

The Kingsclere Tower



What's On & Local News

IN
REMEMBRANCE

NOVEMBER 2023

The Kingsclere Tower

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For many of us, Remembrance Day is very important. The First World War centennial anniversary five years ago, focused people's minds on the waste of life war brings. Yet, here we are again, in 2023, thinking of the suffering occurring in war zones presently.

However, on the day we remember all those who perished in the 1st World War, the 11th November, we can take heart that here, in our community, Maisie Phenix is celebrating her 105th birthday. St. Mary's Church will be lit up to celebrate the occasion. Well done Maisie! You are an example to us all by still continuing to contribute to village activities.

Hopefully, many of you were able to enjoy the excellent Photo Club Exhibition held in October and maybe able to participate in the events taking place at the Fieldgate Centre, the Village Club, the Methodist Church and at the Shipinnarts in the weeks leading up to Christmas.

The Editor

Neither the Editor, nor the Management Committee accept responsibility for the opinions expressed or the goods and services advertised in the Kingsclere Tower. The Editors reserve the right to omit, amend, or condense any item submitted for publication.

To all "Tower" Contributors

Copy for **DECEMBER/ JANUARY** to the Editor at kingscleretower@gmail.com.

NOT LATER THAN 12th NOVEMBER.

If possible please submit articles as a MS Word document, A5 page size, font Times

New Roman 11, single spacing. If email not possible post to

23 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Newbury RG20 5PP.

Will ALL contributors please include full name

& home phone number/e-mail address.

KINGSCLERE PARISH COUNCIL (KPC)

Chairman: Cllr Clive Mussett 07800 022432

Email: clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk

Telephone: 01635 298634

Office: 37 George Street, Kingsclere RG20 5NH



WELCOME TO OUR NEW COUNCILLOR – Helen Jonas was co-opted to the Parish Council in September, and we are looking forward to working together. There are still currently 3 Vacancies. If anyone is interested please do approach a councillor or contact the Clerk to the Council.

ROAD CLOSURE – REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER –

The Parish Council has been granted the temporary road closure again this year in the centre of the village for the Remembrance Parade along Swan Street and the Silence at 11am. We respectfully ask motorists to be mindful of this from 10.45am until 11.30am.

GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING – the collections dates are Wednesday 1st, 15th and 29th November and 13th December.

A REMINDER OF ISSUES YOU CAN REPORT TO YOUR BOROUGH COUNCIL:

Graffiti, needles / drug litter, road verge litter, dog fouling, abandoned vehicles, missed bin collections, damaged play equipment in non-parish owned play areas.

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/report

OTHER ISSUES YOU CAN REPORT TO YOUR COUNTY COUNCIL:

Uneven / damaged pavements, potholes, empty / damaged salt bins, broken signage, faulty street lighting, flooding, dead animals on the highway, faulty traffic lights.

www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – The next full Council Meeting will be at **7:30pm on Monday 27th November 2023**, in the Village Club. We welcome the attendance of all parishioners at our meetings and anyone who wishes to raise any matters of concern will be given the opportunity to do so during Public Questions.

The Parish website www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk
 @kingsclerepc  facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council



Providing affordable homes that meets residents' needs and ensuring the bidding process is simple is a key priority for Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's new Cabinet.

To support residents in making an application to get onto the Borough's housing register, an additional £130,000 of funding was allocated for two new housing officers at a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday 5 September, from funding held to support the delivery of the Council Plan priorities. The new officers will work closely with residents to understand their needs when making an application and also provide additional support to those who need it when they are bidding for new homes through the council's social rented lettings system, Homebid.

In September, there were 4,900 people currently on the housing register waiting to be matched to a home.

Cabinet Member for Residents' Services and Housing Cllr Laura James said: "The growing number of people on the housing register, the waiting time for properties to become available and the growing gap between the cost of renting privately and what residents can afford is making finding a home even more challenging.

"Our priority is doing everything we can to make it easier for people to get onto the housing register and to ensure their application reflects the needs they have. Our additional investment will ensure our housing team can work more closely with residents when joining the housing register and support them when bidding for a home."

For more information about the housing options available in the borough, visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/housing

Royal British Legion

Kingsclere RBL are busy preparing for Remembrance Day this year and look forward to welcoming you all.

There will be an Act of Remembrance on Saturday the 11th November at the Village Memorial followed by a larger Remembrance Parade on Sunday 12th November starting between 10.30am and 10.45am at the Village Memorial.

There will be a church service afterwards which is open to anyone.

Wendy Morgan 01635 297538





Has your parcel gone missing?

If your parcel wasn't delivered to the location you agreed, it's the seller's legal responsibility to sort out the issue. Check the delivery address you gave the seller. Then contact them and ask where your order is. If the seller claims they've delivered it or doesn't know where it is, you can ask for a redelivery. You might be able to get a refund in some circumstances.

If your item left with a neighbour or somewhere else has gone missing, it depends on whether your item was delivered by Royal Mail or a courier. If Royal Mail left something with a neighbour or in a certain place because you told them to, it's not the seller or Royal Mail's responsibility if it gets lost.

If Royal Mail left something with a neighbour or in a certain place and you didn't tell them to, it's the seller's responsibility if it gets lost. You should contact the seller to ask for a redelivery or a refund - you can phone, email or write a letter. You can choose not to have future deliveries left with a neighbour by completing a form on the Royal Mail website. <https://www.royalmail.com/personal/receiving-mail/delivery-to-neighbour-opt-out/>



If your item was delivered by a courier, check your terms and conditions or account details - they might include other places for delivery, like your porch or a neighbour's house. If you agreed to them, it's not the seller's responsibility if your order has gone missing. If your item wasn't delivered to the location you agreed, it's the seller's legal responsibility to sort out the issue. You can ask them to redeliver your item. You can ask for a full refund if a delivery date was essential and wasn't met, a delivery date was agreed but wasn't essential, and a second date also wasn't met or no delivery date was agreed and a second chance to deliver was not successful. A delivery date is essential if you told the seller you needed your delivery by a specific date. For either a refund or a redelivery, you can phone, email or write a letter. You can access template letters on our link below.

To find out more information about the steps you can take, check out our online support on www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/somethings-gone-wrong-with-a-purchase/if-something-you-ordered-hasnt-been-delivered/

Citizens Advice Basingstoke is here to help whatever your enquiry involves, please contact us on 0808 2 78 7829.

Charity Registration No. 900116



The Fieldgate Centre is run by the Kingsclere Community Association as a charity (No. 1168366).

The association is made up of volunteers who rely on the support and participation of the community.

The unseasonably warm weather through September and into October seemed to hold off Autumn, but the centre continued with its Autumn programme with all the regular classes including Slimming World, Ceroc, Clubbercise, Pilates, Yoga, Badminton, Songtree, Monthly Meet Up, Racing Welfare Coffee Mornings, and Zumba. Check our website for full details of the times of events and classes you may wish to attend.

We look ahead to November and have a packed calendar. Rehearsals are in full flow at the community centre in preparation for our seasonal pantomime. **Peter Pan, The Pantomime** will be performed by the Kingsclere Players in seven performances over the weekends of **24th, 25th and 26th November** and **2nd and 3rd December**. Please see the separate flyer in this magazine for more details. Book for this fun community event. Tickets can be purchased at:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/kingsclere-community-association>

We have another **Pilates Class** starting on **7th November**, this one on Tuesday at 12 noon. These are going to be 45-minute sessions for people with mobility issues or post/pre-op.

The Repair Café and Greener Market is taking place on **5th November**. Full details will be published on the website and Facebook soon.

The Monthly Meet Up will take place on **Tuesday 21st November**. Come along, have a cuppa and take part in the activities. If you need a lift or know someone who does we will arrange free transport, so please contact the office.

In October we had the 50th NHS Blood Donation in just over two years with almost 5000 pints of blood being donated during this period.

The centre continues to be busy and well booked for private functions. If you would like to hold an event at the centre, please contact the office. Please visit our website or Facebook page for more information.

www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk
fieldgatecentre@outlook.com

01635 298497
Facebook



The Amazing World of Magic

At this talk you will hear about the oldest magician known to mankind, the oldest trick in magic, scams based on that trick and how to avoid being caught out, the first book written about magic, the dawning of respectability, two famous magicians and the current magic scene. You will also see some different styles of magic which will entertain and amuse.



John Field was admitted as a solicitor in 1976 and has practised law ever since. However his main passion in life is magic and he has been performing as a magician for almost 50 years. He is a member of the world famous Magic Circle and within that club has been elevated to the rank of Associate Member of The Inner Magic Circle with Silver Star. This accreditation is only held by about 350 magicians worldwide. He has raised thousands of pounds for charities with his talks on magic and his magical performances.

Join us on
Wednesday 15 November at 10 a.m.
 St Mary's Hall, Overton
Free to members - Non-members £3 on the door.

COALES SOLES - FOOT HEALTH PROFESSIONAL

Daniela Coales, qualified as a foot health professional at the SMAE Institute, and is a registered member of the British Association of Foot Health Professionals.

Daniela offers a friendly face and professional service in the comfort of patients own homes, using sterilised instruments and personalised foot care.

Services offered.

- Nail trimming & filing
- Corn & Callus removal
- Ingrowing toenail treatment
- Verruca treatment & advice
- Fungal treatment & advice
- Diabetic footcare

Daniela Coales DIP FHP MCFHP MAFHP
Daniela@Coalessoles.co.uk 07850062266

Our next BIG EVENT

Sunday, 5th November, 10am-1.30pm, The Fieldgate Centre

Sustainable Christmas Market with stalls including refillables, food, and plenty of gifts and avoiding single use plastics.

This will be our last market for some time as we plan on different 'greener' events for 2024 – check our website or FB page for info.

Repair Café – bring along almost any small repair. To give us the best chance of fixing it, please register your repair on our website.

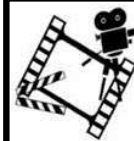
Fight Fast Fashion! Join our *free* clothing 'swap'. Take anything you can use! Donations of good-quality, clean clothing welcomed, but not required to take anything away. Children's, women's and men's.

Café – coffee, tea, cakes and other yummy items to enjoy while waiting for your repair or chatting with friends or something to pop in the freezer for Christmas.

We are very grateful for the support from our partners at the Kingsclere Community Association.

Volunteers to help with the fight against fast fashion needed to set up and put away clothing – please email if you can help!

Nicki, Sarah, Lucinda & Sue greenerkingsclere@gmail.com
www.greenerkingsclere.co.uk



Kingsclere Try the new look Film Club.

Saturday, 25th November, 2023 at 2.00pm

TO CATCH A THIEF

(1955 - PG - 106 min - mystery, romance & thriller)

After the Community Cafe at the Kingsclere Village Club

Refreshments from 1.30pm

In this Oscar winning Hitchcock thriller, a retired jewel thief sets out to prove his innocence after being suspected of returning to his former occupation. Stars Cary Grant and Grace Kelly.

New members and guests (£7.50) welcome at any time.

This film will be preceded by a short AGM

For further information call John Sawyer (Chairman) 297221 or Diana Tait (Membership Secretary) 298494

Kingsclere Community Library

Did you know your local library is absolutely FREE?

We are an independent public community library, and anyone is very welcome to join at absolutely no cost! You may borrow books – we have a full collection of fiction, non-fiction, large print, Children's and Young Adult books – plus graphic novels, jigsaw puzzles and you may use our public computer for free also. (There are charges for using our printer, or if you return your books late.)

Speaking of Jigsaw puzzles

We will have a selection of jigsaw puzzles available to borrow FOR FREE at the Greener Kingsclere Big Event at the Fieldgate on **5th November, 10am-1.30pm**. You may borrow as many as you like and keep as long as you like or pass along to a friend afterwards. A fun activity, especially over the holidays.



We are always in need of volunteers to keep our doors open, so if you have 2 hours per month (or more!) to help us out, do please get in touch.

HOURS	Tuesday & Thursday	1.00pm - 5.30pm
	Saturday	10:00am - 1.00pm

Nicki Lee, Library phone 01635 297464

Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com www.kingsclerelibrary.co.uk



The Ship Inn Arts Centre

Come and join us! You will be warmly welcomed

Friday 3rd November 7–10pm – Open Mic. If you would like to come along, just turn up. The bar is open. Donation pot for food. **Free event.** If you just want to pop in for a drink on Open Mic nights, please do.

Tuesday 7th November 11am – 2pm Tuesday Crafts at Shipinnarts- Remembrance Theme – Design and make special poppies for Armistice. Knit or sew poppies for brooches, hat pins. Make a happy tree. Alternatively bring a craft you are continuing, or just come and have a chat. Please bring your own lunch. Tea and Coffee provided.

Tickets £5 on Eventbrite/ring The Ship 01189 814504

Friday 24th November 6.30pm – 8.30pm – A fabulous theatrical evening with Razzamatazz! Directed by Deb Ledwith. Guest performers will be invited. £5 a Ticket Adults/ Children FREE. Light Refreshments provided. Tickets on Eventbrite/direct from The Ship.

Friday 1st December 6.30pm – 8.30pm – Talent at The Ship! Performers of music/arts/theatre are invited to come share their talent. This is not a competition so no judging involved. Light refreshments will be served during the interval. £3 for performers, £5 for a group. £5 for adults, children free. Please email Hazel O'Leary on hazeloleary@hotmail.co.uk or ring 07929 027862 – book early to avoid disappointment, seating only for 40.

Cut off date 15th November 2023.

What's on in NOVEMBER and 1st DECEMBER at Shipinnarts (The Ship Inn Country Hotel, Ashford Hill RG19 8BD) 01189 814504 <https://shipinnarts.org/>



(our new QR code to link to 2023 events)

Tickets on Eventbrite, or direct from The Ship

(Go into Eventbrite, click on search event, it will ask for location – type in West Berkshire alternatively go on our Website (above) and click on Events 2023 and scroll down to find the event, there will be a link there for you to connect with Eventbrite)

The Tower is very pleased to announce that once again we have some surplus funds which are available to local clubs and organizations for the benefit of Kingsclere residents.

If you like to apply for a grant, please email the editors at kingscleretower@gmail.com requesting an application form. If email is not possible you may write to the editors at 23 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Newbury RG20 5PP.

Funds are limited and we may not be able to approve all requests, but do please apply and we shall do our best.

The Editors and Tower Committee



KINGSCLERE VILLAGE CLUB Est. 1921

CHARITY 1189234

Website <https://www.kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk>

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



Community Café & Citizens Advice

This month's Café is on Saturday 25th, 10am to 1pm, featuring a fun quiz (11 o'clock) and a craft table for younger visitors. The **Citizens Advice Bureau** will be in attendance between 12 and

1pm. Find out how they can help - all welcome.

Christmas Market

Our very popular Christmas Market returns on Sunday December 3rd, 10 am to 1pm. Lots of lovely hand-made goods, delicious food and quality items. Find that special gift or treat yourself! More details on our website and Facebook page.



Lights & Lanterns

An atmospheric delight for children and adults. Saturday 27th January, early evening. There will be the opportunity to make lanterns on the day at the Community Café. See next month's Tower for more details.

Bookings

Planning a party, meeting or event? Visit our website for information on the rooms available and book directly through the Club Diary page.

Helen 01635 297390 or events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk

Kingsclere Twinning Association

Come and join us at the **Village Club** on **Saturday 2nd December** from 7pm for a warm and convivial **French Bistro Evening!**



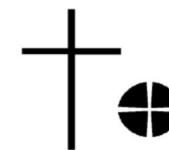
- 3 course French themed meal.
- Table-top quiz.
- Bar selling wine, beer and soft drinks.
- Raffle to win a magnum of Champagne from Cormicy!

All are welcome – individuals or groups - and tickets are available at **£15** for members and **£20** for non-members.

Please email kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk or contact Sue Watson on 01635 298940 for tickets.

The Church Pages

Asked about Remembrance Sunday on a radio programme, one person said, 'It's boring'. That seems to be the easiest way of making a criticism without really thinking, and it can be applied to everything. Do you like Maths? No, it's boring. Literacy? Boring. Will you now load the dishwasher, tidy your room? Do I have to? It's boring.



The reason why so many things are dismissed in this kind of way must be because the whole world seems to be designed to stop us getting bored. Watching the telly, you are bored, so zap and there is another programme in a split second. If you don't like one game on your electronic device, try another. In comparison with all that digital entertainment offers, real life may seem pretty boring.

In our contemporary world someone is bound to be wondering where the fast forward button is so that we can get past the talk of cancelled infra-structure projects, the continuing and rising levels of poverty, the inflammatory language of prejudice and find something more interesting. But someone else will say, 'This is the real world with things happening in real time, not a make-believe one on a screen'. And that is really important, because we all know that the most important part of the Remembrance Sunday service consists of two minutes of complete boredom. For two minutes we stand still and nothing happens.

On Remembrance Sunday we will stand with people who have experienced war. They know that some things are so important that you do them no matter how tedious they seem. These people are probably wearing medals, the medals that recognise their devotion to duty in war. And those who know about these things say that, for most people, war is 95% boredom and 5% the most terrifying thing you will ever experience in your whole life.

So there will be two minutes' silence, no distractions, and real concentration. We're here to remember. And that is going to be hard because, when we remember those who died in war, we are faced with the most terrible evil. The deaths of service personnel and the deaths of civilians are part of the terrible cost of war. And we haven't learned to avoid it yet. War still goes on. If it is difficult to concentrate in the silence you may like to have a thought to help you remember and to live in hope of a better world.

"If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all".

Romans 12:18

Peace,

Rachel Borgars
Methodist Minister

Rachel

Worship in our Churches November



Thursday 2 nd November		10.30am Holy Communion St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 5 th November	9.30am Holy Communion St Peter's, Headley	10.30am Holy Communion St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Thursday 9 th November		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 12 th November		10.50am Remembrance St Mary's, Kingsclere 10.50am Remembrance St Paul's Ashford Hill	3pm Remembrance St Peter's, Headley
Thursday 16 th November		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 19 th November	9.30am Morning Worship St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Thursday 23 rd November		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 26 th November	9.30am Holy Communion St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	4pm Service of Remembering St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 30 th November		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	

Lighting up St Mary's

The sight of St Mary's Church when it is floodlit is truly beautiful. Many people sponsor these lights (£12 per evening) to celebrate an occasion, such as a birthday, wedding, anniversary, christening, or some other special day in their lives.



To book, contact Emma, our Church Administrator on **07422 687125** or email **administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk**

November

1st Dear Judy, 10 long years have passed by. Love and miss you very much. Teresa, Winston & family x x

11th Kingsclere's oldest resident, Maisie Phenix, achieves the grand age of 105 on the 11th of November, and her family are delighted to mark the momentous event by illuminating St Mary's Church for the occasion. Maisie has lived in the village since the late 1940s and has been an active member of the community, particularly in her involvement with the local Red Cross detachment, various fund-raising initiatives, and generally being a good neighbour to one and all. She continues to help others by making crochet blankets for Project Linus.

16th In loving memory of John Miles on World Pancreatic Cancer Day with all our love from Kate, Maddy, Sam, Nik, Phil and families.

23rd Your Birthday comes around again dear Eileen and we go on missing you and loving you always, Anne & Bill xx

24th Remembering Jonny, a wonderful son and brother, on his 35th birthday, ten years after he fell asleep so young. Tim and Sue, David and Lizzie, Roo and Laura.

Kingsclere Methodist Church

Services in November

Sunday 5th November – Mr Charlie Philips

Sunday 12th November – Joint Remembrance Day

Service at St Mary's Church

Sunday 19th November – Rev Roger Larkinson

Sunday 26th November – Mr Tim Gardner

All services begin at 10 am and all are welcome.

Coffee Morning every Thursday at 10.30am.

Hall available for hire see details on inside cover of this magazine.



Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Ltd

Do come along to our AGM at **7pm on Wednesday 8th November**, in the **Atkinson Room at the Fieldgate Centre** for a glass of wine and to hear about our aims for the coming year.

Full details about our Quiz Night and light supper at the **Fieldgate Centre on Friday 2nd February** will be given in the December/January issue of the Tower but now is the time to be thinking of recruiting your team, to avoid the disappointment of our being sold out! Individuals or smaller groups are also most welcome at this always enjoyable event, and where possible will be grouped together to form teams.



Peter Turner, Chairman

Website: friendsofstmaryskingsclere.org. For membership & enquiries contact fosmkingsclere@gmail.com

FOSM 200 Club

The winner of the October Draw was

Janine Westropp — No.128

Congratulations, Janine.

Next month's Draw will take place at The Crown at approximately 7 pm on Thursday 2nd November. 200clubkingsclere@gmail.com

Kingsclere and Headley Woodlands WI

The meeting in October was great fun, meeting Maggy Wallace's Pets as Therapy (PAT) dog, Sunny. All our members loved seeing Sunny and hearing all about Pets as Therapy as Maggy told us of visiting different venues.



This month, on the 8th November (the second Wednesday in the month, as usual) we will be welcoming Denise Allen who will be demonstrating making Christmas and other flower arrangements. Some members are more talented when it comes to flower arrangement than others! Denise is definitely very talented!

If you want an opportunity to make new friends, maybe learn a new craft, then the Village Club on the second Wednesday of the month, is the place to be. Do come along, you will be made very welcome. Have a cup of tea/coffee, a biscuit and a chat with like-minded people and see what you think.

Margaret Geary President 01635 297197

GUITAR RECITAL

By Mark Jennings On **Saturday 18 November 2023**

At Kingsclere Methodist Church starting: 6.00pm.

Ticket price: £12.50 Tickets can be ordered by phoning: 01635 299316 (leave a message) or email to: hazelrobbie321@gmail.com

Join Maestro **Mark Jennings** for an evening of virtuoso guitar classics. This acclaimed guitarist has won the hearts and minds of audiences for many years across the UK and overseas. Known for his brilliant technique, stunning sounds and musicality, Mark will transport us to serene, dynamic and beautifully exotic musical landscapes.



50% of the proceeds will go towards Kingsclere Methodist Church funds.

Refreshments will be served during the interval

Kingsclere PHOTO Club

****EXHIBITION RESULTS****

Thank you to everyone who saw our recent exhibition, we hope you enjoyed the show!

The photo most voted as the Favourite Picture was 'Loch Sligachan, Isle of Skye' by Mary Ferguson.



The Best Panel as voted by members was Rebecca Hedges 'Venice in Winter'



2024 CALENDARS

Our super 2024 calendars are on sale, available while stocks last @ just £7 from:

MOL Photography, George Street

SPAR Kingsclere (Swan Street Stores)

They make ideal Christmas gifts!

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

At the Village Club (Main Hall), George Street, doors open 7.15pm for 7.45pm start:-

Weds 1st Nov 'Light Painting' practical.

Weds 6th Dec AGM, social and 'Best Photo of 2023' competition

For more club information, see our website www.kingsclerephoto.org or email us at kingsclerephotoclub@gmail.com

Nature Notes

Brushing our teeth in the bathroom one morning, my toddler and I hear a ragged chorus of honking sweep over our roof. 'See, see!' my little one urges, pointing at the black morning outside the window, but I explain that the birds have long gone. One evocative sound of the turning season – migratory geese coming from the north to winter in the more temperate UK. I can use memories to imagine the skein as it soars in an amazing V-formation; she will have to wait until she has more experience of this lovely sight.

We still have late blackbird fledglings hopping after their parents along the garden fences, disheveled, and gorged with the fat of their parents' diligent feeding and lack of exercise. The robin is a regular visitor now, stalking my husband as he plants new shrubs whilst the ground is still soft and moist.

Sudden gusts shake the tired trees who are, I wonder, like me, welcoming the chillier mornings. I watch the leaves of the white poplar flutter like tiny flashing lights in the dull grey sky. The wind whisks the fallen leaves into whirlwinds, giving their crisp, lifeless forms a new energy as they dance in circles, dragging their hardened edges across the concrete. My daughter points at them and says, 'Running away!' as she watches them delightedly.

It feels like a quiet, anticipatory time of year – all natural things pausing to take a breath before the sharp winter takes it from us by force. As we amble along in and out of the long afternoon shadows, I point out tiny spiders sitting motionless like bullseyes in their webs, spread across neatly trimmed conifer hedges. A petal falls from a lonely peach-coloured rose, clinging on to these last balmy days – but the flowers on the bush are now well outnumbered by swollen red rose hips, fat with seed. A crow's caw breaks the silence, echoing over the house roofs. We catch sight of a little muntjac deer dashing across the road and scurrying up the track past The Crown. Currently, the favourite stopping point on our walks is to see the *iris foetidissima* – or the rather unflatteringly termed, 'stinking iris' – whose eruption of orange berries from its split pods are an enduring fascination.

Lydia Harley-Tomlinson
lydia.harleytomlinson@gmail.com

Wolverton Village Market

The next Market will be held on **Saturday 4th November** in the Village Hall from 9.30am until 11am. There will be lots of stalls to browse including handmade pottery, Home grown produce, locally made garden ornaments, bric a brac, cards, paintings and candles and many more. Tea, coffee and biscuits are available. Free parking outside the hall

For more information, please contact **Wendy Morgan 01635 297538**

November in the Garden

With the very short days upon us, it is a race to get the last of the jobs done in the garden before daylight and weather defeats us.

The compost heap or bin will be in a great deal of use at this time of year. Do make sure there is a good mix with fallen leaves, grass cuttings, garden and vegetable kitchen waste. Keep the heap or bin moist and covered, the compost will be ready to use in 12 to 18 months.

Most plants in the borders and beds can be cut down now as they will have finished flowering. The tender plants will need to be lifted and protected from the frost. I choose to leave my dahlia plants in the garden. I cut them back to the ground level, then place quite a large pile of soil on top to prevent the frost from penetrating. This worked earlier in the year when we had the very heavy frost as they all survived and flowered beautifully this summer.

Tulips need to be planted now as it is getting late to do the job. Do you remember to give the bulbs good drainage to prevent the bulbs from rotting. When I plant tulips in tubs I prefer to plant them in two layers.

Net any brassicas that you have in the garden as the birds will feast on them during the winter months. Dig over any vacant garden as this will give the frost a chance to break up the soil. Applying a thick layer of mulch at this time of the year will give protection from the winter months to some of the plants in the garden.

Bare rooted roses, trees and shrubs can still be planted now if the soil is not frozen. Keep raking up the fallen leaves to prevent spoiling plants and the lawns and of course harbouring slugs and snails. It's also a good idea to tie in climbers as the winter winds can cause damage.

Seed catalogues are available now and will pass the time on a wet day. Please keep in mind the advice for storing seeds that I gave last month.

Cleaning the shed for storing our cleaned and oiled tools plus washed flowerpots is a rewarding job to do and don't forget to dispose of the out of date garden products.

If the weather permits, it's still possible to lay any new lawn turfs if necessary. There should be berries in the garden to admire and hopefully some beautifully coloured leaves before they fall. Winter pansies thrive at the moment as do the sedums and rose hips.

Denise Allen

Kingsclere Gardening Association

Our next meeting is on
9 November 2023 at The Village Club.



The talk this month is Skullduggery in the Shrubbery by **Stefan White**.

The sad, true and fascinating story of the Tradescants. The inspiring story of John Tradescant and his family, a 17th century gardener to English royalty, founder of the world's first museum, widely travelled plant collector, adventurer and collector of nature's rarities, all stolen by a rascally lawyer, who took all the credit. Witchcraft, the last remaining dodo, mermaids, magic spells, Kings and Queens, intrigue and treachery all feature in this insight into a turbulent period of history.

The doors open at 7pm and the talk will commence at 7.30pm for approximately an hour. Refreshments are included and we hold a raffle. Any donations for the raffle are always welcome. £3 entry for non-members and children free.

The KGA hold a **Members' Competition** and it continues this month. You can enter any or all of the following categories (all to be home/allotment grown): A vase of flowers – one kind or mixed. A single stem from the garden. A pot plant. A pair of vegetables. A vase of flowers, foliage and/or berries.

We will also have the "Club Bulbs" on sale at this meeting. Every year we choose two varieties of daffodils for KGA members to grow over winter and enter into the Spring Show as a "pot of club daffodils". We will give you more information about the bulbs and the best cultivation at the meeting.

We do not have a meeting in December, so our next meeting will be the AGM on **Thursday 11th January 2024**. More details will be in the December issue.

Beth Theobald (Secretary) 07916 032250.

Facebook: Kingsclere Gardening Association. Please come and join our FB group. News, events and schedules for show entries will be advertised there first.

Service of Remembering

**Sunday 26th November
at 4 pm
St. Mary's Kingsclere**

An opportunity to remember those loved ones who have passed away.

Refreshments will be served at the end of the service

for more information contact 01635-299528 or 07422-687125

The Lighthouse

Wednesdays
from 10-12 noon
Starting 4th October
St. Mary's Church, Kingsclere
(Kingsmill Room)

Bumps and Babies
Mums & Toddlers
Carers & Dads Welcome
Age from 0-4

Playtime Refreshments
Sensory Play Bible Story
Singing Lot's of Fun

Term time only

Contact
01635 299528 or 07422 687125
administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk

Kingsclere Local History Association

Our next meeting is on

THURSDAY 23rd NOVEMBER

SARAH SOMERVILLE

presents

" SHAW HOUSE : BERKSHIRE'S HIDDEN GEM "

Sarah has great experience in the public opening and events at historic houses. At Shaw House Sarah has written the first guide book and introduced audio guides as well as organising the largest events there.

Built in 1581 the mansion has many fascinating stories to tell including visits from Royalty, a setting for Civil War battles and a base for soldiers during two World Wars.

After a multi-million pound restoration it is a visitor attraction and business centre and the restoration has brought to life many new secrets which Sarah will share with us.

We meet in the main hall at Kingsclere Village Club at 7.30pm and visitors are very welcome at £3 pp.

Michael Leah Secretary tel 297403



Kingsclere CE Primary School

We have had a super half term with lots of opportunities for our children. On the 29th September we held our Harvest Festival at St. Mary's church where children shared poems, facts and songs linked to harvest. The children performed very well and thank you to all the parents/carers who were able to join us.

We have begun our Open Mornings for new Year R parents/carers for children who will be starting school in September 2024. Please contact the school via email: adminoffice@kingsclere.hants.sch.uk or on the school telephone no. 01635 298583 to arrange a visit to our lovely school.

This week, our Year 1 and Year 2 children toured Kingsclere village to explore key landmarks and learn how the village has changed over time. This linked to the children's enquiry learning in History. The children also posted a letter to their parents on their journey which was a highlight of the village walk!

We are very much looking forwards to our firework festival on 4th **November**. Please do join us! Gates open at 16:30 and Fireworks will begin at 18:00. Food and drink will be available throughout the evening and tickets for the event will be available from Swan Street Stores.

Mrs Joanna Messenger (Acting Headteacher)



Kingsclere Players

Peter Pan
Fieldgate Centre



Get into the Christmas spirit with the Kingsclere Players production of Peter Pan.

Be transported into the story of the boy who never grew up – with a panto twist of course! Guaranteed fun for all the family.

Friday November 24th at 7.30pm
Saturday November 25th at 2.30pm
Saturday November 25th at 7.30pm
Sunday November 26th at 2.30pm
Saturday December 2nd at 11am
(meet and greet the characters)
Saturday December 2nd at 7.30pm
Sunday December 3rd at 2.30pm

Book tickets now at [Ticketsource.co.uk](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) or through the Fieldgate Centre.



Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby and Toddler Group

Where: The Village Club

When: Tuesdays 9.00am-11.00am

Cost: £2.50 for 1st Child (including snack for child and hot drink and biscuit for adult), 50p per extra child, £1 per extra adult

The Bunnies will be welcoming back Sam from Sherbert Fizz Ceramics on Tuesday November 7th Come and join us to paint and personalise pottery with a Christmassy theme! We love welcoming new visitors to our play sessions.

We are a very friendly selection of mums, dads, grandparents and child minders with children, from tiny babies to energetic toddlers. We enjoy both indoor and outdoor play, with a craft table, a dedicated baby area, plenty of toys, and singing time too.

Thank you as always to Swan Street Stores for their continued support of a weekly donation of fresh fruit snacks for the bunnies. For information visit our Facebook page, or regular visitors can join our WhatsApp group for weekly updates.

Tess Watkins 07905 624679

Busy Bees

We have to begin with a big thank you to Kingsclere RFC for choosing Busy Bees as the charity for their memorial match. It was a fantastic event for the preschool with lots of laughs, a raffle, an auction, and of course the rugby!

We held our Halloween disco during half term, which is always a favourite with the children as they get to dress up and fill up on spookiness and sweets.

As we welcome everybody back after the half term break there is lots to look forward to in the coming weeks. On the 18th November we will be having a harvest / thanksgiving lunch, which is a great time to enjoy good food and good company while we catch up and connect with our community.

And of course the run up to Christmas is full of crafts and excitement, with our Christmas fayre in the mix too. We will post details on our facebook page so keep an eye out for all the info!

Our AGM will be held on Thursday 7th December. We have some longstanding trustees whose children have now left for school, and we'd love some involvement from newer parents and community members. Please contact admin.busybees@btconnect.com if you are interested in joining the committee and supporting the preschool.

Ecchinswell and Sydmonton C.E Primary School

Open Morning **Wednesday November 10th 2023**
9.30 am until 11.30am

Come and have a look around our friendly village primary school with a nurturing community ethos.

Ofsted Good Provider

Phone 01635 298288 for information.



Saturday
Coffee

10 -12 Noon in the Kingsmill Room
St Mary's Church

November 4th, 11th & 18th
December 2nd

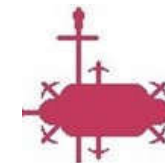
Please join us for freshly brewed coffee,
Home cakes & a warm welcome

Free Wi-fi

Kingsclere Rugby Club

Want To Get Fit and Have Fun?

Please feel free to join us at the rugby club at the Fieldgate Centre.



Fitness for Rugby is still going on and runs every Wednesday evening between 7.00 - 8.00pm followed by training for matches. Even if you have not played the game before or even not since your school days, you are more than welcome to join us.

The adult team won its first league game against Overton 2nd's, 71 -14 on Saturday 30th September.

If you are not so energetically inclined there is always Walking Rugby which can be played by both males and females of all ages. The club runs this every Wednesday evening between 7.00 - 8.00 pm.

Our minis session is held each Sunday morning for the ages 5 -10 years olds' between 10.30 - 12 noon. There was a break on Sunday 22nd October for half term and on Sunday 29th October there was a Halloween session. If your children would like to play sport and you would like to get out on a Sunday morning, please come along and meet other children and parents.

On Saturday 7th October the club held the Chris Smith memorial/Old Boys charity fund-raising game which was a great success. On the day, over £1,000 was raised for the Busy Bees Pre-school, Kingsclere. A very big thank you to all the players who turned out, the Busy Bees Pre-School for arranging the raffle, local businesses for donating the prizes, the Fieldgate Centre together with the supporters, all contributed to making the day very enjoyable and successful.

The Club is currently looking for:-

- A first aider to support our adult team on Saturday afternoons during the season. This will be a shared role with two other persons. If required a training course will be provided.
- A physio to provide treatment to injured players on a Wednesday evening at the same time as the regular training session.

To find out more information please contact either Dilwyn Patterson by email Chairman-Kingsclererfc@outlook.com or by mobile 07831 161163 or Stefan Morsley by email Coach-Kingsclererfc@outlook.com or mobile 07815 670782 or alternatively via the club's Facebook and Instagram pages.

Dilwyn Patterson Chairman-Kingsclererfc@outlook.com

