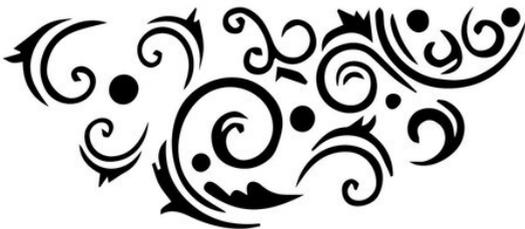




## Kewstoke Parish Council Newsletter December 2021



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**



### Inside this issue:

Message from the  
Chairman  
A few words from Reverend  
Gail Thomas  
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To keep up with news, views and events, join the village  
page on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Kewstoke/>



### Editorial team:

Karen Jenkins and Nancy  
Whyte

## Message from the Chairman

I don't know if it's been the same for you all, but as I sit and think about last year, what actually comes to mind is 2019, the year before!

Somewhere I seem to have lost a year.

As we start getting back to as close to normality, 2020 with its lockdowns and restrictions, Zoom calls, trampled lanes and beach, cars parked everywhere, seem to have been airbrushed from my mind.

2021 has been a much better year for us all. As places have opened up, the strain on our resources have decreased. The Village Hall is open again. The Hog Roast back in September was a great success. Neighbours getting together for a chat over a beer or cider. Well done to the team who organised it.

The Parish Council have continued to carry out the work around the village that needs to be done. Our big project this

year was to replace the doors and payment mechanisms on the toilets in the Bus Terminus Car Park on Sand Road.

Some years ago we took on the toilets when North Somerset Council decided to close them. As a place where people come to as a destination, toilets are essential to visitors, but this shouldn't be at the expense of the residents, who after all have toilets of their own. With the concession revenue from the Kiosk and the money from the toilets themselves, we have managed to keep them pretty much cash neutral.

The old mechanisms were starting to fail, so the solution was to go for new electronic locks and even contactless payment on the disabled toilet. After some initial teething troubles, the toilets are now up and running and bringing in increased revenues. The cost is now 30p and no change is given.

Volunteer work carried on with the planting of trees and shrubs in the car park, although we are now having a pause as we let nature carry on for a while.

Our next big thing will be the Village Appraisal being launched on the second of February 2022. You can read more about it in this issue.

As we come to the end of 2021 it just leaves me to thank the Parish Councillors who give freely of their time, particularly Ken Harper and Russell Adams (& his tractor) who can be seen beavering around clearing this and mending that, The Village and Beach orderlies, Mike the Parish Clerk keeping an eye on us all and the purse strings and everyone else that make this such a great place to live.

Have a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

**Jim MacDonald**

# Kewstoke

## Phone Box

By the time that this edition of the Newsletter comes out, the Parish Council should be the new owners of the Red telephone box on Kewstoke Road next to the junction of Crookes Lane.

This phone box is one of a number that are being decommissioned by BT. The widespread use of mobile phones has left them rarely used and not economically viable.

It has long been a plan of the Parish Council to add a second defibrillator to the one that was purchased and is installed at Kewstoke Village Hall.

The purchase of this phone box now gives us that second site, which will be closer to those living on Kewstoke Road, Orchard Close and the top part of Crookes Lane.

There may also be an opportunity to set up a couple of shelves to accommodate some sort of book swap scheme in

the village as well.

Hopefully as Covid 19 becomes less of a danger we will look into ways of organising this.

As you can see from the photos, the phone box is in need of a bit of TLC.

If anyone would like to volunteer their services, please contact:

Mike the Parish Clerk.

**[parishclerkkewstoke@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerkkewstoke@gmail.com)**



# Reverend Gail Thomas

Dear Friends

These past few months have flown by and it doesn't seem like yesterday that I arrived to become the Vicar of Kewstoke and Wick St Lawrence (I moved here in August!).

And now Christmas seems to be approaching fast and, this year more than ever, I wonder, if I will be ready!

Of course we are not sure what the Covid 19 situation will be in the next few weeks but we are hoping that this year we will all be able to enjoy Christmas with our families, in our churches and enjoying all the festivities as in the past. At Kewstoke and Wick St Lawrence

We have tried to plan as normal, and I am sure I will meet many of you at our services in the coming weeks.

Please do come and introduce yourselves to me as I am only just

getting to know everyone.

The Church of England's Advent and Christmas theme this year is entitled 'At the heart of Christmas' and if you come to church over the Christmas period you may well hear me speaking about this. But I wonder what lies 'at the heart of Christmas' for you?

I know you will expect me to say that Jesus is at the heart of Christmas and of course from the moment Mary says yes to the Angel Gabriel this is true, but digging a little deeper I believe that at the heart of Christmas is all of us, or more specifically the love that God has for all of us.

This is a love that hasn't changed over these difficult times and every expression of love that we share in the coming weeks, from the smallest gesture of kindness to the most lavish gift, represents the gift of love from Jesus Christ.

Our beautiful churches of St Paul and St Lawrence stand as witnesses to this love expressed through successive generations and we hope you will be able to join us at one of our churches at some point over the coming weeks. Whoever you are, and whatever place you are in right now, you are welcome to join us in church over Christmas.

Whatever you place at the heart of Christmas this year, I pray that you may know the light of Christ and the love of God expressed through him.

Every blessing  
**Reverend Gail**



# Vicar of Kewstoke & Wick St Lawrence

## At the heart of Christmas



### Christmas Services 2021

#### St Paul's, Kewstoke

#### Sun 28th November

10am Holy Communion

4pm Advent Songs of Praise  
(choose your favourite hymn)

#### Sun 5th December

10am Holy Communion

#### Sun 12th December

8am Holy Communion

10am Christingle

#### Sun 19th December

10am Holy Communion

4pm 9 lessons and carols

#### Christmas Eve

4pm Crib Service

11.30pm Holy Communion

#### Christmas Day

9.30am Holy Communion

Kewstoke & Wick St Lawrence Churches warmly welcome you to join with us this Christmas to celebrate with us and rediscover the blessings of that first Christmas

**We wish you a very happy and blessed Christmas!**

# Parish Council Village Appraisal

You will have noticed posters appearing on the notice boards in the village advertising the forthcoming Parish Council Village Appraisal.

We last had one in 2002 where we asked residents questions on a variety of topics concerning their lives in the village and what they wanted to see happen in the village going forward.

The resulting action plan from this survey which had a 65% completion rate from residents, has been used by the Parish Council and other organisations for the benefit of those living in the village.

The Parish Council have used the action plan when deciding on planning applications.

This 2002 Survey has done its job but now needs refreshing. Twenty years later a group of volunteers working with the Parish Council are now compiling a new survey.

A lot of the subjects will be the same. Traffic, Dog mess, Parking are a few that raise their head continually on the Village Facebook page. There are new topics for the survey to cover.

Broadband capacity, Global warming and the erosion of the beach and sea defences are a couple that come to mind. Back in 2002 there was a proposed large scale holiday development on the fringes of the village that gained a lot of attention.

Here in 2021 there is another planning application for a similar development of 300 log cabins and associated buildings on the fringes of the village. If this were to go ahead how would it affect residents? What are residents views on this?

The method of delivering and collecting the completed surveys has now changed from the way it was carried out in 2002. Each survey then

was delivered by hand, completed by one member of the family and collected by hand.

The information was then painstakingly fed into a specialist computer program and from it graphs, pie charts etc were produced to illustrate the final Action Plan document.

Now in 2021 we have an internet based questionnaire which will be answered online and can be completed by all members of the family.

In order to make this work the Parish Council need to get as many members of the community to register their email address so that a link can be sent to them enabling them to access & complete the survey.

This can be done by registering on the parish Council webpage using the link: <https://www.kewstokevillage.com/village-survey> Or via the Facebook page. For

# Parish Council Village Appraisal

both options you will need to add the last two letters of your post code.

This will give complete anonymity but at the same time allow the Parish Council to know from which part of the village the survey has been returned.

There will also be a point to register in the Pink Shop.

The one downside of doing a modern day internet based survey is that although most have internet access, not everyone does.

We don't want to exclude those without internet access, so a paper version can be requested at the Pink Shop and of course on the Parish Council website.

If you know anyone without internet access who would like to participate, please help them to order a paper copy of the questionnaire. It will be delivered to

their door and collected when complete.

The Appraisal will be launched at Kewstoke Village Hall on the 2nd of February 2022.

The Parish Council have booked the hall from the day and evening. User groups of the hall have been invited to set up stands showcasing their organisations, to recruit new members etc.

It is hoped that Sue Ryall our Local Historian will be able to put on a village history display running throughout the day. Most houses in the village are catalogued with photos and interesting facts about them as well.

Come and see the history of your house through the years.

Anyone not yet registered for a copy of the survey, can do it in the Village Hall on 020222.

As the project starts to

gain momentum there will be further publicity.

Keep an eye on social media and the Village Facebook page.



**Would you like to advertise your business on the Parish Council website?**

Contact the Parish Clerk, Mike Hardwick, for details at:  
**parishclerkkewstoke@**



# Platinum Jubilee 2022



## **Kewstoke Village Platinum Jubilee Weekend**



**2nd - 5th June 2022**

**Get ready for a once in a lifetime  
fun packed 4 day event.**

*Disco*      *Hog Roast*      *Children's Party*

*Sports Day*      *Live Bands*

*Village Fete*      *Village Party*

*Quiz Night*      *Fancy Dress*

*Afternoon Tea*      *String Quartet*

*Scarecrow Trail*      *Under 18's Disco*



**Contact Nancy 07557131590 or Grant 07836234357  
kewstokecommunitygroup@hotmail.com**

# Platinum Jubilee 2022

## PLATINUM JUBILEE VILLAGE CELEBRATION

**Thursday 2nd –Sunday  
5th June 2022.**

Kewstoke Fete and Community Group are planning a series of events over the 2022 Jubilee Holiday and we need your help!

Would you be prepared to volunteer?  
**PLEASE, WE NEED YOU!**

These events will need a lot of planning, detail, time, effort and money.

The Parish Council have donated money towards the large Marquee which we will have on the field, so, if the weather is not good, we have the Village Hall and Marquee to hold events.

It is going to be a fun weekend for all ages, children and adults and we are planning lots of activities.

However, again, we do need your help, we cannot do this without you, our lovely people of Kewstoke and Sand Bay.

This is your chance to let us know what you feel you would like to see happening over this weekend.

Please contact Nancy on 07557131590 or Grant on 07836234357 or email [kewstokecommunitygroup@hotmail.com](mailto:kewstokecommunitygroup@hotmail.com) as soon as you can.

Please watch the Kewstoke website for updated announcements!

We hope the whole village will get behind us and support us, after all IT IS YOUR VILLAGE!



# Local Businesses



Our jam-packed entertainment schedule throughout December for The Bay.

Our Christmas parties are running throughout December in our newly opened South Suite, and prices start from just £25 per person ☑

Join us for Christmas Day lunch in The Bay and enjoy our exquisite 7-course menu for £99 per person.

We're now taking enquiries for you to hire our South Suite event room. It's the perfect space for wedding receptions, christenings, private parties and so much more!

To find out more, drop us an email on [info@south-sands.co.uk](mailto:info@south-sands.co.uk) or give us

a call 01934 317555 or email [info@south-sands.co.uk](mailto:info@south-sands.co.uk)

Our opening times for the Festive Season  
Normal opening hours every day from 8:30am – 10:00pm

with the exception of;  
Christmas Eve close at 9:00pm (last orders 7:30pm)  
Boxing Day close at 4:00pm (last orders 2:30pm)

New Years Day close at 6:00pm (last orders 4:30pm)

We look forward to welcoming you for breakfast, coffee and cake, lunch, afternoon tea or dinner over the festive period.

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## Sand Bay Tea Rooms

Open every day through to New Years Day (except Christmas Day) 11.00am-4.00pm

**The Bay Entertainment Schedule**

THURS 2ND DEC	LIVE MUSIC FROM TOM
SAT 4TH DEC	Live Music From Victoria Klewin Trio Group
THURS 9TH DEC	LIVE MUSIC FROM TOM
SAT 11TH DEC	SONGS FROM RACHEL SIMPSON
THURS 16TH DEC	LIVE MUSIC FROM TOM
FRI 17TH DEC	LIVE MUSIC FROM TOM
SAT 18TH DEC	SONGS FROM JORDAN

# Local Businesses

## New Inn



### Opening times:

As usual hours up till Christmas day.  
Then, 11am till 2pm Christmas Day,  
**CLOSED** Boxing Day then back to normal.

## The New Castle



Open as normal up to Sunday 19th  
**CLOSED** Monday 20th - Monday 27th  
Reopen :Tuesday 28th 9am - 5pm  
Wednesday 29th 9am - 5pm

Thursday 30th 9am - 5pm

Friday 31st 9am - 5pm  
Saturday 1st January closed

Sunday 2nd January **CLOSED**

Reopen fully 4th January 2022

All dependant on any restrictions being announced - takeaways available when open.

## Pink Shop—Royal Oak Stores



Christmas Eve 8am-6pm  
Christmas Day **CLOSED**  
Boxing Day 8am-2pm  
27th-30th normal hours  
31st NYE 8am-4pm  
NYD 8am-4pm

## Sand Bay Fish and Chip Shop & The Cosy Hatch

# CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS



**SAND BAY  
FISH & CHIP SHOP**



**THE COSY HATCH**

**MON 20TH 12-2PM & 4.30-8PM**  
**TUES 21ST 12-2PM & 4.30-8PM**  
**WED 22ND 12-2PM & 4.30-8PM**  
**THURS 23RD 12-2PM & 4.30-8PM**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE - 12-7PM**  
**CHRISTMAS DAY - CLOSED**  
**BOXING DAY - CLOSED**  
**27TH 12-8PM**  
**28TH 12-8 PM**  
**29TH 12-8PM**  
**30TH 12- 8PM**  
**NEW YEARS EVE - 12PM - 8PM**  
**NEW YEARS DAY - 12PM - 8PM**  
**SUN 3RD JAN 12PM- 6.00PM**

**MON 20TH 10-4PM**  
**TUES 21ST 10-4PM**  
**WED 22ND 10-4PM**  
**THURS 23RD 10-4PM**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE 10-4PM**  
**CHRISTMAS DAY-CLOSED**  
**BOXING DAY- CLOSED**  
**MON 27TH 10AM-4PM**  
**TUES 28TH 10-4PM**  
**WED 29TH - 10-4PM**  
**THURS 30TH 10-4PM**  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE - 10-4PM**  
**NEW YEARS DAY 10-4PM**  
**SUN 2ND 10-4PM**

# The Grumpy Farmer

Many things have changed in farming in the parish of Kewstoke since my Grandfather settled at Sand Bay Farm in 1929.

At the time there were approximately 10 farms, but a lack of profitability has slowly seen that number dwindle. Today, the remaining 2 working farms have a vastly different scale, with Collum Farm milking over 800 cows a day. Whereas my farm, which ceased milk production in 2015, has moved over to beef cattle, keeping about 100 head.

The land which was once full of livestock and crops has found a variety of new uses ranging from equestrian to market gardening, hobby farming. Also, some creative ramshackle recycling assisting nature to re-wild.

When I haven't been tending to the animals, making hay, putting up miles of electric fencing to restrict the animals from straying, which all has to be taken down

again in the Autumn when hedges are cut, my 'spare' time(!) is taken up with maintaining the farm buildings and machinery.

A word of warning with regards to electric fencing. Whilst connecting up the fence I bent over and touched the fence with my forehead, I swiftly discovered that the fence was fully operational and the resulting shock put my heartbeat into a new rhythm similar to something you'd hear in a nightclub in town!

Thankfully after a few days all returned to normal.

This Autumn there was a little diversification at Sand Bay Farm that would have met with approval from The Wurzels. We gathered in apples from our own orchard, and from Home Farm and proceeded to extract the juice to make some palatable cider. If nothing else, it should help alleviate the aches and creaks associated

with old age. If successful we look forward to inviting the public to sample some 'Sand Bay Scrumpy'.

Throughout the year I've also been putting my machinery to good use around the village and beach, moving windblown sand from the path and dune erosion prevention.

Unfortunately fly tippers have used our ditches and rhynes, and emergency clear outs have prevented potential flooding situations from getting worse.

Looking to the future, life at Sand Bay Farm will inevitably change.

Retirement is never really an option for a farmer, but I'd like to see what fresh ideas my daughters and Grandson have for me... hopefully not involving a retirement home!

**Russell Adams**  
**The Grumpy Farmer**

# Recipe: Eccles Cakes



Pastry	Filling
75g butter, grated	25g butter
150g plain flour, sifted	40g light Muscovado sugar
6-7 tbsp water	75g currants
Salt	30g mixed peel
	½ teaspoon mixed spice
	Zest of ½ orange
<b>Topping: 1 egg, 1 tsp caster sugar</b>	

## Method

Preheat the oven to 200C

Coarsely grate the butter on to a cold plate (do not handle the grated butter).

Sift the flour into a large bowl and add a pinch of salt.

Without handling the butter, drop it into the flour mix and, using a blunt knife, mix the grated butter into the flour to coat it all evenly.

Sprinkle over 2 tablespoons of ice-cold water and mix in with the knife.

Then gradually add a further 4-5 tablespoons of water until the mix starts to come together.

Finish mixing to a pastry dough with your hands but do not handle the pastry too much. If you need more water add it a couple of drops at a time.

The pastry should leave the sides of the bowl clean.

Wrap it in cling film.

Leave to rest in the fridge for 15-20 minutes.

Mix the butter, sugar, currants, mixed peel, mixed spice and zest until combined well.

Roll out the pastry to about 3mm thick on a floured surface using the cutter.

Using the pastry cutter, cut out 10 (10cm) discs.

Place the discs on the baking tray and put a heaped teaspoon of the filling in the centre of each disc .

Dampen the edges with water and then draw the edges together to make a purse, squeezing tightly to seal.

Turn the patty over and then press gently with a rolling pin to flatten the cakes.

Using a sharp knife, cut three parallel slits on top of the Eccles cake.

Brush the cakes all over with the egg and sprinkle the cakes with the leftover sugar.

Bake in the center of the oven for 20 minutes, or until the edges are lightly golden brown.

Remove from the oven and place on a cooling rack.

# Recipes: Bakewell Tart



## Method

**Preheat the oven to 190°C**

Pastry	Filling
100g butter, grated	100g butter
200g plain flour	125g golden caster sugar
2tbsp cold water	3 eggs
1 egg yolk	½ teaspoon almond essence
2 tbsp icing sugar	150g ground almonds
	6 tbsp strawberry jam
<b>Topping: 2 tbsp almonds</b>	

Sift the flour and icing sugar into a large mixing bowl.

Using your fingertips, rub the butter into the flour until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs.

Make a well in the centre of the flour mixture.

Beat the egg yolk with 2 tablespoons of cold water.

Stir into the flour until the mixture comes together. If the mixture is crumbly, add a drop more water to make a soft pliable dough.

Push the pastry together and shape into a flat circle. Wrap in cling film and chill for 15 minutes in the fridge.

Roll the pastry out on a lightly floured work surface until it is 3mm thick – about the thickness of a pound coin.

Drape the pastry over the rolling pin and lift into the flan tin.

Press pastry against the edges. Trim the edges with a knife. Prick the bottom with a fork.

Place a circle of parchment paper on top of the pastry and fill with baking beans then blind bake for 10 minutes.

Remove the baking beans and parchment and return the tart case to the oven for 5 minutes until lightly golden. Turn the oven down to 180°C.

Place the butter and sugar in a bowl and beat together until pale and fluffy.

Gradually beat in the eggs, then stir in the almond extract and ground almonds.

Spread the jam over the pastry base.

Then spoon the almond mixture over the jam.

Return the tart to the oven and bake for 25-35 minutes, or until the filling is golden on top and feels firm in the middle.

Decorate the tart with flaked almonds.



# Kewstoke Parish Council

## Kewstoke Parish Council

First Monday of each month—7.00pm at the Village Hall

General public are welcome to attend and there is a 15 minute public participation slot at the beginning of each meeting.

### Kewstoke Parish Councillors

Mr Jim MacDonald	01934 642053	Chairman
Mr Tony Morris	01934 414654	Vice Chairman
Mr Russell Adams	01934 645657	Planning Chairman
Mr Mike Hardwick	07836 386244	Council Clerk
Mr Tony Horry	01934 628383	Councillor
Mrs Christine Bates	01934 620995	Councillor
Mr Ken Harper	01934 419331	Councillor
Miss Karen Jenkins	01934 221521	Councillor
Mr Richard Buckley	07825 736009	Councillor
Mrs Nancy Whyte	01934 516212	Councillor
Mr Glen Vearncombe	01934 622495	Councillor
Mrs Rose Cunningham	01934 629512	Councillor

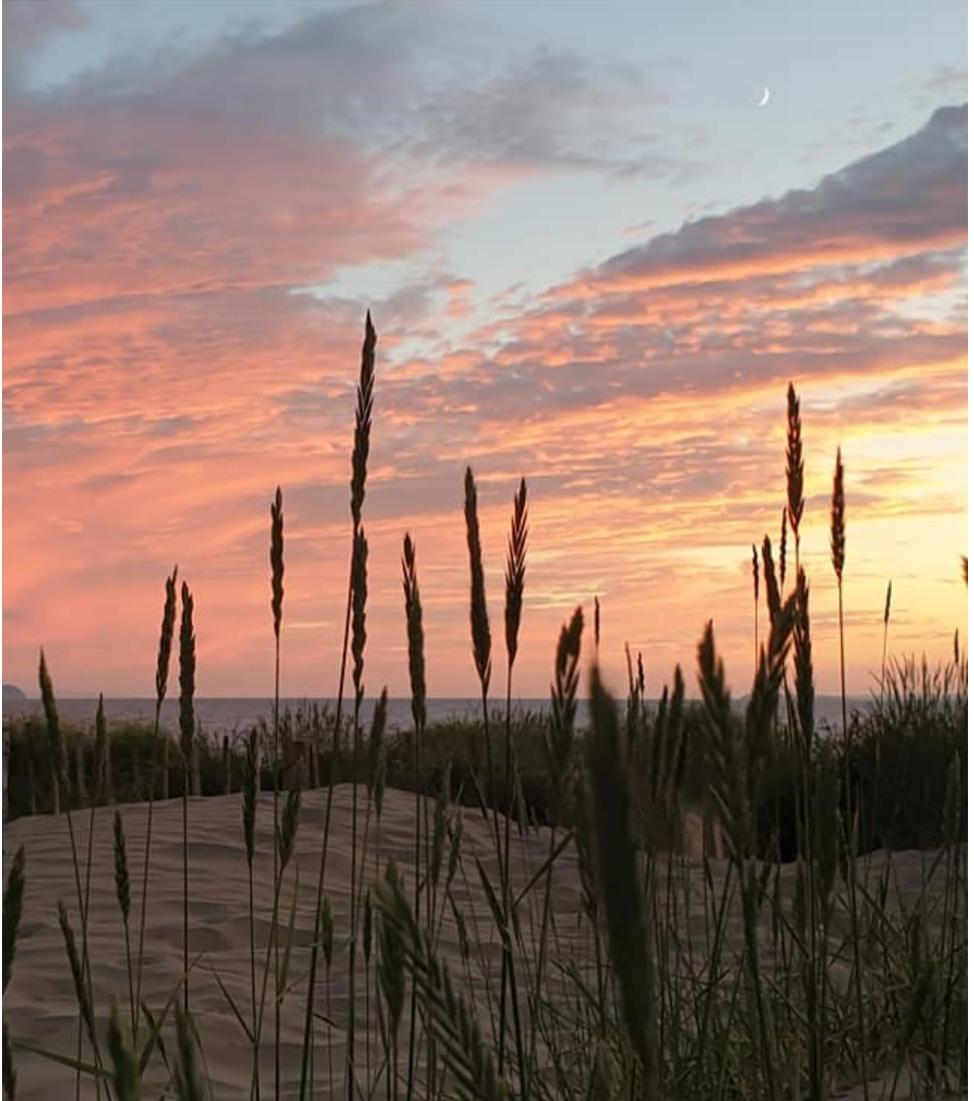
### District Councillors

Cllr Lisa Pilgrim	01934 261557 / 07935 282129
Cllr Roz Wills	01934 416915

***Unless explicitly stated, opinions and comments produced in this magazine, are those of the contributor and not of Kewstoke Parish Council as a collective body.***

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# The natural beauty of Sandbay



Front and back cover images courtesy of Gina Gold