

# The Kingsclere Tower



**September 2021**

**Your Village Magazine**

# The Kingsclere Tower

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September is the start of the Educational year. Good luck to all students and teachers as they start anew. May they have an easier year than they have experienced in the previous two.

As part of the new start, the Kingsclere Community Association gave us the Kingsclere's Bounce Back at the Fieldgate Centre enjoyed by a large crowd especially the children.

It was also the occasion where the Parish Council presented the Making a Difference Awards to the many people, including the Village retailers, who have been so supportive of those needing help during the Lockdown. Awards also went to some whose service has extended over a number of years.

We have also enjoyed the celebration of the Village Club's 100th birthday with the flypast of the spitfire and the St Mary's Village Fete is another sign of the restoration of normality to our village life.

The Tower editors are looking forward to being inundated with articles about all the village activities that will take place in the near future!

The editors are also keen to find someone who might help with doing the layout of the Tower. Please see the advert on page 18

**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 **October** to the Editor at 3 Blue Meadow, Garrett Close.  
or kingscleretower@gmail.com

**NOT LATER THAN 12th September.**

**Will ALL contributors please include full name  
& home phone number/e-mail address.**

**KINGSLERE PARISH COUNCIL (KPC)**  
**Chairman: Cllr John Sawyer (297221)**  
**email: [clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk) (298634)**  
**Office: 37 George Street, Kingsclere RG20 5NH**  
**Office opening Monday and Wednesday**  
**10am-12.30pm or by appointment**



**ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?** - Households in the Borough will be contacted throughout August and September by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Electoral Registration Officer as part of the annual electoral registration canvass.

Each year the council is required by law to contact households to confirm the names of residents are correct on the electoral register or to update them.

Residents who have consented to receiving information about electoral registration by email will receive an email from [electoral.services@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.services@basingstoke.gov.uk) with the subject line 'Do Not Delete - You need to respond. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council are updating the electoral register.'

The council has been working closely with the Electoral Commission and the Cabinet Office on this new approach which is compliant with data protection rules and reduces the amount of paper sent out. Residents who would prefer not to be emailed can easily unsubscribe from the service and will be sent a paper form instead. People who do not receive an email will receive a paper form at a later date.

The Borough Council's Electoral Registration Officer Rebecca Emmett said: "The Council is required by law to obtain and confirm the names of residents to check who is eligible to register to vote and ensure our Electoral Register is up-to-date. To make sure you are able to have your say at the May 2022 elections you should respond to the email or complete and return the paper form as quickly as possible."

The revised register of electors will be published in December 2021. For more information call 01256 844844.

### **RECYCLING BINS AND GLASS RECYCLING**

The collections dates are the 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> September and then the 6<sup>th</sup> October. Please make sure you have your property number on your bin as this helps crews return it to the correct place after it has been emptied. Number stickers can be ordered from the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Website.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – The next Council meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021 in the Village Club. We are still encouraging those attending to wear masks unless seated and chairs will be distanced. We welcome the attendance of parishioners at our meetings and anyone who wishes to raise any matters of concern will be given the opportunity to do so.

## **Kingsclere Royal British Legion**



### **CHALLENGE TO CARRY ON AN IMPORTANT TRADITION**

**Please discuss with friends and help if you can.**

Thanks to Mark Holden, our Royal British Legion is one of the very best. All formal procedures are well proved and recorded. Mark will step down in November and leave Kingsclere soon after. The Branch has a small team of supporters but no one to take over some essential roles needed to keep the Branch alive.

With this foundation we can continue to exist and even prosper but probably at a lower tempo. However, without new leadership there will never be another Remembrance Parade or Poppy Appeal in Kingsclere after November this year.

Please help me, in my duty as President, to find volunteers (of any age, no Service link required) to undertake:

- The position of Branch Chairman responsible for the branch planning.
- The position of Parade Marshall; the planning and delivery of our Village Acts of Remembrance. (The Chairman has been doing this.)
- The position of Branch Treasurer for the small branch funds (not Poppy Appeal funds). He or she would do a one-day accounting course free of charge, a skill which could have wider value.
- Poppy Appeal Manager for 2022 onwards. (Again, all systems in place.)

Turnout for Remembrance, the popularity of TV war programmes and Battlefield Tours show that "The Golden Thread of Remembrance" is precious both nationally and in Kingsclere.

I strongly believe that there are people in this village who, if directly asked, could and would support our community in these ways. If you would consider doing so or can suggest the name of someone we might approach please contact me or Mark Holden.

**Tom Sneyd (Brigadier retd) [tom@evib.net](mailto:tom@evib.net) 01635 291230**

**Mark Holden. 01635628004 [H6861@hotmail.com](mailto:H6861@hotmail.com)**

## Making a Difference Awards 2020-21



We are delighted that the splendid **Bounce Back Day** held at the Fieldgate Centre on 14<sup>th</sup> August gave the Parish Council an opportunity to present the Making a Difference awards 2020-21. This year over 60 awards were presented on the day, which reflected the ways in which the village had shown solidarity,

compassion and hard work during the pandemic.

Awards were also made to some who have made a difference over many years, including Dr Sarah Bond and the Ashton family.

Special awards were made to our wonderful retailers: Swan Street Stores; The Village Butcher and the Kingsclere Pharmacy, none of whom could be present to receive their award as they were busy running their businesses!



Photos by Gareth Martin

We are very grateful to the special guests who made the presentations: the Mayor of Basingstoke & Deane; William Huntington and Ken Rhatigan. Each of them congratulated the recipients and also commented on the sense of community and generosity which is a hallmark of our village, and part of what makes it such a special place to live.



Our thanks go also to Kingsclere Community Association which made it possible for us to hold the event.

**John Sawyer**  
Chairman Kingsclere Parish Council



The Fieldgate Centre is run by Kingsclere Community Association, a charity (No 1168366). All residents of Kingsclere over 18 are automatically members of the association, an organisation that relies on volunteers to run it. Be part of it, your support makes a difference.

## Kingsclere's Bounce Back

What a fabulous community we have! Hundreds of you enjoyed the Community Fun Day in the sunshine. Thank you to all those who helped organise the event and particularly to JLD School of Dancing, Kingsclere Performing Arts College and The Only Band in The Village. Congratulations to all recipients of the Making a Difference Awards.

The five Summer Playdays were a great success, once again proving the need for local free play activities. The National Play Day alone saw over 120 children signed in and all had fun each week.

These events were made possible with a grant from Greenham Trust and match funding. Please continue to donate so that we can bring you more community events. Each £1 you give will be gratefully received and doubled by match funding! Go to [www.thegoodexchange.com](http://www.thegoodexchange.com) and search for the Fieldgate, project 18767. Hands-on help is always appreciated, so please give us a call.

### Dates for your diary:

#### September

21<sup>st</sup> Monthly Meet-Up 2.30-4.30pm

#### October

2<sup>nd</sup> KCA Race Night

3<sup>rd</sup> Bluebird Care Silver Sunday lunch

10<sup>th</sup> Greener Kingsclere Market

16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> Kingsclere Library Book Sale

website: [www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk](http://www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk) | tel: 01635 298497 |

email: [fieldgatecentre@outlook.com](mailto:fieldgatecentre@outlook.com) | facebook



## Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby and Toddler Group

We hope everyone has had a lovely summer! We are really pleased to announce that we will be getting 'almost' back to normal for September! Please see below for details:



**Where:** The Village Club, George St

**When:** Tuesday 9.00am – 11.00am

**Cost:** First visit free, after that £1 for bumps and babies, £2 for first children and 50p for additional children.

**Snacks/ drinks:** Teas & coffees for adults, please bring snacks for children

**Crafts & singing** will be back too!

You are welcome to continue to wear face masks at Bunnies although it is not essential unless government guidance has changed since time of writing.

As we are extending our hours again, we are looking for more volunteer helpers to join our friendly team. Please get in touch, or drop-in to a session if you would like to find out more.

Finally, we would like to send good luck wishes to all our bunnies starting school this month. We are sure you will have a lovely time!

Check out our Bunnies Facebook site as well as our local buying and selling site "Kingsclere Bunnies Preloved", where locals often have bargains to pass on.

[villagebunniestoddlergroup@gmail.com](mailto:villagebunniestoddlergroup@gmail.com)

## Kingsclere Singers

Hooray!! We're back to rehearsals starting 6<sup>th</sup> Sept at 7.30pm at the Methodist church. It's been a tough 18 months not being able to meet and sing together, not to mention the events we have missed. We are so looking forward to welcoming everyone back, plus any new members who would like to join us. As we all know, singing is so beneficial to good mental health and general wellbeing, so if you feel like a boost why not come along and give it a go [NO AUDITIONS!]

We're already planning for our annual Christmas events in St Mary's and at the Fieldgate Centre. We look forward to seeing you there.

Hazel O'Leary  
[hazeloleary@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hazeloleary@hotmail.co.uk)



## KINGSCLERE VILLAGE CLUB 1921-2021

Thanks to everyone who came out to see the Spitfire flypast and helped to make the occasion so special. Particular thanks to those

who took the trouble to send photos and report to the Newbury Weekly News or posted on social media.

As I write this in early August, we are looking forward to two special events. First the Bounce Back event at the Fieldgate - a big thank you to those who did so much work behind the scenes to make the day happen. Then the Village Club's 'Shakespeare in the Garden' which is a sell-out!

I do hope the weather will be kind to us for both occasions!



Photo Chris Williams

## COMMUNITY CAFÉ



Have you visited our monthly **Community Café** yet? It was lovely to see people meeting up at our first café in July. For one lady it was her first trip out for many months which must have taken some courage.

We will be open again on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September between 10am and 2pm** for hot and cold drinks with light refreshments. September's theme is **table top games** so come along to enjoy a game of cards, Scrabble, Triominos ..... or just sit and chat if you prefer.

Mobility issues? Please contact 07813 368259 and we will try to arrange transport.

## YOGA CLASS

Gentle, holistic and tailored for your benefit, working on flexibility, strength, breathing and meditation to improve functional mobility, fitness, suppleness and peace of mind. Starting on **Wednesday 29th September for 12 weeks, £90**. Please contact Emma on [bookings@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk](mailto:bookings@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk)

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

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

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

## Kingsclere Heritage Association

We commence our new meeting programme on  
**THURSDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2021**

Our Chairman, Richard Croft, will present  
**" THE CONTINUING STORY OF KINGSCLERE "**  
commencing at 7.45pm.  
The Village Club



This time Richard will tell us of Kingsclere in World War 2.

Kingsclere was a base for thousands of troops especially in training prior to D-Day. The village had its own Royal Observer Corps., Home Guard and Women's Land Army units. There was an important gunnery testing range by the Downs and a military shooting at the Crown which was hushed up at the time but later received national coverage. All these areas and others will be included in Richard's presentation.

**Immediately before the presentation we will hold our  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at 7.00pm.**

We meet in the main hall at the Village Club, 37 George Street.  
Visitors are always very welcome to all of our meetings at £3 pp.

**The Village Archives are now open from 2.00pm to 4.00pm on Monday  
afternoons in the Holding Room upstairs in the Village Club.**

We have lots of material readily available to villagers who are searching for local information or just interested to see our collection.  
Do phone Richard on 298114 if you have a topic with which we may be able to assist you.

**Michael Leah  
Hon Secretary tel 298403**



## Kingsclere Churchyard

Gareth Martin wrote an article earlier in the year about the church headstones once removed and now lost.

The number of headstones were 365 with 240 now missing. Considering there has been a graveyard on this site for over a thousand years that doesn't seem a large number. So how many people do you think are buried here? It may be greater than you imagine!



Thomas Cromwell, after the Reformation, charged that parishes should keep a Register of Christenings, Burials and Marriages. Those records for Kingsclere dating from 1538 are now in the Hampshire Records Office in Winchester. Records between 1680 and 1880 have been entered into a database to which I have added, using work done by the Hampshire Genealogical Society, the data from 1540 to 1680. This tells us that between 1540 and 1880 there were 11,890 people buried in Kingsclere!

The late 16th century shows roughly 30 burials a year excepting those when the village succumbed to plague and other diseases.. A glaring absence in the records are the deaths due to the Great Plague. There is a gap between November 1665 and May 1666 with nothing recorded. We know from the parish records that those suffering from the plague were removed at that time to dwellings constructed in the area known as the "Marsh" lying between the Union Lane and what is now the West Kingsclere garage. Those that died were buried in that area.

How many people are buried in this churchyard from before 1538? We know that Kingsclere existed in Anglo-Saxon times, that the church was given by King Edward the Confessor to his wife Edith and was one of the largest and most valuable in the Diocese of Winchester having a market granted from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. It is possible that a church stood here for over 600 years before our records begin and that there was a substantial community here. A discussion of how large that population was is too complex for these pages. It would not be unreasonable to suggest that our figure for the number of burials of nearly 12,000 could be doubled if we include that extra 600 years. Can all those people really be buried in such a small area? We do know some were buried in an area called the Litten where the Health Centre carpark now stands though this has been thought to be used mainly for those who died during the Black Death. There is also mention in the parish records of bones being stored in the church beneath a gallery that once stood in the chancel. Also mentioned are graves needing to be dug at right angles to the normal East/ West direction due to the ground falling into collapsed graves. Our beautiful churchyard where the children play has many a story to tell.

**mike@mikestokoc.com**

## Nature Notes

If there could be an upside to so many restrictions in the last sixteen months it would be in the proliferation of wildflowers, both natural and cultivated.

On a visit to The National Trust's Vyne a wonderful tapestry of colour met our gaze in the walled garden where a plot had been sown with a wildflower mix of annuals. There were more varieties than we could name but old, one-time cornfield flowers like corncockle and corn marigold were included.



Three sponsored roundabouts on the A339 between Newbury and Kingsclere have been sown with wildflowers too. Poppies and cornflowers on one, eye-catching wreaths of colour on the others, in particular the display on the Knightsbridge roundabout.

Self-sown hardy knapweed, scabious and vetches colour the verges of the Ecchinswell Road with willowherb to follow. It is a good example of selective cutting where only parts of verges affecting lines of sight need to be cut.



All creatures like a free feast and rooks are no exception. We were hit by high winds and downpours recently and a field of barley had swathes of its crop laid low. In no time a line of rooks appeared and took advantage of ears at easy reach at ground level. We have seen birds dancing on individual

ears and forcing them to the ground but this required no effort.

Once again tufted ducks have shown to be late breeders with a duck and her family of five tiny ducklings. They were no more than balls of feathers but surprisingly, set an example by Mum, they were capable of diving.

A female blackbird was seen with a beakful of food very recently, a reminder that there are still late broods in some hedges.

**Diana Tait and Rod Eldred.**

## Reflections

What would a new beginning really look like? Perhaps some of us are hoping for some sort of new beginning after a pandemic that has rocked our society and nation. Perhaps we think of the environmental crisis and hope there may be a new beginning when it comes to properly tackling it. Perhaps we look at Afghanistan and wonder what new beginning in a land pulled this way and that by competing powers might be possible given the outright civil war going on right now. Perhaps we look to our own challenges of long waiting lists in hospitals, an economy hit by lockdowns, as well as the ongoing wrestle of how to emerge out of the pandemic. Or perhaps there are aspects in our own lives where we long for a new beginning, a new start for a relationship, a new job, a new house, or a new challenge.



In the Bible, there are two new beginnings that have been brought to mind, one near the beginning of the Bible and one nearer the end. The first is of Noah and the ark. The world was corrupt beyond measure, every inclination of human hearts was evil. God decided there should be a new beginning and planned to flood the entire earth. Noah and his family were saved in the ark, along with two of every animal. What an incredible new beginning it must have been to open the door of the ark to a completely washed, 'new' world.

The second is after Jesus has died on the cross and risen from the tomb, he finds Peter and a few other disciples fishing. Peter, when he realises it's Jesus, dives into the water to swim to shore. But Peter was the one who denied he even knew Jesus as He faced beatings from the soldiers. Beautifully and graciously, Jesus restores Peter and calls him to care for His people. Peter begins anew and goes on to encourage many to put their trust in Jesus.

I'm not sure what a new beginning will look like for us as we come out of such dark and challenging times, but I do know that the new beginning experienced by Peter can be experienced by any who come to Jesus. His invitation of forgiveness and new life is open to all who call, to all who make a new beginning trusting in Him.

**Blessings, Ben**





## Sunday Worship in our Churches SEPTEMBER

Sunday Services in our churches in September will be as follows:

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30am Holy Communion St Peter's, Headley	10.30am Holy Communion St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30am Morning Worship St Peter's, Headley	10.30am All-Age Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30am Morning Worship St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30am Holy Communion St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere

### Private Prayer & Mid-Week Service

St Mary's Church will be open each Thursday between 10am and 1pm for those who wish to use it for private prayer or quiet reflection.

Do join us for worship at 10.30am each Thursday in the side chapel with hymns, readings and prayers. The service is followed by refreshments.

### Other Church Activities

We are reviewing our other activities and opening back up where possible. Please continue to look out for notices on email (contact 07422687125 or [administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk](mailto:administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk) (if you are not signed up to our mailing list). Our online calendar is also updated regularly, so please look there for the most up to date information.

[www.stmaryskingsclere.co.uk](http://www.stmaryskingsclere.co.uk)

## Kingsclere Methodist Church



Service information for September.

Sunday 5th September Helen Watson  
 Sunday 12th September No Service  
 Sunday 19th September Maggy Wallace (Harvest Festival)  
 Sunday 26th September Rev'd Rachel Borgars (Holy Communion)

We are pleased to say that we are now able to resume services every Sunday and are also tentatively looking at opening our church hall for hire again soon.

**Christine Westcombe**

**0748 5083874**

**c\_westcombe@hotmail.com**

**200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 Club 200 200 200 200 200 200 200**

The August Draw was made at The Crown Public House on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021

The winner was: Andrea Allam – No. 115  
**CONGRATULATIONS ANDREA**

September draw is scheduled to take place at St. Mary's Village Fete on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August at 3.30 pm

You can join The Club at any time – just give us a call

Andrew and Pam Kitch

[pamkitch16@gmail.com](mailto:pamkitch16@gmail.com) [andrewkitch16@gmail.com](mailto:andrewkitch16@gmail.com)

01635 299743

## WonderZone Holiday Club

Thanks to all who helped with the Church WonderZone Holiday Club. We are so grateful to those who served as 'professors', 'researchers' and 'lab technicians' as we learned about a wonder-filled world and of being able to know God who made it all! Particular thanks go to Prof. John Price and Prof. Emma Rivers who headed up the club and led us so well. Thanks also to the children, or should I say 'scientists' who came. Thanks again to all who helped from local churches and roll on next year!



## 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)

### August

5th

Remembering David on what would be his 80th birthday.  
With love from all the Sanders family

### September

16<sup>th</sup>

Remembering Neil Westcombe. 10 years have passed by, we love and miss you everyday. Love always, Elaine, Christopher, Suzanna, Helen, Chris, Thomas and Oliver

17-20<sup>th</sup>

Bill Cooper, we will remember him by lighting up the church to shine out across the village that he was so involved with. He left us on September 18th 2020 without warning. May his light beam brightly, so we can never stop loving the memory of his life. May he rest in peace. Love Irene, Tracy and family.



## Dear Editor,

Although every year it's welcome to see the reminder in the Tower for people to keep their hedges trimmed, every year I find myself wishing that the council would actually take its own advice. I'm referring to the hedge around the perimeter of the Holding Field, particularly on the Basingstoke Road side which every year, without fail, makes sections of the path almost impassable without being forced into the road, especially for those with a pram, or in a wheelchair, mobility scooter, or even with a dog or small children. I'd go as far as to say it's consistently the "worst offender" in the village, so the irony of your advice to others isn't lost on me.

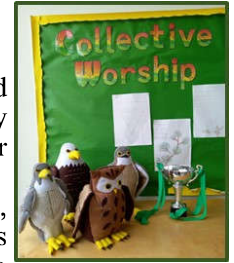
On the note of general village upkeep, I'm sure I'm not alone in thinking what an utter mess the grassy areas have been in recent years, and seemingly getting worse. Can we really not do better than this?

Regards,  
Paul Wells

## Kingsclere CE Primary School

We hope everyone has managed to enjoy a happy and healthy summer holiday. It has been lovely to see so many families out and about around the village enjoying the fair weather.

School has had a much needed refresh over the holidays, updating displays and sourcing new furniture as well as the successful completion of the school gates and fencing along the rear of the school grounds. Our largest project, still underway, is our 'Health & Wellbeing Suite' which has been heavily supported by Friends of Kingsclere School (FKS). We welcome our new Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Messenger, to the school staff team. We are really looking forward to seeing the children and families return later this month. FKS are hoping to continue to raise funds for our school now that restrictions have been lifted. We look forward to welcoming members of the village community into school to help support these events. If anyone would like to support the school in other ways, such as volunteering to hear readers or maintaining flower borders please do contact the school office – we would love to hear from you!



**Mrs Melrose Headteacher**



**Saturday, 11 September 7.30pm**  
**Kingsclere Village Club,**  
**George Street.**

### ***Witness for the Prosecution*** (1957 - U - 111 minutes)

*'When a wealthy widow is found murdered, her married suitor, Leonard Vole (Tyrone Power), is accused of the crime. Vole's only hope for acquittal is the testimony of his wife (Marlene Dietrich)...but his airtight alibi shatters when she reveals some shocking secrets of her own!'* Adapted from a stage play by Agatha Christie. Also stars Charles Laughton.

Please call Diana on the number below if you wish to attend and, depending on COVID precautions, check-out the latest requirements.

Advance notice: Saturday, 9 October at 7.30pm KFC Annual General Meeting.

John Sawyer (Chairman)  
298494

Diana Tait (Membership Secretary)

## Kingsclere Community Library

“Your local FREE library”

### GIANT USED BOOK SALE!

It's back! This popular Kingsclere event returns, bigger and better than ever. We are expanding to offer even more books and will be at

**The Fieldgate Centre on  
Saturday & Sunday, 16-17<sup>th</sup> October.**

We would be delighted to receive your book donations after the  
**15<sup>th</sup> September at the library during our opening hours.**

\*Please contact us if you can't drop off during our opening hours and we will arrange collection.

\*Books only, thank you. No CDs or DVDs.

**In other news** We have just become a registered charity and will be organising our first AGM soon, and creating more funding appeals. Up to date information can be found on our website.

<b>HOURS</b>	Tuesdays	1:00pm	5:30pm
	Thursdays	2:30pm	7:00pm
	Saturdays	10:00am	1:00pm

**Nicki Lee, 07899 623872, [Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com)  
[www.kingsclerelibrary.co.uk](http://www.kingsclerelibrary.co.uk)**



## Kingsclere Turnpike

**Reading Chronicle April 1771**

‘Whereas many persons to avoid the payment of the toll at the gate at the foot of Whitehill make a practise of riding on each side of the said gate especially that track now made use of up Longmeadow and across the field to a place entering on the downs called Drove Way the trustees of the said Road give this public notice that they will levy the penalty of \*40 shillings on every person so offending there being no allowed road up the hill except that Turnpike Rd.’

\*40 shillings equivalent to £173 today. Labourers earned approx. £21 pa.



## This month JLD School of Dance is 30 years old!



In 1991 dynamic Elmhurst Ballet School graduates Jo Eustace and Lucy Bamford (who was just 3 months into motherhood) started JLD by teaching twice weekly ballet classes at Richard Aldworth School in Basingstoke with only three students. 18 months later the opportunity arose to move JLD to Kingsclere and a short-term lease was arranged at 24 Swan Street, which has been home to JLD for more than 28 years. This was the moment the school really took root and began to flourish. JLD was quickly established as a leading school specialising in ballet training, which had pupils travelling from as far as Oxford to attend classes.

Lucy and Jo's children grew up dancing with them in the studios as they negotiated the delicate balance of their roles as Principals, teachers and mothers. The school quickly became established in the Kingsclere Community and has nurtured the love of dance in thousands of students, from toddlers to adults.

In 2011 Hayley Crunden took over as Principal of JLD, a graduate of Laine Theatre Arts. Jo and Lucy stayed to teach students already on the pathway to professional ballet school, while Hayley and her team continued to offer ballet training and diversified by expanding the provision. JLD continues to provide graded dance examinations in RAD Ballet, and ISTD Tap and Modern, alongside Commercial Dance, Acro and Musical Theatre classes and LAMDA examinations, as well as numerous performance opportunities.

After 30 years, JLD's mission is still to provide a creative hub, bringing together students from all economic backgrounds, where they learn to love dance, whether it's Tap Dance once a week or their sights are set on the Royal Ballet. Here's to the next 30 years!

JLD paved the way for Kingsclere Performing Arts College which opened in 2017, a specialist Sixth Form offering full-time qualifications in Dance and Musical Theatre for students aged 16+, in association with Newbury College.

For more info check out [www.jlddance.co.uk](http://www.jlddance.co.uk) and [www.kings-pa.uk](http://www.kings-pa.uk)  
**Hannah Horton [hannah.horton@kings-pa.uk](mailto:hannah.horton@kings-pa.uk)**

The Parish website [www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk](http://www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk)  
 @kingsclerepc [facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil](https://facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil)

## Kingsclere Gardening Association



There is still very little organized activity going on around us yet while I write this I am trying to think what I can take to the Burghclere Show this Saturday. It is good of them to be bold enough to get going again. East Woodhay are putting a show on next week where I will be judging and Mortimer West End have one at the end of the month. The Stroke Club which we are members of, have had two meetings in Thatcham Garden Centre. We were able to attend the last, most members were there and everyone was very pleased to be meeting up. Hopefully, there will be no increase of covid through these gatherings.

I am very pleased to be able to report that our secretary Beth Theobald and Mark were third in the Hampshire Federation Garden competition held in late July. Very well done to them. They have a very well-kept garden filled with much interest. Beth is particularly fond of hostas and also has an interesting collection of succulents.

The Wolverton Village Market will start again on Saturday September 4<sup>th</sup>. Doors open 9.30am. We hope to see many of our usual customers there plus, of course, new ones. Now we just have the problem of getting something to interest the customers!

This year will not be remembered as great for gardeners. Frost in the early part of the year and wet and then too hot for a while. The hedges have grown like mad, the tomatoes are not setting and I've not pulled a carrot yet. Must get better!

**John Eckton 01256 850017**

### Layout Volunteer Needed - The Tower needs your help!

Each Tower layout designer is responsible for 3-4 issues per year, working alongside the month's editor to design the layout of the "white pages" (not the yellow advertising pages, which are completed separately). The bulk of an issue's layout activity takes place between the 12th and 26th of the month, and will typically take 6-10 hours in total. If you have experience, amateur or professional, with graphics design or publishing packages (e.g. MS-Publisher, In-Design or Affinity) and have the enthusiasm to contribute to the Tower's activities, we would like to hear from you!

Please contact the editors for more information.

## September in the Garden



This is the time of year to be harvesting and to observe the changing of the leaves as autumn approaches. Sadly, the days are becoming shorter, but hopefully, there will still be some late summer sunshine.

For those who grow autumn raspberries, they come into their own from the middle to the end of the month, I don't grow them myself, but I understand they have a more concentrated flavour than the earlier varieties. Cooking varieties of apples and pears will be ready at the end of the month. If you have healthy strawberry plants, now is the time to plant some of the runners, which should be pegged down into pots just to make sure that they do not have any signs of a virus. If they have, start again with new stock, planting in a fresh plot.

The vegetable garden has plenty to offer in September, main crop potatoes will be ready to be lifted, as well any onions left in the ground. Pumpkins, marrows and squashes are ready to be picked. Leave to dry in the sun for a few days. If the weather is wet put them in a greenhouse so that they can ripen and dry off before being stored. Sow winter lettuce undercover, plant autumn onion sets, and spring cabbage plants can go into the garden. Plant them six inches apart.

When the soil is moist enough plant new trees, shrubs and climbers. Perennial plants that have finished flowering and have become too large can be divided now. It is also time to take cuttings. Hardy annuals can be sown now and thinned out in the spring.

The surface of a lawn can become compacted over the summer season. To help aerate the lawn use a fork, pushing the fork into the ground at intervals over the whole area. Top dress immediately using a mixture of fine soil and sand as this will keep the holes open revitalizing the top layer. It can look a mess when you have worked it in with a stiff broom, but the grass will soon grow through.

Many of the September flowering plants have flowered early, hopefully there should still be many more to come. Agapanthus and dahlias are a couple of my favourites. Heleniums always give a good show, and if deadheaded will flower for weeks. I can't remember ever seeing so many beautiful hydrangea plants. They certainly have enjoyed the rain. As my mother-in-law used to say, they needed a gallon of water a day, and this year some days they certainly have had that.

**Denise Allen**



## Whitchurch Silk Mill

### Threads in Sheds

'Threads in Sheds' is the latest special exhibition at Whitchurch Silk Mill. Opening on Saturday 11 September, it features contemporary tapestry pieces created by members of the British Tapestry Group. Thirty-six members from across the country and even internationally have created new tapestries inspired by the heritage and traditions of weaving, showing contemporary innovative and three-dimensional techniques at their best; some on display for the first time. The exhibition will showcase the work of renowned tapestry weavers Joan Baxter and William Jefferies and silk weavers from the Mill.

Lisa Gale, Visitor Experience Manager at the Mill, says "We are incredibly privileged to premier this collection of works celebrating the art of textiles in all its brilliance. Visitors will discover ingenious techniques, colour harmony and the narratives of imagery to inspire them. As each artist has approached the topic 'Threads in Sheds' in a different way, there is something for everyone to enjoy."

Joan Baxter, one of the world's foremost tapestry artists, says "Our task, as tapestry weavers, has been to navigate through the numerous forms of yarn that silk comes in, to celebrate the wonders of its dyed colours and to try not to get immured in fine yarns that tempt us to impossibly detailed weaving."

William Jefferies, a tapestry weaver whose work is featured in many national collections, says "All sense of the industrial mills ('Sheds') has been bypassed by the individual weavers who have quietly worked through this last year of modern pandemic. It is a celebration of these weavers' vision and skill and a fitting reward to be included as part of this exhibition in such an appropriate place."

The exhibition is free with Mill admission and runs until Sunday, 21st November 2021. The Mill is open Tuesday to Sunday 10.30 am to 5.00 pm.

### Silk Mill Food Festival

This event, on Saturday 18 September in the grounds of the Mill, is open for FREE as part of the Heritage Open Days scheme. Visitors will be spoiled by the selection of suppliers tempting them with delicious delights and tasty treats. See our social media posts or our website for firm details nearer the time.

**Contact: [info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](mailto:info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk) – 01256 892065 – [www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](http://www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk)**



### Moving towards the new 'normal' -

Since the beginning of the pandemic we have endeavoured to keep in touch with members through email and newsletters. For one newsletter I 'bullied' committee members into each writing a short article about how they were spending lockdown and was delighted to receive articles from other members. One in particular about VE Day celebrations sparked much interest. Many members were enjoying walking in the local countryside, some reviving old hobbies or taking up new ones and many had enjoyed reading. As winter set in we offered members free online monthly talks and highlighted other talks that were available online, including guided tours around places of interest at home and abroad. Gradually, as Government Guidance allowed and members felt comfortable about meeting others, some groups restarted and enjoyed interacting with 'real' people!

### GOOD NEWS - TEA PARTY



In August, for members only, we had a drop-in social get together with cakes, tea, coffee and soft drinks on offer. Tables, seating four people, were socially distanced and members enjoyed having a chat over a cuppa. Delicious cakes were kindly provided by the WI.

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September - 10.00am,  
St Mary's Hall, Overton, RG25 3HA**

At the time of writing we are planning to go ahead with the September monthly meeting and are looking forward to seeing our members again. Our speaker will be Dr Frances Hurd and her subject – 'Quakers at War – what they do and why they do it'. Frances previously gave us a talk on local churches and was an interesting and informative speaker. She is an historical researcher and lives in Chichester. It promises to be a fascinating talk.

Visitors are welcome and can pay at the door.

Liz Lewis

[Lizbettlelewis@outlook.com](mailto:Lizbettlelewis@outlook.com)





**WESSEX**  
CANCER TRUST

### WALK FOR HOPE RETURNS IN REAL LIFE

Wessex Cancer Trust's flagship fundraising event, Walk for Hope, returns to Burley Park in the New Forest in real life on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September, and the charity is looking for 400 walkers to step out and raise vital funds for local people living with cancer.

You can do your bit by signing up to walk five, ten or 20 miles. You can do it alone or with friends and family and at your own pace, making the event perfect for supporters of all ages and abilities.

Entrants will receive an official Walk for Hope t-shirt, sponsorship forms and all the training and event information you'll need for the day. Tickets are £25 adults, £15 for under 16s, £85 for a team of four adults and £5 for dogs.

Visit <https://www.wessexcancer.org.uk/event/walk-for-hope-2021/> for more information and to sign up. There is a sponsorship goal of £100 for the five-mile route, and £150 for the ten and 20-mile routes.

All of the money raised will be used to provide practical and emotional support to people living with cancer in Hampshire, Dorset and the Isle of Wight.

**For more information, contact:**

Sam Bradley 023 80672200

[sam.bradley@wessexcancer.org.uk](mailto:sam.bradley@wessexcancer.org.uk)



**Greener  
Kingsclere**

Reduce Refill Re-use



Save the date!

Our next market will be on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October**, again at the Fieldgate Centre, in partnership with the Kingsclere Community Centre.

We expect this to be our biggest market yet, so plan to come and shop for more ecologically friendly products for yourself, your home and for gifts.

If you have a business that uses minimal packaging and no single use plastic, we'd be happy to have you apply for a stall. Please contact via our email or website.

Nicki, Sarah & Lucinda [greenerkingsclere@gmail.com](mailto:greenerkingsclere@gmail.com)

[www.Greener-kingsclere.co.uk](http://www.Greener-kingsclere.co.uk)

## Kingsclere & Headley Woodlands WI

Kingsclere Village Club, 35 George Street  
(from October)



We are now up and running like many other groups in the village. Our first meeting for almost 18 months was held on 11th August when we held a tea and cake afternoon in the garden of the Village Club. Luckily, the weather was kind and the majority of our members attended plus two visitors. Everyone enjoyed themselves immensely.

Our meeting on September 8th is a lunch at the Crown Pub in the Square when we will be holding our Annual Meeting. If any non-members would like to attend to meet our members, then please do get in touch, you would be most welcome. We would need to know in advance because of ordering the meal. The committee thought that this would be a pleasant way of getting back into the swing of things!



Our speaker at the meeting in October is to be Joanna Edge with Seated Yoga. So we are all really looking forward to trying Yoga. Why don't you come along and see what it is all about for yourself. We would love to welcome some new faces.

Worthy of advance notice: We've planned a December members' meeting around the theme of an 'American Style Supper' to celebrate the very special birthdays of a trio of long-term, active members whose names we will keep under our hats for now! Their ages-to-be: one a joyous 102 years and the other two ladies, 90 years each! All are among the oldest in years and happily also our 'Youngest-at Heart'!

We are all really looking forward to meeting in person again. Why not come along, there is sure to be someone you know, and if not, then you will soon know them.

**Margaret Geary 297197**

## **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>Dial-a-Ride</b>	01256 462101

### **CHURCH CONTACTS**

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

Vicar      Rev Ben Read, The Vicarage, Foxs Lane	01635 298471
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#### **Church Wardens:**

Sarah Mussett sarah.mussett@hotmail.co.uk	01635 291900
Administrator:	
Emma Rivers	
administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk	07422 687125

#### **METHODIST CHURCH:**

##### **Chief Steward**

Secretary & Hire of Hall    Jeanette Billington	01635 297585
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<b>ROMAN CATHOLIC:</b> Rev Patrick Tansey	0118 9814572
tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	

Bas & Deane	01256 844844	Kingsclere Library	0789 9623872
Buses	0345 8101000	Swan Street P O	01635 297035
Trains	0845 748 4950	Vet	01635 297557 or 40565
Gas Emerg.	0800 111999	Dentist	01635 299981
Chemist	01635 298419	Age Concern Local Agent	07813 368259

### **BOROUGH COUNCILLORS**

<b>Ken Rhatigan</b> 07850 530319	cllr.ken.rhatigan@basingstoke.gov.uk
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### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

<b>Tom Thacker</b> 01264 738464	tom.thacker@hants.gov.uk
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#### **MP for N.W. Hampshire:**

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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)**