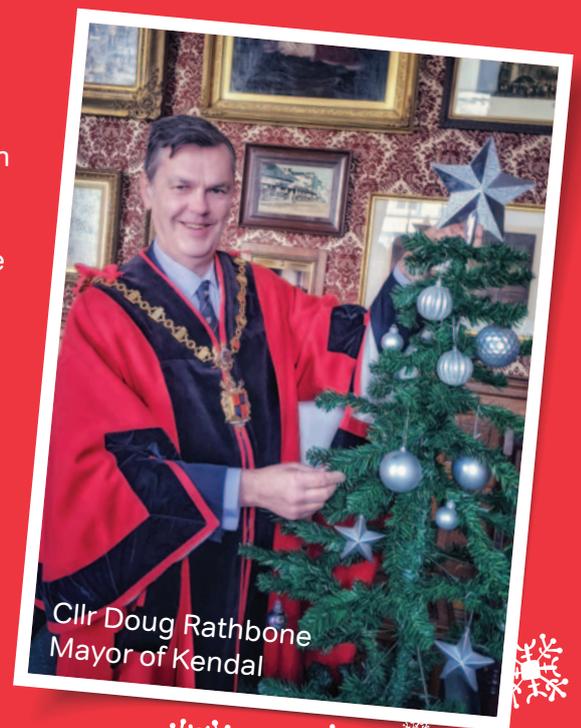
Supporting each other is something that our town has continued to do with kindness, imagination and love for our fellow residents. So many people have risen to the challenges of 2021 and all my thanks go out to those who have helped so many others – it has been a joy to see. It has been humbling to meet and to hear of selfless action from so many volunteers and those in the NHS and care professions.

Whatever your faith, or none, I hope that you will be able to celebrate this season in some way and be able to reach out for that contact that is so important

to all of us; to join in with the hope that Christmas gives us.

As your Town Council we've continued to support the town and moved forward with initiatives ranging from our work with the Climate Change Citizens Jury, to attempts to influence national and local planning. From helping with youth activities to honouring those we have sadly lost. Various events have disappointingly still been disrupted, we have not had the traditional links with our twin towns Rinteln and Killarney, and the lights switch-on was disrupted by Storm Arwen. However, I feel a renewed sense of hope for the coming new year.

My fellow Councillors and I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and blessings for 2022.



Cllr Doug Rathbone  
Mayor of Kendal

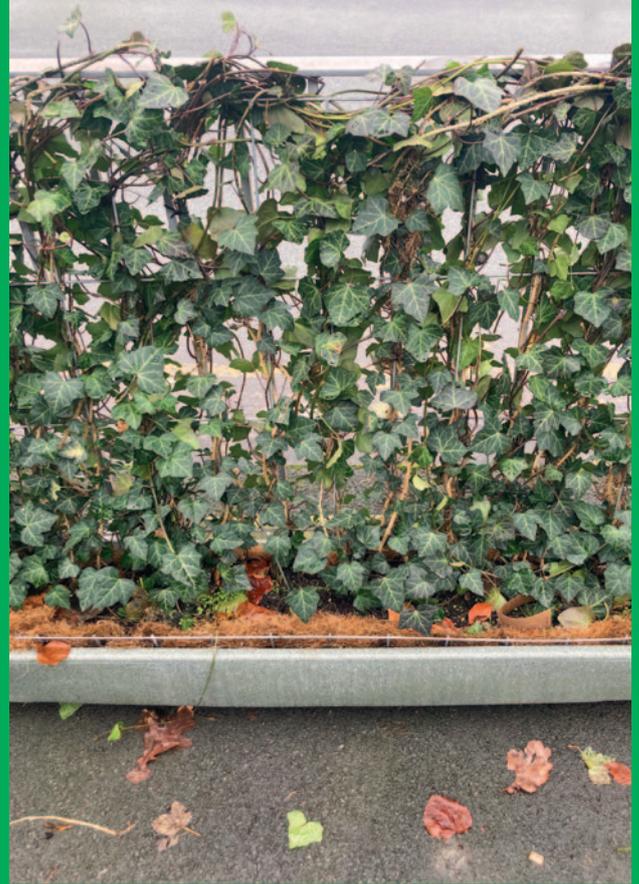


# Ivy Screens

Ivy has been installed on railings on Longpool and Blackhall Road to improve the public realm, encourage biodiversity and absorb pollution. Thanks to funding from South Lakeland District Council's 'Locally Important Project Fund' and permission from Cumbria County Council who own the railings, the Town Council is pleased with the results of this initiative.

'We recognised that the railings in these locations, whilst providing a safety barrier for pedestrians, negatively impacted on the public realm of the area. We explored screening options and decided ivy was the best choice due to its ability to improve air quality and support biodiversity in the long term', said Cllr Eamonn Hennessy, Chair of the Town Council's Environment and Highways Committee.

The Town Council have received positive feedback from residents and are exploring options to extend the improvement to other railings in the town.



## Composting



Thanks to Kendal Town Council's biodiversity and carbon reduction goals, a new composting trial is underway at Castle Hagg allotments. Utilising natural accelerators to break down compost, it is hoped the trial will prove that compost for Kendal's civic planting can be produced via waste and leaf litter

directly from Kendal's allotments.

In addition to saving money, the scheme will reduce the carbon associated with producing and transporting compost and will enable Kendal's waste to be beautifully repurposed in the town centre.

Composting food waste at home significantly reduces the amount of methane, a greenhouse gas several times more potent than carbon dioxide, emitted from landfill sites.

That's why food waste recycling will be rolled out across England in 2023 and why countries like Denmark have banned all organic matter from landfill sites. By separating your food waste you'll save organic matter from rotting and releasing methane and instead capture the carbon in the organic matter for the benefit of whatever you plant in the resulting soil.

Cumbria County Council provide discounted composting bins via [www.recycleforcumbria.org](http://www.recycleforcumbria.org) or on 0844 571 4444. If you don't have the room for a composting bin or aren't green fingered, you can share your waste with gardeners who would love to get their hands on it! Check out the 'Shared Waste' app in your app store to find composters to connect with.

# 20's Plenty for Kendal



Kendal Town Council have met with Cumbria County Council to progress its aspiration to make Kendal a 20mph town to create calmer, more welcoming and people friendly streets which will in turn encourage cycling and walking and reduce carbon.

Kendal is not alone in its 20mph vision. Wales is planning to change the national urban default limit of 30mph to 20mph by 2023 and the Scottish Government has announced its plans to set 20mph as a norm across the country from 2025.

Edinburgh is the first city in Scotland to implement a 20mph network following high levels of public support.

To complement enforcement, the City Council have introduced a Roadside Education Scheme where speeding drivers are shown films created by school children to highlight the potential impact of speed choices. Visit [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/20mphotookit](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/20mphotookit) to learn more.

The combination of improved 'liveability', significant casualty reduction and the reduction in carbon achieved via lower speeds, creates multiple positive incentives for Kendal to change.

Similar market towns to Kendal have implemented 20mph with fantastic

results. Calderdale, in West Yorkshire, which includes market towns such as Hebden Bridge and Todmorden have reviewed the impact of introducing 20mph and found:

- A 30% casualty reduction over a 3-year period
- A rate of return of £3.65 for every £1 spent

The above examples have been sourced from [www.20splenty.org](http://www.20splenty.org), a great resource available to all.

The Town Council will continue to meet with Cumbria County Council to achieve its 20mph ambition.

# KENDAL Farmers Markets

The Kendal Climate Change Jury recommended promoting low carbon food as one of its 27 recommendations to address Climate Change in Kendal. Visit Kendal, Kendal's dedicated promotional website, will now feature a monthly blog of the local producers at Kendal's Farmers Market. The extra promotion will help visitors, and residents, see the range of produce available from Kendal's Farmers Market which takes place on the last Friday of every month. The first blog featured Herbivore Organics who sell organic fruit and vegetables sourced from Growing Well at Sizergh. The current blog features Lovingly Artisan who were runners up in the 2021 World Bread Awards using grain from the North East of England. If you miss them at the Kendal Farmers Market they also have a shop just off Plumgarth roundabout on the Crook Road.



## Nature Friendly Farming

Together with members of the Citizens Jury and Recommendations Panel, Town Councillors were invited by the National Farmers Union to tour Strickley Farm, an organic dairy farm in Old Hutton.

Farmer James Robinson led the group around the numerous and impressive nature friendly initiatives. Projects ranged from flood prevention landscaping to a solar powered pump which diverts beck water into a cattle drinking tank; preventing riverside erosion and encouraging nature recovery.

The tour demonstrated how nature friendly farming is a win-win for all, the landscape, the animals and the bottom line. Tour participants shared various ideas to promote nature friendly farming within their organisations and the NFU plan to run a similar event for local farmers.



The Kendal Climate Change Citizens Jury Recommendations Panel will discuss how to deliver the Jury's recommendations to complement existing thriving good practice as demonstrated at Strickley Farm.



## New independent Shops added to Visit Kendal

During the run up to Christmas, Visit Kendal has supported independent shops by creating a dedicated new page. The page features all of Kendal's brilliant independents including Hello Home, Little Brogues, Ivy Bank, Wild Abandon, Herdy, Begin with Nature, Tailor the Foxx and more!

Under the heading **'Where will you try first?'** we're confident many of Visit Kendal's 11,000 monthly website visitors will now seek out our thriving independent businesses for the perfect Christmas gift.

# Gooseholme Footbridge



Work has begun on the new footbridge connecting Gooseholme to Kendal Town Centre.

Cumbria County Council is delivering the £2 million project to build a footbridge across the River Kent. The original footbridge was damaged during Storm Desmond in December 2015. The County Council is delivering the project with funding support from the Environment Agency, South Lakeland District Council and Sustrans.

This exciting project will deliver a superb new single span bridge that will be fully accessible to all bridge users. The new bridge will be wider than the original footbridge to provide shared access for pedestrians, cyclists and wheelchair users.

Readers may have noticed a lane closure on New Road which began during the week commencing 15th November and will continue for approximately four weeks. This has been necessary to ensure a safe

working environment for the contractors.

Cllr Keith Little, Cumbria County Council Cabinet member for Highways, said: "We are pleased that we can continue the work at Gooseholme footbridge, which will be an asset to the area once finalised. The lane closure will help us to make the area safe for works, and we apologise, in advance, for any inconvenience that this may cause, and thank the community for their patience and support".

## SLDC Customer Connect – Signage Improvements

There are many signs in Kendal that could do with some tender loving care. Thanks to the SLDC customer connect service, Kendal Town Council instigated improvements to the Queens Road sign and are impressed with the result. If you have a street sign in your area that is rusty, unclear or generally needs some TLC please take some photos, accurately describe the location and email [customer.services@southlakeland.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@southlakeland.gov.uk) to request improvements. If SLDC are unable to help you please contact Kendal Town Council, our dedicated signage improvement budget could support improvements.



# Mayor's Christmas Card



Talented Kendal College Art and Design Students have created a selection of Christmas Cards for the Mayors Christmas Card. Cllr Doug Rathbone selected Joel Blamire's design because it is instantly recognisable as Kendal and he liked the bold colours, seasonal warmth and welcoming design. Joel will be rewarded with a £50 gift voucher.

All the entries were of an extremely high standard, huge thanks to Lilly Breakell, Rosie Hewart and Wiktorja Skwiot for their excellent designs.

Cllr Doug Rathbone said 'It's brilliant to see the talents of Kendal College students, such imagination and impressive technique. Their creativity is an asset to our town.'

## Wainwright Award

The Wainwright Award is open for submissions to celebrate Kendal's amazing volunteers. To nominate your favourite community contributor please complete the application form on [www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk). The winner will be awarded £250 and a certificate will be presented at the next Mayor making ceremony.

## Mayors Coffee Morning

Join us on Saturday 18th December, 9.30am to 12.30pm at the Town Hall for the Mayors Christmas Coffee morning. A £1 entry fee includes a drink and a mince pie or biscuit. Entertainment will be from the wonderful Kendal Concert Band and more!



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