

# Keynsham

Spring '20



## **Community Creativity**

The art of lockdown

## **Keynsham Festivals**

Bitter-sweet festival news

## **Bilbie Bears**

A chalk based ursine invasion

## IN THIS ISSUE

The current situation means that this edition of the Arts Newsletter is a bit different; we can't feature any upcoming exhibitions or events, but there are still loads of creative things going on. We have some sad news from the Music Festival, some great news about the KTown Isofest, a look at how residents have been exercising their creative muscles during lockdown, poetry, music and of course bears.

If you would like us to cover an art project/performance/exhibition in the next edition, let us know about it. Email [david@keynsham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:david@keynsham-tc.gov.uk)

### 03

#### Stay at Home

Topical poetry from the Keynsham Poet

### 04

#### Community Creativity

A look at what creative things residents have been up to during lockdown

### 10

#### Music Festival Cancelled

An update from Keynsham Musical Festival about why they had to make this very difficult decision

### 12

#### KTown Isofest

Keynsham always has a music festival so we're having a festival OK! In fact we're having two or maybe more

### 14

#### Drawstring Bag Appeal

A fantastic way to support our NHS professionals with your sewing skills

### 15

#### Music Man Project

An update from our favourite musicians

### 16

#### The Bilbie Bears

When you gave that chartered engineer with a bit of time on his hands some chalk, what did you think was going to happen

### 18

#### What's On

Isolation approved activities, arts and culture that you can enjoy from the safety of your own homes

Cover image, **Kevin McNulty**

**Keynsham Arts** is a quarterly publication that aims to showcase some of the things that are happening across the Keynsham art scene



0117 9868683



[david@keynsham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:david@keynsham-tc.gov.uk)



@KeynshamCouncil



@KeynshamCouncil

# stay At Home

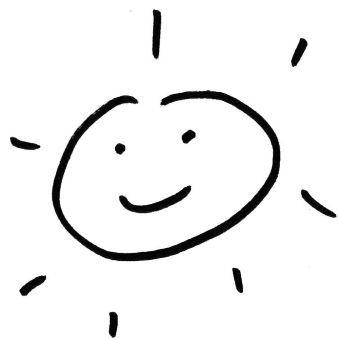
The situation is untenable  
And something we all hate  
The government will look us down  
If we don't self-isolate

The government are trusting us  
To be responsible citizens  
But we all seem to be failing  
Or just not listening

We need to take it seriously  
We need to stay at home  
If you need to leave the house  
Distance yourself alone

We are not being tested  
So we don't know who's infected  
And some may just be carriers  
Staying home keeps us protected

©NIEH The Keynsham Poet 22/03/2020



#StayAtHome



# Community Creativity

Keynsham residents have been using their isolation downtime to express themselves artistically. Here are some of the things the community have been getting up to



**Andy Smith** created his own blue lantern to hang outside in support of the NHS & other Key workers



**Ted and Ollie** helped setup a community art wall and lots of residents have added their own pieces to brighten up the street



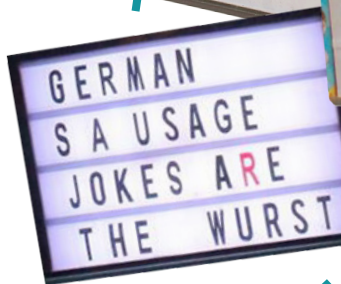
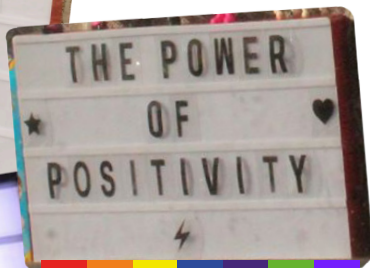




Elmer the Elephant is currently visiting his Keynsham relation **Dawn Elmer**. He'll be sticking around for a while (he is literally stuck to her house)



**Larell and Ashaya** painted some amazing rainbows with messages of support to put in their window

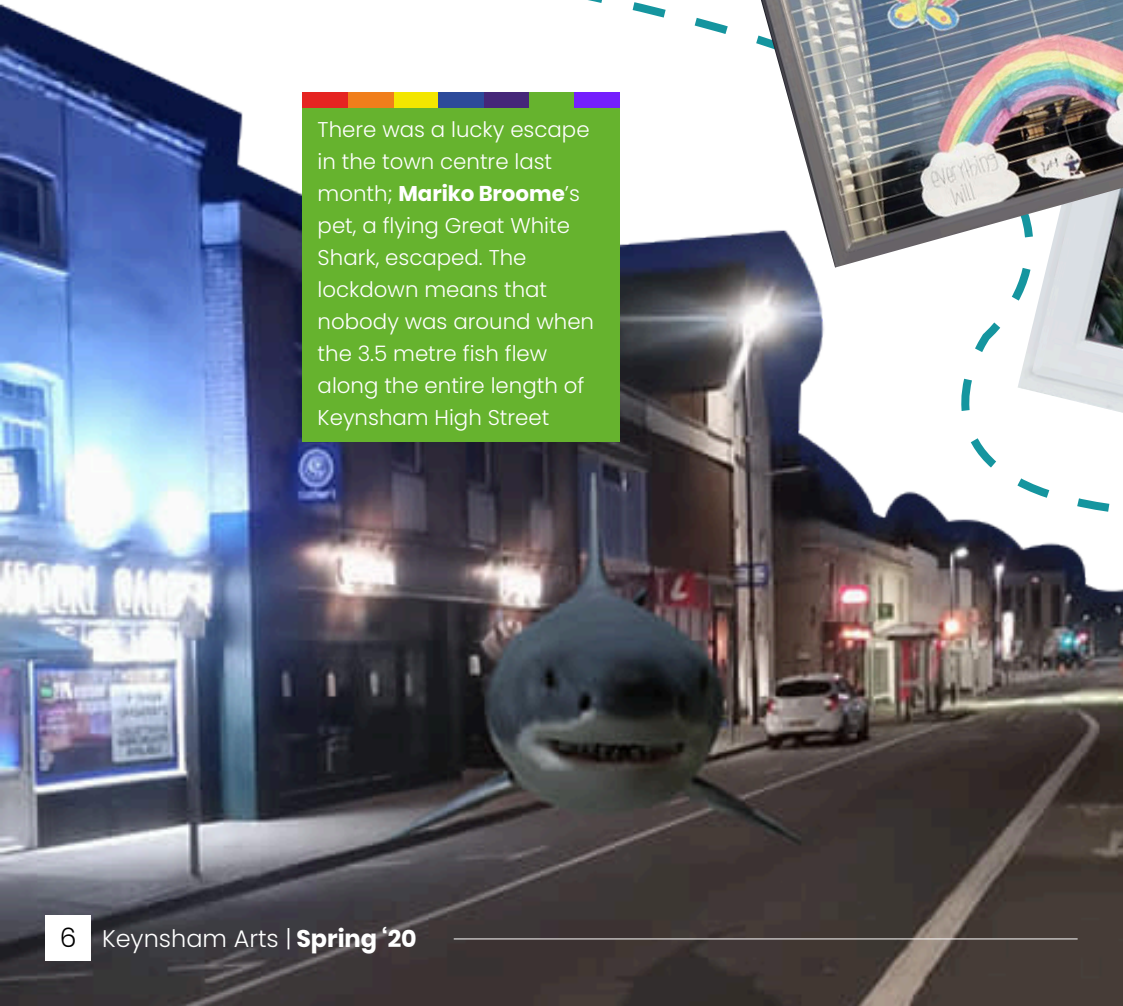


During lockdown, **Hero Ken Flatt** is only using his light up window sign for three important reasons; to relay government guidelines, send messages of support and, of course, continental sausage fun.





There was a lucky escape in the town centre last month; **Mariko Broome's** pet, a flying Great White Shark, escaped. The lockdown means that nobody was around when the 3.5 metre fish flew along the entire length of Keynsham High Street

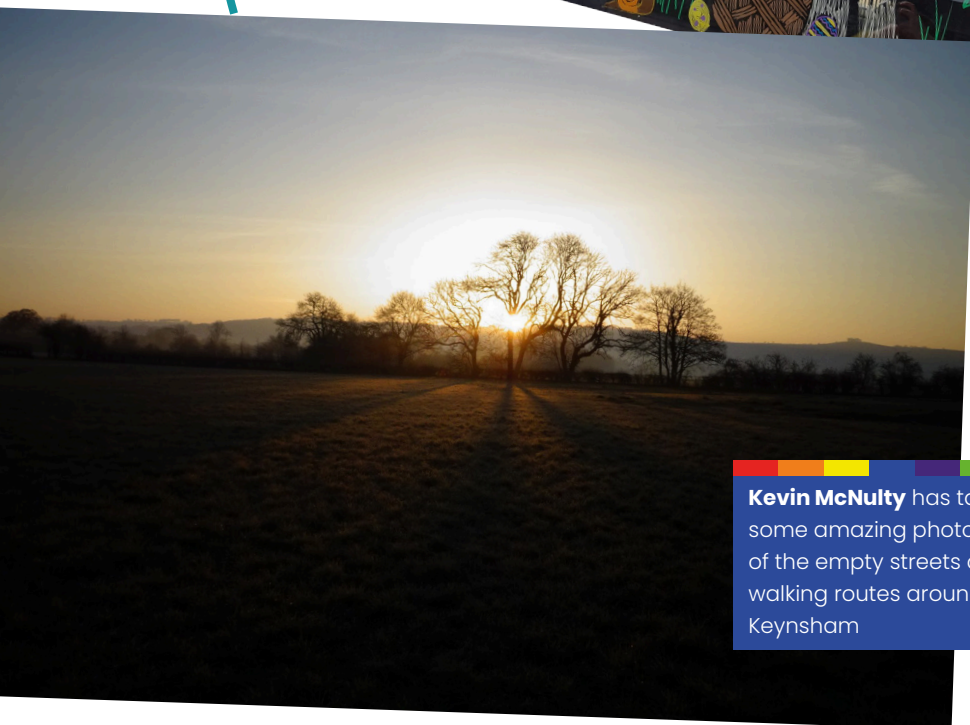








**Kelly-Jane Moles** has been isolating because she is currently pregnant. She's been doing lots of things to keep herself busy including these amazing window designs



**Kevin McNulty** has taken some amazing photos of the empty streets and walking routes around Keynsham





**Thomas Cole** has used the lockdown period to get his paints and brushes out again. It's been five years since he last painted but you wouldn't know it looking at this beautiful image of the Kelston Roundhill



**Theo Vann-Piime** is trying to complete 100 metres of maths questions to raise money for Childline



#### A big thank you for the photos and contributions to:

Caroline Flynn, Andy Smith, Dawn Elmer, Abby King, Hero Ken Platt, Mariko Broome, Helen Parker, Jill Johnson, Kirsty Clark, Kelly-Jane Moles, Ollie Vann, Thomas Cole and Kevin McNulty

Many of the images came from the Keynsham Family Activities Facebook Group which has been setup to share 'lockdown friendly' things that you can try yourself:

 Keynsham Family Activities

If you would like to support Theo in his attempt to do 100 metres of Maths questions by donating to Childline, you can do so at:

 [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/theo-vann-piime](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/theo-vann-piime)

**If this article has inspired you to venture out and take a look at some of the artwork that people are displaying in their windows, please make sure that all of the current exercise and social distancing guidelines are adhered to**

# Keynsham Music Festival Cancelled



The third biggest, free music event in the UK has been cancelled for the first time in its twenty-four year history but will return in 2021

Over the past several weeks, our world has been turned upside down by the global coronavirus pandemic. Our hearts are with everyone impacted by it.



has been made in light of the current situation that we all face and feel together.

Like many around the world, we are doing our best to quickly adjust to these complex times.

Our volunteers have been working since last November to organise what was going to be our biggest, most diverse and most exciting festival ever.

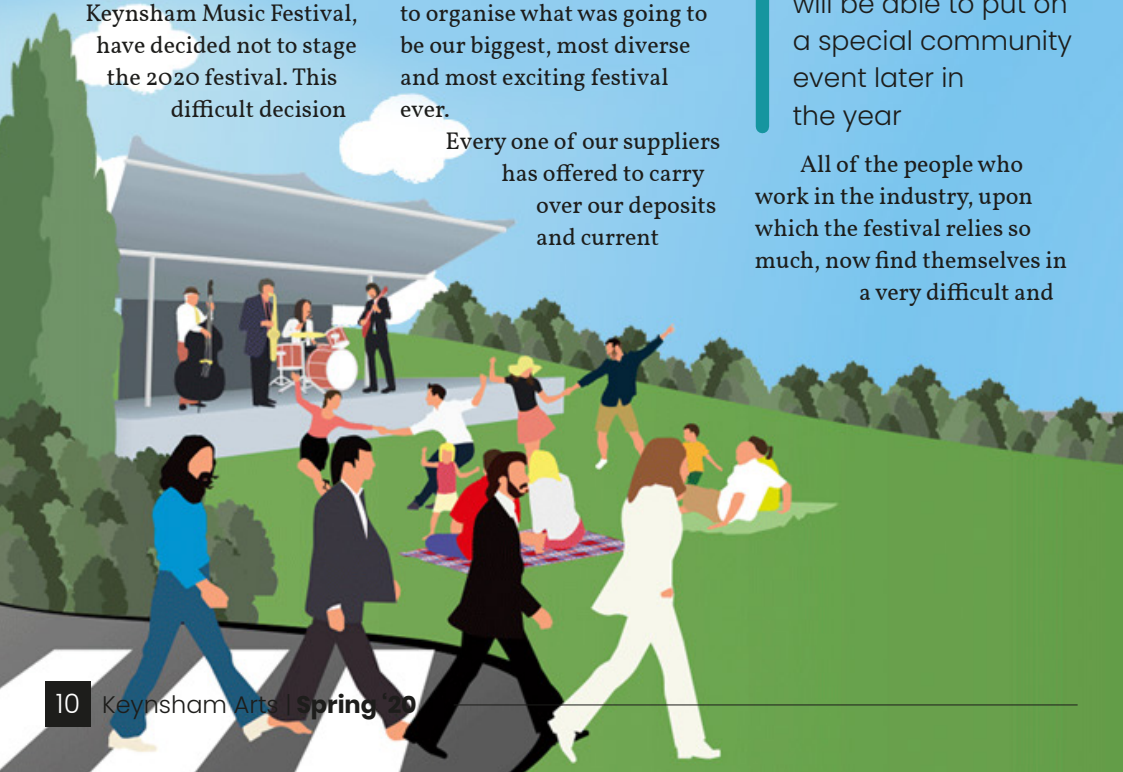
Every one of our suppliers has offered to carry over our deposits and current

contracts until next year, for which we are very grateful.

All trader deposits will be fully refunded in the coming days. All artists, performers, acts, and traders will be rebooked for the festival in 2021.

We will continue to monitor the situation and hope that we will be able to put on a special community event later in the year

All of the people who work in the industry, upon which the festival relies so much, now find themselves in a very difficult and



unknown future. We send our heartfelt best wishes to all of them.

Please note that next year's festival week will take place from 28th June - 4th July 2021.

We will continue to monitor the situation and hope that we will be able to put on a special community event later in the year. Of course, the timing of the event will depend on the health of the nation. Keep an eye on social media and our website for updates.

We were about to announce a new sponsor partnership with Truespeed and I include an extract from their Regional Manager, as it sums up what we as volunteers feel about this festival of ours...

*"As a Keynsham resident myself, I know how much the festival means to the community and the local businesses that are involved. It's amazing that an event of this size and calibre is organised purely by volunteers and is a huge testament to the incredible things that can be done when local*

*people work together.*

*The festival is all about community and that's exactly what TrueSpeed stands for as well. It was an easy decision to support an event that provides so much to Keynsham and its residents."*

On behalf of all of the team, thank you all for your support so far. We can't wait to be back in 2021 to celebrate what will be our 25th Anniversary!

Take care and look after each other.

**Mike May, Chairman,  
Keynsham Music Festival**



@keynshamFest



@keynshamfest



www.keynshammusicfestival.co.uk





# KTown Isofest

Keynsham's first 'Isolation Festival' a big success as local and international artists provide five hours of music from the safety of their own homes

On 28th March 2020 'K Town Isofest vo.1' was streamed, live and free, on Facebook to an international audience. The festival saw performances from local artists Tom Youdan, Gavin Osborn, Steve Mercy, Richard Jackson, John Hare (who supported Tom on the Trumpet from over his garden fence), and Gian P Milanetti who joined the event from Rome, Italy.

In light of the isolation measures and the very sad news that the 2020 Keynsham Music Festival has been cancelled, organiser Tom Youdan and his friends floated the idea of a virtual festival to reach out to those in the community feeling isolated, or just in need of some good entertainment. Just over a week after the initial idea, the first 'K Town Isofest' was going

out live to hundreds of people locally and across the UK, Italy and as far away as Australia!

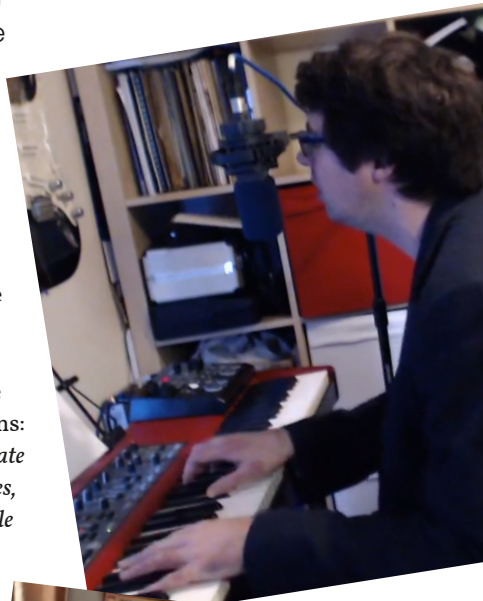
Performers and watchers came together to make the event truly special

Organiser, Tom Youdan, was very happy with the way the town's first Isofest had gone and underlined the importance of the musician's contributions:

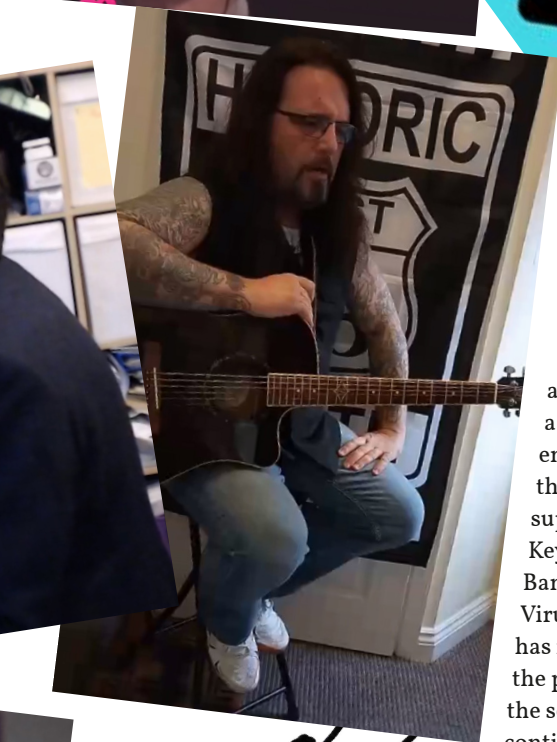
*"Through their intimate and engaging performances, they achieved two incredible outcomes; firstly, they delivered 5 hours of fabulous entertainment! Secondly, they brought watchers into their homes and their hearts with plenty of honesty, good humour and audience interaction. Performers and watchers came together to make the event truly special!"*

Tom added:

*"This was a hugely successful first run, but it doesn't end there! The community need for support and entertainment isn't going away, and we've already organised the next edition of the festival later in May, which promises to be bigger and better!"*







As well as providing a full days entertainment, the event was supporting the Keynsham Food Bank. The Corona Virus pandemic has increased the pressure on the service which continues to work incredibly hard to

help feed members of the local community at a very difficult time.

The next Ktown Isofest will be on Saturday 2nd May, 11am till late. You can stream the festival and find full

details about performances on the group's Facebook page, which also has videos of the first festival's performances. Search 'Keynsham Isofest'

Follow the 'Keynsham Iso Fest' Facebook page:



[www.facebook.com/groups/223923238968074](https://www.facebook.com/groups/223923238968074)

Find out more about the Keynsham Foodbank and donate at:



[keynsham.foodbank.org.uk](https://keynsham.foodbank.org.uk)

# Drawstring bag appeal

Community asked to support NHS workers by donating bags and toiletries



**K**eynsham in Bloom, in conjunction with the Keynsham Coronavirus COVID-19 Support Group, is running a project collecting items and asking people to make drawstring bags to get essential supplies to the health professionals at our local hospitals.

To help doctors, nurses and health staff at the Royal United Hospital in Bath look after themselves while they look after us, the appeal is asking people to make drawstring bags and donate toiletries and snacks.

If you want to get involved with the project you

can do so by making bags or by donating items (see list).

Help doctors, nurses and health staff at the Royal United Hospital in Bath look after themselves while they look after us

Donations can be dropped off at Keynsham Baptist Church; Mondays, 10am – 11am and Thursdays, 2pm – 3pm or you can take them to Community at 67.

If you prefer for your donations to be collected this can be arranged by contacting the Deputy Town Clerk, email [deputytownclerk@keynsham-](mailto:deputytownclerk@keynsham-)

[tc.gov.uk](mailto:tc.gov.uk) or telephone 07399 612317

If you are going to drop off your donation, please follow the Government guidance in respect of distancing and just drop your donation into the special box provided. The donations within the boxes will then be decontaminated before delivery to the RUH and they will do the same on receipt.

For anyone wanting material, lengths for making drawstring bags will be available on request and delivery can be arranged.

## Items needed:

- » Soap
- » Shower Gel
- » Toothpaste
- » Combs
- » Wet Wipes (small packs)
- » Lip Salve
- » Tissues (small packs)
- » Packets of Razors
- » Hand Cream
- » Deodorant
- » Bottled Water
- » Healthy Snack Bars

For more information contact the Deputy Town Clerk:

 07399 612317

 [deputytownclerk@keynsham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:deputytownclerk@keynsham-tc.gov.uk)



# Keynsham Music Man

The Keynsham Mencap project continues to grow, providing a platform for members to express themselves through music



**T**he Music Man Project run by Keynsham Mencap provides creative artists with a platform to raise awareness about the incredible difference music can make. Emotional well-being, basic skill development, self-discipline, teamwork, coordination, communication and social skills are all significantly enhanced through the study of music.

The project runs every Saturday morning and offers twenty member's two hours of teaching once a week, with singing and percussion as a regular feature of each session.

Membership has grown by 50% since launch. The sessions offer an opportunity for people with a learning

disability to access a regular and inclusive music club, perform to the general public, learn a new skill, develop as individuals and be part of a solid team.

social skills are all significantly enhanced through the study of music


In April 2019 members joined in with other regional Music Man Project groups to perform together at the Royal Albert Hall. Over 200 musicians with a learning disability from across the UK took part, accompanied by the Loraine Kelly Orchestra and massed community choirs from Southend; with the help of special guests, Peter Egan, Classical Reflection and

Jonny Buxton. This was a huge opportunity for local people with a learning disability to access and perform in an iconic concert hall in the biggest celebration of accessible music making there has ever been. The musicians worked hard and attended extra rehearsals in preparation for the concert. The Music Man Project had been running for just over a year - the Albert Hall concert was exactly one year after it was launched!

The musicians have performed to family and friends, and the wider community, including at the charity's 40th birthday celebration, Christmas fundraiser concerts and a performance in the Keynsham Memorial Park.

This project is going places and the members are now practising songs from Broadway shows; could this be their next destination?

 @MusicManProject-Keynsham

 [www.keynsham-mencap.org.uk/music-man-project-keynsham](http://www.keynsham-mencap.org.uk/music-man-project-keynsham)

 [laura@keynshammencap.org.uk](mailto:laura@keynshammencap.org.uk)

# If you go down to Bilbie Green today...

With the humans out of the way, a collection of chalk drawn bears have moved into an estate in Keynsham

**T**he bears are the work of Bilbie Green resident Ryan Wall, whose collection of famous furrries forms part of a 'Bear Hunt' that was organised so that children would have something to look at on their daily exercise walks.

The idea was to give a bit of cheer and light relief to the children of the community

Residents were encouraged to put their drawings and teddy bears in their windows but Ryan, who has been at home during the lockdown looking after his two children, took things one step further; the Chartered Engineer has been drawing his favourite bears (plus a few rogue mammals) from books and TV.

Ryan explains: "*the idea was to give a bit of cheer and*

*light relief to the children of the community as they walked and cycled around. People started putting their teddy bears in the windows, so the kids could go on a 'bear hunt'. I took this to the next progression by drawing some famous bears on the driveway"*

Paddington was the first bear to be 'drawn' to the estate, followed by Winnie the Pooh and then Yogi. Though most of Ryan's drawings are famous bears there have been a few non-ursine entries and he has had some pretty strange requests: "*I've had requests for all sorts; superheroes, various children's cartoon characters and even Slash from Guns 'n' Roses"*

If you are planning on going to Bilbie Green any time soon 'you'd better go in disguise' (and respect all the social distancing rules)!







## Answers

1. Kwazii Kitten (Octonauts)
2. Tump the Vegimal (Octonauts)
3. Pudsey (Children in Need)
4. Olaf (Frozen)
5. Baloo (The Jungle Book)
6. Puss in Boots
7. Boo-Boo (The Yogi Bear Show)
8. Dangermouse & Penfold (Dangermouse)
9. Winnie-the-Pooh (Winnie-the-Pooh)
10. Po (Kung Fu Panda)
11. Paddington (A Bear Called Paddington)

# What's Isolation

## **KTown Isofest v2**

**2nd May 2020, 11am – late**

If the first edition was anything to go by then version 2.0 of the KTown Isofest should be pretty special. With a massive 19 local (and not so local) artists already down to perform, this should go along way to satiating your 2020 festival cravings.

[www.facebook.com/groups/223923238968074](https://www.facebook.com/groups/223923238968074)

## **Bath & North East Somerset Virtual Library**

Including live storytimes, children's crafts, book reviews, reading suggestions, Virtual Bounce & Rhyme, tips on where to access free audiobooks and creative writing 'Lockdown' competitions.

[www.facebook.com/Bath-northeastlibraries](https://www.facebook.com/Bath-northeastlibraries)

## **Bathscape Wildlife Activities**

The guys from the Bathscape Landscape Partnership have put together a fantastic collection of nature ideas and activities that can be done indoors or in the garden.

[www.bathscape.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Free-online-resources-V2.pdf](https://www.bathscape.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Free-online-resources-V2.pdf)

## **Earn a Blue Peter Badge**

This page tells children exactly what they need to do to earn one (or more) of the eight different Blue Peter badges. We all know that Blue Peter badges nearly always translate into Knighthoods in adulthood so definitely worth a look.

[www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/about-blue-peter-badges](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/about-blue-peter-badges)

## **Google Arts & Culture**

This is an incredible and often breathtaking collection of arts, culture and travel from around the world. It includes museum tours, dance shows, quizzes, photographs and some amazing interactive articles from a wide variety of topics. If you can't find something to interest you here then you're not doing it right.

[artsandculture.google.com](https://artsandculture.google.com)

## **Keynsham Family Activities Facebook Group**

As well as showing you some great ideas you can try for yourself, this new group is a great way to keep in touch with other people in the community and see what they've been up to during the lockdown. Warning; activities

suggested in this group may leave you with paint on your carpet, curtains, fridge, hair, wife, husband and dog.

[www.facebook.com/groups/619022595321579](https://www.facebook.com/groups/619022595321579)

## **Listen to a FREE audiobook**

Audible has released a wide selection of books that can be listened to for free, including an amazing selection for children of all ages and some literary classics.

[stories.audible.com/discovery](https://stories.audible.com/discovery)

## **Longleat – Virtual Safari**

Join one of TV's favourite animal woman, Kate Humble, for a thirty-minute Longleat safari experience; the Lions don't just sleep and you won't need to pull into that lay-by to remove your wipers before going in.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUmHCIRPxc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUmHCIRPxc)

## **Marian Hill's Great Mini Beast Hunt**

Local artist Marian Hill has put together an amazing booklet that explains how to do a Mini-Beast Hunt. It includes mini-beast identification guide, a beautifully illustrated explanation of

metamorphosis and a helpful chart to record your findings.

It can all be downloaded for free from the Bathscape website.

[www.bathscape.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/BuzzScuttle-MarianHill-Great-Mini-BeastHuntBooklet-pdf.pdf](http://www.bathscape.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/BuzzScuttle-MarianHill-Great-Mini-BeastHuntBooklet-pdf.pdf)

## Orchard Toys Free activity sheets for Children

Orchard Toys have made loads of children's activity sheets available to download for free from their website. It's an extensive collection which covers all kinds of educational topics in a fun way.

[www.orchardtoys.com/dept/activity-sheets\\_d0129.htm](http://www.orchardtoys.com/dept/activity-sheets_d0129.htm)

## Roman Baths Walkthrough

Explore the Sacred Spring, the Roman Temple, the Roman Bath House and finds from Roman Bath with Google Street View.

[www.romanbaths.co.uk/walkthrough](http://www.romanbaths.co.uk/walkthrough)

## Roman Baths: Where's My Cloak Game

Can you help Peregrinus solve the mystery behind his missing cloak? Explore the Roman Baths, travel through time and write your curse to punish the thief in this point

and click adventure game.

[www.romanbaths.co.uk/wheres-my-cloak-game](http://www.romanbaths.co.uk/wheres-my-cloak-game)

## Virtual Concerts

Billboard.com have published a schedule of all of the music concerts and festivals that are happening online. The list is constantly being updated with everything from Miley Cyrus to the New York Metropolitan Opera.

[www.billboard.com/articles/columns/pop/9335531/coronavirus-quarantine-music-events-online-streams](http://www.billboard.com/articles/columns/pop/9335531/coronavirus-quarantine-music-events-online-streams)

## Virtual Experiences

Fancy visiting the Grand Canyon, Stonehenge, Yosemite, Ibiza or Jerusalem. All these places and lots more can be seen for free without leaving your sofa.

[www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/virtual-travel-experiences-vr-museums-galleries-national-parks-coronavirus-lockdown-a9409776.html](http://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/virtual-travel-experiences-vr-museums-galleries-national-parks-coronavirus-lockdown-a9409776.html)

## Virtual Museum Tours from around the world

The finest art and historical exhibits the world has to offer, all from the comfort of your own home.

[www.holidaypirates.com/vacations/virtual-travel/virtual-museums](http://www.holidaypirates.com/vacations/virtual-travel/virtual-museums)

## Wildlife Garden Project: Activities for Kids (and adults who like to have fun)

The Wildlife Garden Project has put together a great collection of wildlife-friendly activities that can all be done in your garden; they cater to all ages with most using items that can be found lying around the house.

[wildlifegardenproject.com/wildlife-gardening-activities-for-kids](http://wildlifegardenproject.com/wildlife-gardening-activities-for-kids)



Due to the pandemic, our What's On section is a bit different to normal; we've tried to focus on free things that you can do from the safety of your own home.

We're not sure what the situation will be by the time our next edition comes out, but if you're involved with an art group or know about an upcoming performance/exhibition (virtual or real life) and would like us to include it in our listings then please email

[david@keynsham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:david@keynsham-tc.gov.uk)

**Keynsham**



**Spring '20**



@KeynshamCouncil



@KeynshamCouncil



[www.keynsham-tc.gov.uk](http://www.keynsham-tc.gov.uk)