

A photograph of a winding road lined with trees in autumn. The trees have vibrant orange and yellow foliage. The ground is covered with fallen leaves. The sky is a clear blue.

# The Kingsclere Tower

What's On & Local News  
**OCTOBER 2023**



# The Kingsclere Tower

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Autumn has arrived and the leaves are slowly turning golden brown. Summer in Kingsclere finished with a glorious Bank Holiday fete followed by the Step Up for Swan Street festival at the beginning of September.

“Well done” to all those who volunteered to help and to those who supported *St. Mary's Church Fete*. It made over £12,000 which is magnificent! How good to see so many people enjoying themselves. A special thankyou must go to the singers and musicians who made the church such a welcoming venue not to mention the delicious cakes and teas provided.

Speaking of music and entertainment, the *Step Up for Swan Street* event held on White Hill on the 2nd September was very special. The venue of the magic tree circle on White Hill was the perfect setting for the fund raising event held by the 24 Swan Street group. An extraordinary number of talented students and musical groups kept us entertained till late. (See p.16)

A very special week was rounded off by the excellent *Greener Kingsclere* market on the Sunday morning at the Fieldgate Centre. **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.

## **To all “Tower” Contributors**

Copy for to the Editor at [kingscleretower@gmail.com](mailto:kingscleretower@gmail.com)

NOT LATER THAN 12th October 2023.

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.**

## KINGSLERE PARISH COUNCIL

**Chairman:** Cllr Clive Mussett 07800 022432

**Email:** [clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk)

**Telephone:** 01635 298634

**Office:** 37 George Street, Kingsclere RG20 5NH



### 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](http://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](http://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems)

**HALLOWEEN** – We don't want to be the Fun police, but whilst Halloween can be fun for many, there are some that find it scary, particularly those that are elderly or vulnerable.

To avoid causing distress to others, please follow the below advice:

- Respect signs asking you not to trick or treat at someone's home. If a home isn't decorated, don't knock, unless pre-arranged.
- Adults should always accompany children when trick or treating
- Young people should never go trick or treating alone.
- Plan your route before leaving home.
- Do not knock on the doors of strangers – only go to people you know.
- Never go inside a stranger's home.
- Always keep to well-lit areas. Wear bright clothing and always carry a torch.
- Unless pre-arranged, do not visit elderly or vulnerable members of the community.
- Don't play pranks that may damage property (including throwing eggs or flour). It is classed as a criminal offence and you could be arrested.

To download the poster and for advice on having a safe Halloween night, please visit: <https://orlo.uk/qI57E>

**GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING** – the collections dates are Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October, 1st November.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – The next full Council Meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 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.



Basingstoke



### Get Help with the Cost of Living

If you don't have enough money to live on, you might be able to get help to afford essentials like bills and food. This includes the Household Support Fund and cost of living payments. You should check if you can claim benefits - you might be able to do this even if you work, have savings or own a home.

If you owe money and you're struggling to pay:

- You should speak to the organisations you owe money to – they might let you pay smaller amounts or take a break from payments.
- Don't ignore bills or letters about money you owe.
- You can find out how to start dealing with your debts.

### Check what benefits you can get

You might be able to claim benefits or increase your current benefits if you're:-

- Of working age and on a low income.
- Sick or disabled.
- Of State Pension age and on a low income.
- A carer.
- Responsible for children.

Lots of people miss out on benefits they're entitled to, so it's worth checking what you can get on: [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/benefits-introduction/what-benefits-can-i-get/](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/benefits-introduction/what-benefits-can-i-get/)

If you would like some advice on the Cost of Living payment, essential bills and budgeting, or help with your energy bills, please do get in touch with Citizens Advice Basingstoke on **0808 278 7829** or complete the 'Contact Citizens Advice Basingstoke Today' form on:

[www.basingstokeandtadleycab.org.uk/citizens-advice-basingstoke](http://www.basingstokeandtadleycab.org.uk/citizens-advice-basingstoke) - you will receive a response within 3 to 5 working days.

Citizens Advice Basingstoke are currently seeking volunteer advisers. If you can spare one or two afternoons per week, please do get in touch on:

[trainingadmin@basingstokecab.org.uk](mailto:trainingadmin@basingstokecab.org.uk)





## Kingsclere Neighbourhood Plan

By the time you read this the NP Group will have met once again. The main item on our agenda will be the draft site selection report prepared by the consultancy AECOM. The report analyses the potential of various sites for development which are adjacent to the village should the need arise to find future sites. The final report will be published on the Parish Council website.

In November, members of the NP group and the Parish Council have been invited to a meeting with Borough Cllrs. regarding the Local Plan review. Following the meeting we should have a better idea of potential changes to the Local Plan and their implications for Kingsclere.

By now residents should be aware that a revised planning application has been submitted for Porch Farm. The overall number of new houses has been reduced to 165. Details can be found on Basingstoke & Deane's Planning Portal, reference 22/01856/FUL.

This is my final report on the NP for the Tower. After ten years as chair of the group, I am stepping down, although I will remain a group member. If you are interested in the future development of the parish, we would welcome new members to our Neighbourhood Planning group. All of us are residents of Kingsclere with an interest in the future of our village and surrounding area. If interested, please contact me on this mail address.

**Sue Adams** sueadams@madasafish.com

Do you live in Kingsclere or the surrounding area? Why not come along to our social group that is designed for older people, looking for weekly activities and companionship?

**Kingsclere  
SOCIAL GROUP**

**AGEconcern**  
Hampshire

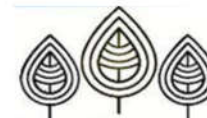
EVERYONE  
welcome...

*Tuesday 10am to 12pm*

Rose Hodson Court, Kingsclere, RG20 5TR

Call: **01962 868545** or email: **kim.stone@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk**

## Watership Down Health



### Support to help with On the Day/Urgent Calls during Winter 2023/24

We had a large increase last winter in the demand for on the day/urgent appointments. Here are some useful suggestions.

#### Ordering repeat prescriptions, checking results, etc

Various online services accounts are available (and there are now over 45 to choose from). Many patients are choosing to use the NHS App and this also gives access to lots of validated healthcare information. Please go to:

<https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-app/> to set up the NHS App. We recommend that all parents/carers of children download the NHS Healthier Together App <https://www.what0-18.nhs.uk/>

#### Access to health services with no online access.

All of our services can still be accessed by calling Watership Down Health on 0333 034 1033.

**Emergencies** Please ring 999

**Urgent advice** Please ring 111 or <https://111.nhs.uk> online (Out of Hours)

#### New telephone number

We have recently moved to one single (local rate) telephone number for Watership Down Health – **0333 034 1033**. Please ensure this is a *Safe Number* on your list, so that when we call you, the number is recognised

#### On the day appointments

From September, we will be asking for your cooperation with a trial that we are undertaking to prioritise those who have to be seen on the day, whilst advising others on a suitable way forward. To do this we will send you a text via an AccuRx text link, after you have phoned. This link will ask you to complete a simple online assessment. For those who are unable to use digital services, our receptionists will be asking a few more questions to help us prioritise.

#### Cancelling appointments (from a Smart phone)

If you need to cancel or if you no longer need an appointment, please respond when you receive a text reminder. This immediately releases the appointment to be available for another patient.

#### Flu vaccines

The influenza immunisation programme will start in early October. We will vaccinate those in the priority groups below:

- Those aged 6 months to under 65 years in clinical risk groups.
- Pregnant women.
- Those aged 65 years and over.
- Carers and close contacts of immune-compromised individuals.
- Frontline workers in social care settings employed by social care providers without employer led occupational health schemes.

Those patients who are outside these groups can pay to have the influenza vaccination through a community pharmacy.





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 return of the children to school saw all the regular activities return to the Fieldgate Centre in September and we had a very busy month with Slimming World, Ceroc, Clubbercise, Pilates, Yoga, Badminton, Songtree, Rugby Minis, Monthly Meet Up, Racing Welfare Coffee Mornings, and Zumba at the new weekly slot of 10.35am on Monday mornings. Check our website for full details of the times of events and classes you may wish to attend.

We look ahead to October and have a full calendar. As well as all our regular activities, we are holding a **Race Night on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October from 7.30pm**. Come and join in the fun! Tickets are available from [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk) and cost £5 which includes a hot supper.

We are continuing to show as many **Rugby World Cup Fixtures** as possible. Some matches may not be shown, depending on how well our home teams do. We wish them all well! Look out on Facebook and our website for more details of match dates and times.

The rugby season is also in full swing with matches, rugby minis and the club using the centre for their team meetings.

Three blood donor sessions are taking place on 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October for those of you who wish to attend.

A slot or two have become available for hire. If you lead an exercise class or group event and need a regular slot at a venue, do contact the office on the email below.

**[www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk](http://www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk) 01635 298497**  
**[fieldgatecentre@outlook.com](mailto:fieldgatecentre@outlook.com) Facebook**

## Wolverton Market

The next Market will be held on Saturday 7th October in the Village Hall from 9.30am until 11am.

There are lots of stalls to browse including antiques and collectables, handmade cards and candles, bric a brac, locally made garden ornaments, household products, home grown produce, plants and local Kingsclere honey.

Tea, coffee and biscuits are available. Free parking outside the Hall. We look forward to seeing you.

## Kingsclere CE Primary School



We warmly welcomed the children back to school at the start of September in the summer sunshine! A special welcome to our new Year R children and their families. The children have been eager to learn in their daily lessons, as well as in the many extra-curricular activities available, including choirs, various sports activities, Thinking Club, Calligraphy Club and Outdoor Adventure Club.

It has also been wonderful to welcome our parents/carers to our **Meet the Teacher** events. At each event our year group teams shared information about what the children will be learning this academic year, our high expectations and the pastoral and learning support we have in place to enable each child to achieve their full potential.

### New Year R tours and visits for children starting school in September 2024

We would love for parents/carers of children who will be starting school in September 2024, to visit Kingsclere CE Primary School and meet the wonderful staff as well as enjoy a tour of our lovely school.

Please contact the school via email: [adminoffice@kingsclere.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@kingsclere.hants.sch.uk) or on the school telephone no. 01635 298583 to arrange a visit.

**Mrs Joanna Messenger (Acting Headteacher)**

## Royal British Legion



Poppy Appeal launch will be on the 28<sup>th</sup> October in the parking area next to the bus stop, village centre.

The Kingsclere Royal British Legion Branch is looking forward to welcoming you all to the Remembrance Ceremonies in November at the Village War Memorial. Remembrance Day falls on a weekend this year so there will be a short service on Saturday 11th November at 11am and then a further service on the 12th November starting with a parade marching from Swan Street car park to the War Memorial arriving just before 11am.

Please look out for further updates on social media, however, we ask if you can be in place by 10.50am before the parade sets off from Swan Street.

**Kingsclere Branch Chairman. Jason Hart**

## Remembrance Poppy Wreaths

Remembrance Sunday will be with us sooner than you think. Anyone or any organisation who wishes to lay a wreath on that special day, please contact me to ensure that you have your wreath for that day.

**Contact:- Mike Carrington Phone:- 07722409267**

**Email:- [sf49ers1947@btinternet.com](mailto:sf49ers1947@btinternet.com)**



## Kingsclere Local History Association



Our next meeting is on **THURSDAY 26th OCTOBER** when **SHEILAH OPENSHAW** will present **'THE PLANE FACTS'**.

Sheilah, who lives locally, has a keen interest in history and archaeology and is a scuba diver and a Fellow of the Nautical Archaeology Society.

Sheilah and her husband Martin are regular divers off the Dorset coast and specialise in examining wrecks. In 2019 the remains of an aircraft were found off Purbeck which after much research was identified as a German WW2 Messerschmitt Bf 110 fighter bomber. Further investigation traced the German crew and British pilot who shot them down and their full mission details.

Sheilah will tell us about the whole project from initial discovery to the final conclusions in a truly fascinating account.

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

**Michael Leah Secretary 297403**



*Try the new look Film Club*

Now showing matinees on the last Saturday of the month

**Saturday, 28th October, 2023 at 2.00pm**

**GREEN BOOK**

*(Oscar - 'Best Motion Picture of the year' 2018 - 12A - biography, comedy, drama)*

**following the Community Cafe  
Kingsclere Village Club, George Street.  
Refreshments from 1.30pm.**

*In a 'funny and delightful' triple Oscar winning film, a working-class Italian-American bouncer becomes the driver for an African-American classical pianist on a tour of venues through the 1960s American South.*

New members and guests 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



### Visiting Books Programme

Our 'visiting books' are proving very popular with our borrowers. A new selection was collected on 9<sup>th</sup> September and will be with us until December. Do come in and browse!

### Exciting New Graphic Collection

Our new Graphic Collection is now out on the shelves and ready to borrow! In addition we have a collection of new books for Young Adults. Come and have a look for yourselves and spread the word!

### Volunteering

Do you have a couple of hours to spare every week, every month or even a few times a year. If so, we would love to hear from you. Without our wonderful volunteers, we could not keep the library open. So, if you think this is something you would be interested in, please get in touch!

Opening hours: Tuesday and Thursday 1:00pm-5:30pm and Saturday 10:00am – 1:00pm

**Nicki Lee, Library phone 01635 297464**  
**[Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com) [www.kingsclerelibrary.co.uk](http://www.kingsclerelibrary.co.uk)**

## Slimming World Kingsclere Group – New Consultant



I am thrilled to take on the Slimming World group in Kingsclere. When Faith stepped down I knew I had big shoes to fill, but I was really excited as I had met several of the members on my visits before, and knew how friendly and welcoming they would be. I was not disappointed. I've been a consultant for seven years with groups in Thatcham, Newbury, Reading and Basingstoke. My aim is to support as many people as possible to lose weight and feel good about themselves.

If you'd like more information about joining our group please get in touch. It's held **every Wednesday at The Fieldgate Centre at 5.30pm**. I will be adding a later session at 7pm from the New Year.

**Karen Cutler 07483 951851**



## Nature Notes

Our bees have had a hard summer. They had a good start. They were making lots of comb honey and the queen was laying eggs. At the beginning of August we noticed a few hornets and wasps flying around and within two weeks, the hornets (and wasps) were inside the hive, taking all of the honey and pulling the heads off of the bees! My Dad has it (mostly) under control now, but he doesn't think the bees will have enough honey to survive through the winter.



We went to Guernsey over the summer holidays and I saw so many amazing things. On the first night while I was on the beach with my family, we saw a barn owl hunting over the sand. There must have been mice running around because I'm not sure owls eat crabs!

We went on a boat trip to Herm Island a few times and on one of the trips, we saw about 15 seals floating in the sea and laying on the rocks. There are meant to be puffins that live on the island, but they leave in the middle of July and don't come back until April. There must have been a storm out to sea one night because as the tide went out in the morning, there were hundreds of jellyfish and crabs washed up on the beach. I felt sad for them, but it was amazing to see all the different colours and patterns they had on them.



Lily



### Can Kingsclere Community Larder help you?

**The Kingsmill Room  
at St Mary's Church  
2:30 – 4:00pm every Thursday**

For £3 you can choose one bag of tinned or packaged food and household goods and one bag of fresh and frozen food donated by the local supermarkets.

**Why are we here?** For anyone in need of food and essential household items in these challenging times.

**Where do the groceries come from?** Tinned and packaged groceries are given by people in the village to help others.

Fresh food is surplus stock from supermarkets. Delivered by a charity in Basingstoke.

**Why do we charge £3?** To help top up the stock and cover other costs.

## The Church Pages



Hello!

I was in the garden at the vicarage this morning, noticing the light carpet of leaves on the ground, a sure sign that the season is changing as we leave summer behind and head into Autumn.

I was reminded of a photograph I took of the "yard" at our home in California a few years ago, ankle-deep in red and golden leaves in the middle of "Fall". It's a beautiful time of the year, and Beverley and I are looking forward to seeing the wonderful colours in the countryside here for the first time. I'm also a little concerned by just how deep my carpet of leaves will grow in the weeks ahead. I feel the purchase of a large rake, or a leaf blower, approaching!

Of course, the leaves are falling as part of the complex annual cycle of the life of a deciduous tree, and if they didn't fall the tree might not be able to survive the freezing temperatures of winter.

I'm thankful for distinct seasons here in England, but, as I write this, we've just had record-setting September temperatures.

The weather is one of our nations' favourite topics of conversation, and the world has certainly experienced some extremes in recent years. This summer, much of Southern Europe and parts of North America had extreme heat and wildfires as a consequence, and torrential rains have brought floods to many nations across the globe.

You won't be alone if you're concerned by these weather extremes. For many they are the cause of great anxiety. If this is you, I'd like to encourage you to turn to Jesus.

He said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." If you are weary of the news you see and hear, if you are burdened by the cost of living, physical or emotional pain, or anything at all, then come to Jesus. He WILL give you rest.

You can come to Jesus right where you are, at any time of the day or night. He is always available. Or you can come to one of our church services, the dates and times of which are elsewhere in this magazine and join us as we lay aside our worries for a time, to focus on His magnificence.

Coming back to trees and weather, the prophet Jeremiah writes far more eloquently than I, summarising the rest we find in Jesus:

"But blessed is the person who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."

Bless ya!  
Pete.



## Worship in our Churches October 2023

Services in our churches will be as follows:



Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	9.30am Holy Communion for Harvest St Peter's, Headley	10.30am Holy Communion St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30am Morning Worship St Peter's, Headley	10.30am Harvest Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> October		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30am Morning Worship St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship & Baptism St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	9.30am Holy Communion St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> October		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> October		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere

### Saturday Coffee

Fresh brewed coffee, tea and delicious home-made cakes.  
All welcome – please do pop in!

**10.00am-12.00**

**in the Kingsmill Room, St Mary's Church  
October 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>**

Volunteers welcome – if you're able to pour coffee, welcome people or make cakes occasionally, please do contact the church office on:  
**01635 299528**

## Kingsclere Methodist Church

### Services for October

1 <sup>st</sup> October	Rev Canon Jill Bentall
8 <sup>th</sup> October	Mrs Christine Thomas
15 <sup>th</sup> October	Mrs Helen Watson
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Rev Rachel Borgars
29 <sup>th</sup> October	Worship Leaders

All services begin at 10.00 am and all are welcome.

Hall for hire see inside back cover of this magazine.

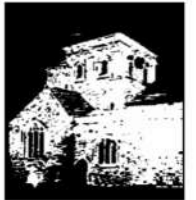
**Christine Westcombe**

**07485083874 c\_westcombe@hotmail.com**

### 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](mailto:administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk)



### October

21<sup>st</sup> Remembering Neil on his birthday. Loved and missed very much for all the love and happiness you gave to us. Elaine, Christopher, Suzanna, Helen, Chris, Tom and Oliver

### Kingsclere Almshouses Charity

Applications are now being taken for a one-bedroom bungalow that will become vacant in George Street, Kingsclere. Suitable for a single person or a couple. The bungalow will be available late Autumn/early Winter 2023. Applicants must be living or working in the parishes of Kingsclere, Headley, Ashford Hill or within a two-mile radius.

Please apply on our web site, [www.kingsclerecharities.org](http://www.kingsclerecharities.org) using the drop-down menu marked 'Almshouses'. The application PDF is at the bottom of the page there. Please complete and submit. Alternatively apply in writing for an application form to The Clerk, Russell House, Ashford Hill Road, Headley, RG19 8AB, email [kingsclerecharities@iname.com](mailto:kingsclerecharities@iname.com).

**The closing date will be 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023.**





**The Lighthouse**

Wednesdays  
From 10-12 noon  
Starting 4th October  
St Mary's Church  
(Kingsmill Room)

**Bumps and Babies**  
Mums & Toddlers  
Carers & Dads Welcome  
Playtime Refreshments  
Sensory Play Bible Story  
Singing Lots of Fun  
Term time only

**Contact**  
01635 299528 or 07422 687125

## Kingsclere and Headley Woodlands WI



September was another enjoyable month at the village WI. We at last heard Dr Paul Sievers telling us of his visit to Japan. The talk was accompanied by slides which were very colourful.

In October we have a complete change of topic when we have a visit from Maggy Wallace, a local resident, with her Pets As Therapy dog. Our members are really looking forward to see Maggy and hearing all about her visits and the purpose of PAT animals. Our meeting with Maggy is on Wednesday 13th of October and as usual, our meeting starts at 1.45pm at the Village Club in George Street.

Also in October we have our North Downs Group meeting, on the 19th of the month, starting at 2pm at East Woodhay Village Hall. At this meeting, Andrew Hazeldon, a potter, will bring his potter's wheel and show us how he works. I've seen him before and he is very good.

Do come along to our monthly meeting on the 13th. Our members would love to meet you.

**Margaret Geary 01635 297197**

## Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Ltd



**Our AGM will be held at 7p.m.  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November,  
Atkinson Room, The Fieldgate Centre.**

Do come along for a glass of wine and to hear about our aims for the coming year.

We shall shortly be inviting members of the **FOSM 200 Club** to renew their membership for 2024. Anyone is welcome to join, and tickets may be bought as gifts, for example, for children or grandchildren. For an annual subscription of £12, each allocated number is entered into a monthly draw with a £50 prize each time. The proceeds all contribute to the ever-lengthening needs for repair and restoration of the Church fabric, so by joining the Club you can make a practical difference.

Our first event in 2024 will be our always popular **Quiz Night and light supper at the Fieldgate Centre on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**. Further details will be given in future issues of the Tower, but now is the time to be thinking of forming your team of eight, to avoid the disappointment of our being sold out, as we were again last year. Individuals or couples are most welcome at this fun event, and where possible will be grouped together to form teams.

**Peter Turner, Chairman** Website: [friendsofstmaryskingsclere.org](http://friendsofstmaryskingsclere.org).  
For membership & enquiries contact [fosmkingsclere@gmail.com](mailto:fosmkingsclere@gmail.com).

## Shipinnarts



### What's on in October

**Friday 6th October 7-10pm – Open Mic**

Bar open for drinks. Donation pot for supper (Bread and cheese) **Free event**

**Tuesday 10th October 11am – 2pm Tuesday Crafts at Shipinnarts**

**Saturday 14th October 3-5pm "Autumn Leaves"**

Words and a mixture of music to celebrate the season.

**Belle Canto** are performing as part of this event.

**Gabriele McKeown, Heather Sims and Helen Marlow** are a local talented musical trio who sing a wide range of songs

**Twinduo** will also perform at this event, a very musically dynamic duo.

A delicious afternoon tea will be served!

**£12 early bird tickets from Eventbrite, £15 on the door.**

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023 7pm – 9pm Singing workshop!**

Come and join in the fun even if you feel you can't sing, this is an inspirational evening for all! Song sheets provided.

**£5 on Eventbrite, or pay on door on the evening.** The bar will be open.





## St. Mary's Kingsclere Village Fete

It is officially a record! This year's Fete has raised over £12,000 towards the running costs and up-keep of St. Mary's Church.

A huge 'Thank You' to the whole village. It was very heartwarming to receive so many offers of help and to witness everyone working together as a team – all with a smile on their faces. At the last count, there were over 80 people involved either in the run-up to the day or on the day itself. Far too many to mention individually, but you know who you are and we are truly grateful.

Not only did we raise much-needed funds, but we felt it was a true community event and it was lovely to see the village enjoying themselves. We have had a lot of positive feed-back.

**Pam Kitch (on behalf of The Fete Committee)**



**"THANK YOU"** you to everyone who supported and attended **Step Up For Swan Street**, our festival held at **White Hill on Saturday 2nd September** to raise funds to buy **24 Swan Street** from the Council.

This community festival took place amongst the ring of trees on White Hill by permission of the Balding family. Organised entirely by a volunteer fundraising committee and managed by JLD and Kings PA Dance Tutor, Emma Payne, the festival featured live music, food and drink, a Wellness Tent and children's activities. The main stage line up included The Imperial Balalaika Orchestra of Overton, The Swan Street Supergroup, The Red Robin Ceilidh Band, Jessica B, JLD School of Dance, Kingsclere Performing Arts College, Fortunate Ones, Madeline Gravatt and Areola Grande Latte. The Wellness Tent was busy with activities such as Meditation, Yoga and a special appearance by Smurf and Paulo, therapy ponies provided by Thrive With Jayne. An online silent auction was launched and featured items provided by local businesses plus there was a raffle and a tombola.

It was an amazing community event and so many visitors came and enjoyed live music. Thank you to all who donated their time and support. We have just found out that the Council have now granted us a lease on the building so our future is secure! However we still need to fundraise to maintain the building, put in place the plans to benefit the community and eventually buy it. Take a look at <https://www.kingsclerepayc.co.uk/> to learn more about our plans for the future and how you can help.

## KINGSLERE PHOTO CLUB



Friendly and thriving club covering many aspects of photography for most ages and abilities, non-competitive with an emphasis on sharing work and knowledge.

We also have a darkroom for traditional black & white printing.

Meetings on the first Wednesday of the month at the Village Club

### 16<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PHOTO EXHIBITION

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup> & Sun 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Free entry, come and see our photos and vote for your favourite!

In the main hall, Kingsclere Village Club, George Street.

**Saturday 10am – 5pm**

**Sunday 10am – 4pm.**



Launch of our 2024 Calendar @ just £7 each

Prints, Cards and Postcards for sale at reasonable prices.

**Forthcoming Meetings** at Kingsclere Village Club, George Street, RG20 5NH, doors open 7.15pm for 7.45pm start

### Weds 4<sup>th</sup> October – Challenge & photowalk photos

We will review our photographs from the travel and flower challenges, and Newbury photowalk.

### Weds 1<sup>st</sup> November – Light painting

A practical session indoors with LED sticks and wheels, etc

For more information see our website [www.kingsclerephoto.org](http://www.kingsclerephoto.org) or contact Gareth or Tony at [kingsclerephotoclub@gmail.com](mailto:kingsclerephotoclub@gmail.com)

**200 200 200 200 200 FOSM 200 Club 200 200 200 200**

The winner of the September Draw was

**Nic Rivers --- No.141**

**Congratulations, Nic.**

Next month's Draw will take place at The Crown at approximately 7 pm on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October [200clubkingsclere@gmail.com](mailto:200clubkingsclere@gmail.com)



## Kingsclere Gardening Association

Our next meeting is on  
**12 October 2023 at The Village Club.**



The talk this month is by Martyn Denneys,  
**A Botanical Tour Through Japan.**

The highlights of a six-week journey from Yakushima in the far southwest to the flower island of Rebun, off the tip of Hokkaido in the extreme north-east — high alpenes, meadows, woodland plants, shrubs, trees, botanical gardens and the odd temple. This is a change to the advertised talk. Stefan White will be delivering Skulduggery in the Shrubbery next time.

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** which continues this month. You can enter any or all of the following categories (all to be home/allotment grown):

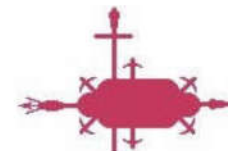
- A vase of flowers – 1 kind.
- A vase of flowers, foliage and/or berries.
- Fruit, 1 kind, maximum of 4.
- A single stem from the garden.
- A pot plant.

Last month we held our Annual Show at The Fieldgate Centre and had 188 entries on the show benches with an amazing display and wonderful exhibits in all of the categories. It was great to see some different and more exotic entries such as a Paphiopedilum "Pinocchio" orchid, Aeoniums and a Amorphophallus bulbifer. An unusual tuberous herbaceous plant native to the Indian and Himalayan monsoon forests with striking patination on its trunk. A huge thank you to all those who exhibited, visited on the day and especially all those who helped run the Show before, during and after the event. You all know who you are, we couldn't do it without you.

**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.*

## 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 held every Wednesday evening 7.00 - 8.00pm followed by training for matches. Even if you have not played before or not played since your school days, you are more than welcome.
- Or for those who 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 7.00 - 8.00 pm.
- Our Minis started on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September for the ages 5 - 10 year-olds, 10.30 - 12 noon. If your children would like to join in and you would like to get out on a Sunday morning, please come along and meet other children and parents.
- On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October we have arranged the club's main charity fund raising event of the season – the Chris Smith Memorial Game which will be played between the current team and former players. The nominated charity this time is the Busy Bees Preschool in the village. Kick-off time will be 2.00pm and will be followed by the televised England verses Samoa game in the Fieldgate Centre. The kick-off time is 4.45 pm.
- If you would like to watch the rugby World Cup games in a social ambiance, these will be shown at the Fieldgate Centre. For timings, please refer to the Fieldgate Centre website [www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk](http://www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk).
- 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-Kingsclererc@outlook.com](mailto:Chairman-Kingsclererc@outlook.com) or by mobile 07831 161163 or Stefan Morsley by email [Coach-Kingsclererc@outlook.com](mailto:Coach-Kingsclererc@outlook.com) or mobile 07815 670782 or alternatively via the club's Facebook and Instagram pages.**



## Kingsclere Players

### Peter Pan



As students return to school and the nights start to draw in Kingsclere Players are busy rehearsing their Christmas panto, **Peter Pan**.

Following a successful round of auditions, all the parts have been allocated and script rehearsals have begun.

"It's so exciting to see everyone together reading through their lines and adding their own individual personality to their role," said Matthew Knott, Panto Director.

"We still need people backstage so please contact us if you want to be involved," said Matthew.

If you're interested in getting involved with the panto please

email [kingsclereplayersgroup@gmail.com](mailto:kingsclereplayersgroup@gmail.com).

### Performances at The Fieldgate Centre

Friday November 24th 7.30pm  
 Saturday November 25th 2.30pm and 7.30pm  
 Sunday November 26th 2.30pm  
 Saturday December 2nd 11am and 7.30pm  
 Sunday December 3rd 2.30pm



## 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 are looking forward to our Halloween party! Dig out your best fancy dress costumes and join us on Tuesday, October 31st, for Halloween-themed arts and crafts, and party games - we love welcoming new visitors to our play sessions.

Our swap table is also back on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> - please bring along baby items, clothes, and toys to this session.

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**

## October in the Garden



October is the best month for autumn colour. The trees should be good this year as we have had a kinder summer.

Hopefully, we will still get some warm days this month enabling us to get the garden tidied up before the winter sets in. With frosts possible, dig up any tender plants that you would like to save for next year. Dalias can be dug up, cut back and left to drain upside down, then stored in a dry frost-free situation until required next year. Other tender plants that need to be dug up are geraniums (Pelargoniums), gladioli and Cana lilies.

There are lots of jobs to be done this month. Cut back and divide herbaceous perennials if they have become overgrown. If the centre of the plants has become bare and unsightly it is time to divide them. Later flowering perennials are best left to the spring to divide.

Summer bedding plants need to be pulled up and disposed of. Seeds can be gathered now to be kept for next year. I had a conversation with two of our horticultural show judges recently and discovered a reason that sometimes seeds do not germinate is often due to the way they are stored. I found this interesting as I had several failures this year with some of my seeds. I understand that some serious exhibitors store seeds at a very low temperature. Some keep them in a suitable container in the fridge or the freezer until required. The advice seems to be if you buy seeds, get them as soon as possible when they arrive at the sales venue and store them yourself somewhere cool until required.

Now is the time to plant daffodil bulbs. Tulips can be planted later, into next month if necessary, remembering that tulips like drainage, some grit in the pot helps to stop them from rotting. I usually add grit to most pots when I am planting them up. I find that this works well for me.

Keep deadheading roses. These will sometimes flower at Christmas if the weather is mild enough. This is a good time to plant new rose plants. If you can get bare rooted plants, it is more cost effective.

In the vegetable garden runner and French beans will need cutting down. Leave the roots in the garden, if possible, to put back valuable nutrients into the soil. Dig over any space in the vegetable garden which is not needed until the spring.

**Denise Allen**





**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..

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

**Clothing ‘Swap’** – take anything you can use! Donations of good quality, clean clothing welcomed. But you do not have to donate to take anything away.

**Cafe** – coffee, tea, cakes and other yummy items to enjoy while waiting for your repair or chatting with friends.

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

Nicki, Sarah, Lucinda & Sue [greenerkingsclere@gmail.com](mailto:greenerkingsclere@gmail.com)  
[www.greenerkingsclere.co.uk](http://www.greenerkingsclere.co.uk)



## Living Paintings

### Become a volunteer

Do you have a few hours each week to spare and are looking for a volunteer role that is highly rewarding? Then volunteering at Living Paintings in Kingsclere could be just right for you.

You will be helping to make books accessible to blind children via our free postal library service.

Our special books include braille along with colourful hand-painted, raised tactile pictures and an atmospheric, educational and entertaining audio guide.

We're looking for people to join our small, friendly team of volunteers and assist with the daily tasks involved in producing and distributing our books.

Roles include: **Painter Book assembler Library assistant**

Full training and ongoing support will be provided.

If you are interested and would like some further information on each role and what is involved please contact Clare on 01635 299771 or email [clareh@livingpaintings.org](mailto:clareh@livingpaintings.org)

## Kingsclere Village Club

Est. 1921  
 CHARITY 1189234



Website <http://www.kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk>  
 Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/kingsclerevillageclub>

### Harp Recital & Cream Tea

Enjoy a cream tea then sit back and listen to a recital by the acclaimed harpist Jenny Broome. A real treat! Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October, 3.30pm Tickets £15 from [www.wegotickets.com/event/585234](http://www.wegotickets.com/event/585234) or Helen (below). For more information about Jenny, visit [www.harpitecture.com/](http://www.harpitecture.com/)



### Coffee & Craft

Join us for Coffee & Craft with local crafts people who love sharing their skills. **Mondays 10am-1pm** starting 30th October for 7 weeks. £14 secures a seat at the table for the 7 weeks. Choose/bring your own projects or join in with mini workshops for an additional cost of £10-£15.

This term workshops have a Christmas theme. Sign up via [www.wegotickets.com/event/593586](http://www.wegotickets.com/event/593586) or collect a booking form from the Club noticeboard. Contact [chairman@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk](mailto:chairman@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk) for booking enquiries.

Crafting queries? Contact Gillian Hicks at [nbjasmineweyr@gmail.com](mailto:nbjasmineweyr@gmail.com)

### Community Café

This month's Café is on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 1pm. Featuring a fun quiz, Halloween craft and face painting. All welcome. Don't forget – you can stay on for the Film Club in the afternoon.



### Handy with a mop & bucket?

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 10 am to 12am, a group of volunteers will be giving the Club a thorough clean and spruce-up. You are welcome to join us – the more the merrier!

**Helen 01635 297390 or [events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk](mailto:events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk)**



## **THE KINGSCLERE TOWER DIRECTORY**

<b>POLICE, FIRE or AMBULANCE</b>	<b>Emergency 999</b>
Police Enquiries/Information	<b>non Emergency 101</b>
<b>Kingsclere Health Centre:</b>	01635 296000
<b>North Hampshire Hospital, Basingstoke</b>	01256 473202
<b>Parish Council:</b> 37 George Street (see page 2)	01635 298634
<b>Kingsclere Charities Clerk:</b> Jan Pearce	01635 269184
kingsclerecharities@iname.com	
<b>Dial-a-Ride</b>	01256 462101

### **CHURCH CONTACTS**

#### **St. MARY'S CHURCH:**

<b>Vicar</b>	Peter Williams	vicar@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk	
<b>Church Warden:</b>	John Price	johnsaprice@hotmail.com	01635 297780
<b>Administrator:</b>	Emma Rivers		01635 299528
	administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk		07422 687125

#### **METHODIST CHURCH:**

<b>Minister:</b>	Rev Rachel Borgars	07889 905753
	Rachel.Borgars@methodist.org.uk	01256 895878
<b>Secretary &amp; Hire of Hall</b>	Jeanette Billington	01635 297585

<b>ROMAN CATHOLIC:</b>	Rev Patrick Tansey	0118 9814572
	tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	

Bas & Deane	01256 844844	Swan Street P O	01635 297035
Buses	0345 8101000	Vet	01635 297557 or 40565
Trains	0845 748 4950	Dentist	01635 299981
Gas Emerg.	0800 111999	Age Concern Local Agent	0800 3287154
Chemist	01635 298419	Watership Down Health	01635 296000
Kingsclere Library	01635 297464		

#### **BOROUGH COUNCILLORS**

<b>Ken Rhatigan</b>	07850 530319	Cllr.Ken.Rhatigan@basingstoke.gov.uk
<b>Mike Bound</b>	07833612735	Cllr.Mike.Bound@basingstoke.gov.uk
<b>Kerry Morrow</b>	07422 651172	Cllr.Kerry.Morrow@basingstoke.gov.uk

#### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

<b>Tom Thacker</b>	07712695468	tom.thacker@hants.gov.uk
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#### **MP for N.W. Hampshire:**

<b>Kit Malthouse</b>	01264 401401	kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk
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2, Church Close, Andover, SP10 1DP

**There is a more comprehensive list of local contact numbers on the Parish Council website. Go to [www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk/directory](http://www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk/directory)**