

# T The Kingsclere Tower

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## **Layout/Design Volunteer Needed !**

For the past 3 months we have run an advert for a volunteer layout designer, and we've not received any responses!

The role is to work alongside the editors to design the layout of the "white pages" (not the yellow advertising pages, which are separate). This requires some experience of a graphics or publishing package (e.g. MS-Publisher, In-Design or Affinity) and typically takes around 6-10 hours between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of the month, 3-4 months a year (on a rota basis).

The Tower magazine is an important communication tool for all organisations and residents in and around the village, but we cannot continue to produce it without new volunteers!

Please contact the editors for further information

Neither the Editor nor the Management Committee accept responsibility for the opinions expressed or the goods and services advertised in the Kingsclere Tower magazine.

**COPY DEADLINE for November 2021 issue: 12 October 2021**

Send copy to the editors at 3 Blue Meadow, Garrett Close, Kingsclere or  
 email: [kingscleretower@gmail.com](mailto:kingscleretower@gmail.com)

*All contributors MUST include name, address, phone number and/or email*

# Kingsclere Parish Council

**Chairman:** John Sawyer (297221)

**Contact:** 01635 298634

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

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

**Public Opening:** Mon & Wed 10.00 - 12.00pm



**FLY TIPPING** – There has been an increase in Fly Tipping around the village, in particular at the Recycling area located at the Fieldgate Centre and dumping of green garden waste around the village. Please help keep our village clean and free of this unacceptable behaviour. You can report witnessed or discovered instances online: [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/flytipping](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/flytipping) or by phoning **01256 844844**. The team are highly effective at investigating this type of offence and have secured 29 convictions since May 2018.

**HEDGE AND GRASS CUTTING – Best hedge cutting practice from Natural England advises councils to leave hedge cutting until the nesting season ends where safely possible. The published dates to avoid hedge cutting are 1<sup>st</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> September.** As we are now into September, the Parish Council will now look to its contractors as per their agreed schedule, to cut back the hedges on the boundaries of the land owned by or which comes under the responsibility of the Parish Council. The Parish Council is not their only contract, and the cutting and maintenance is on a schedule. The Parish Council is responsible for a few tracts of land in the village, in particular the Recreation Ground, Holding Field, Community Orchard, Cemetery, Allotments, Churchyard, Malthouse Open Space, and Crown Green. Not all these areas are owned by the Parish Council, however the council is responsible for maintaining them. There are some boundary hedges however, where the responsibility to manage rests with the resident of the adjoining property.

Many hedges, all roadside verges, all other play areas not mentioned above, footpaths, and other smaller grass areas in the village are not under the remit of the Parish Council and are maintained either by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Hampshire County Council, a Housing Association, or individual land / homeowners. B&DBC has an extensive schedule that covers Basingstoke and the 147 parishes in the borough so cannot attend to all areas simultaneously.

The Parish website: [www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk](http://www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk)



[@kingsclerepc](https://twitter.com/kingsclerepc)



[facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil](https://facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil)

You can report issues of concern for non-parish council owned areas directly to HCC or B&DBC using the customer services numbers or directly on their websites. This is exactly how the parish office would report something when noted and what residents would be asked to do if contacting KPC with a query or comment. B&DBC and HCC do not have any priority reporting procedures for parish councils to use. If it is a health and safety issue, then KPC will attempt to help escalate the matter.

## **OTHER ISSUES YOU CAN REPORT TO YOUR COUNTY 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)

**TREE FELLING AT THE FAWCONER ROAD SITE** – The Parish Council is aware that some tree works have been undertaken on the Fawconer Road site.

Planning permission HAS NOT BEEN granted for the care home, and no planning application has been submitted to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. Planning permission for 13 houses was granted in January but outline permission is not sufficient to start building. BCllr Ken Rhatigan is investigating and KPC understand that officers from the Planning Authority have attended the site.

There are several trees on the site with tree preservation orders so KPC requests that if anyone has photos of trees being felled, please forward them to the Parish Council. The proposal to build a care home goes against the policies set out in the Kingsclere Neighbourhood Plan. Kingsclere Parish Council, and residents, can object to the application on these grounds once it is submitted.

**GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING** – the collections dates are 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> October then the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – will be at 7:30pm on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021, in the Village Club, (unless otherwise notified). 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.

## Petition to keep 24 Swan St in the community



An online petition has been launched at [change.org](https://www.change.org) to save 24 Swan St, the home of JLD School of Dance, Kingsclere Performing Arts College, Baughurst Blades, and Eira's Equestrian Supplies. The grade II listed building is set to be sold by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to be developed into residential flats.

Kingsclere Parish Council has submitted a formal request to B&DBC for the building to be registered as an Asset of Community Value (ACV). The aim is to set up a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the intent of buying the building and creating Kingsclere Performing Arts and Youth Centre. If the council agree a community organisation will have the right to buy.

The Youth Club would like to use the building as their base, and existing tenants would remain. KPC will be looking to ensure there is parking for residents, a necessity at that end of Swan St. We need to preserve the Conservation Area and its economic activity. Parking is essential in the centre of the village to access the shops and services for all, and we need to ensure we have vibrant activities in 24 Swan St.

There are over 230 pupils/students who attend education/training based in 24 Swan St along with 20 people who work there. The college is a base for secondary and tertiary education, tied to Newbury College. The list of achievements of the alumni is impressive so we hope will be able to create the base for continued opportunities for our young people.

**Ian Bowes**

Would you like to be a  
**Watership Down Health**



## Lifestyle Community Ambassador?

'Lifestyle medicine' is a way to transform the health and wellbeing of our community by supporting them in making effective lifestyle changes that work for them. Healthy eating, physical activity, adequate sleep, stress management and weight loss (if needed) all have impacts on physical and mental health, especially since the Covid 19 pandemic arrived.

Dr Karen Robinson, Dr Tom Jacobs and Nurse Practitioner Faye Collins share the passion for 'lifestyle medicine' and have formed a core team to lead innovative change.

We are recruiting a Health and Wellbeing Coach, updating the Wellbeing part of the WDH website, creating a complementary website to focus on lifestyle support and intend to trial virtual group consultations for conditions such as diabetes.

We are looking for four Watership Down Health lifestyle community ambassadors to join our core team; patients who share our vision and our passion. To represent the WDH community, it would be lovely to have a member from Overton, one from Oakley along with 2 from Kingsclere; ideally a mix of both men and women and of different age groups.

If you think this is something that might interest you please ring our Practice Manager Susie Altmeyer-Ennis to better understand the role, the level of commitment or any other questions you may have.

## Kingsclere Gardening Association

**Meeting November 11<sup>th</sup>** In the **Village Club**. Doors open **7.00pm**, meeting starts at 7.30pm We will follow any guidance due to covid and we may be unable to use the kitchen.

Our speaker will be Mr. Chris Bird from Sparsholt College. His talk is:

### “Right plant for the right place”

Mr. Bird was originally booked to speak in November 2020 but everything came to a halt due to the virus. However he suggested moving to the same day this year, so at our committee meeting it was agreed to go ahead with talk and hopefully normal service will be resumed. How good it is to find a gradual return to normality! All being well the next thing will be the A.G.M in January. I have judged three shows this year all have been well supported: people are glad to get back doing things.

**John Eckton 01256 850017**



**The Fieldgate Centre**  
Kingsclere Community Association  
Your community, your place

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.

## Getting Back to Normal

We are pleased to welcome back old and new hirers this term. Recently returned after a long break are Ceroc sessions on Thursday evenings, Clubbercise on Tuesday, and Fieldgate Woods (short mat bowls) on Thursday afternoons.

A totally new addition to our classes is a fun music experience for toddlers on Mondays 9.30 – 10.30am which is provided by “Songtree Music”. After half an hour of focused activities, stay for a play and enjoy a cup of tea and biscuits.

## Dates for your diary in October:

### Race Night

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 7.30pm**

Tickets £5 (Includes hot supper)

Available from the centre office or online at:

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

**10<sup>th</sup>** Greener Kingsclere **Sustainable Market** 10:30am-1:30pm

**16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>** **Book Sale** in aid of Kingsclere Community Library

**19<sup>th</sup>** **Monthly Meet Up** 2.30 – 4.30pm. All welcome

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

**telephone** 01635 298497

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

## Drainage Work on sports pitches at the Fieldgate Centre

Drainage work on the sports pitches at the Fieldgate is due to start on 27th September.

The work involves installing a drainage system across the field and then re-seeding. This will mean that the pitch area will be out of bounds until Spring 2022 to allow the grass turf to establish. There will be a low barrier around the field and all are asked to not walk on the field while the pitches are growing.

*Continued on opposite page*

*Drainage Work at sports pitches at the Fieldgate Centre continued...*

The contractor's compound will be established at the rear of the community centre. To ensure public safety the recycling area will be closed for approximately five weeks.

The work will ensure we have a good playing surface for all of the village teams that use the pitches - Kingsclere Rugby both mens and mini-rugby, Kingsclere Football Club, Kingsclere Ladies Football, Kingsclere Youth Football and Kingsclere Cricket. The Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) and the community centre are not affected by the work. Alternative 'home' grounds will be used by rugby and football teams while the Fieldgate pitches are out of commission during the 21/22 season. Mini rugby and Youth Football training will be held on the Holding Field. The target is to have the Fieldgate pitches back in full use for the 2022 cricket season.

The Kingsclere Community Association will be responsible for managing the work. To make the best use of funds we decided not to spend significant money on rigid high fencing to seal off the field area. We therefore request that all respect the low barriers and stay off the field. The footpath will remain along the hedge boundary of the field.

**Ian Bowes**

Treasurer, Kingsclere Community Association and Kingsclere Youth Football Club

## New Police Community Support Officer

**Hello everyone,**

I would like to introduce myself. I am Josh and will be your new Police Community Support Officer taking over from Police Community Support Officer Bethany and covering the Rural West of Basingstoke including Kingsclere, Highclere, Burghclere, East Woodday, and St Mary Bourne.

I qualified as an independent patrol officer in July 2021. I was tutored in Basingstoke town centre, so I am still getting used to life as a rural officer. Being a Police Community Support Officer is very different to my previous job as a baker but I absolutely love it!

I am very much looking forward to meeting the community and taken part in parish council meetings. Additionally it will be great to take part in any activities that may be happening in Kingsclere.

Remember I am a friendly face and if you see me in the area, do not be afraid to stop me and say hello to me.

**PCSO Joshua Revett**  
**18145**

Tadley Neighbourhood Policing Team  
Tadley Police Station - Mulfords Hill, Tadley RG26 3HZ  
[joshua.revett@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:joshua.revett@hampshire.police.uk)

## Royal British Legion



### FAREWELL GIFT

Mark and Tracy Holden will shortly be leaving Kingsclere to live near the coast. They have both made great contributions to Kingsclere. Our RBL branch will collect for a farewell present for them. The official fund cannot be used for this so a private account will be made available for this purpose 1<sup>st</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> October. Those wishing to pay by Bank Transfer are asked to contact Tom Sneyd for the bank details, text 0734 061 3419 or email; tom.sneyd.kingsclere@gmail.com. Please mark donations "Holden Gift".

A sealed container will be available for cash gifts at 18a Swan Street during October and at The Crown from noon till 1pm on 14 November.

The RBL has arranged a "Farewell and Thank-you" for the Holdens at a drinks party at The Crown on **14<sup>th</sup> November**, Remembrance Sunday, at 12 noon approximately to which all are welcome. (The Crown will of course be open as usual. Those attending for the Farewell, other than main guests, will pay their own costs.)

## Fund raising for St Michael's Hospice

### Loose Change tins and boxes

During the past year there have been less cash payments due to Covid, so less change around. However, there have been full tins and boxes collected, with generously added notes and cheques to make the Kingsclere total £801.70. This is a wonderful amount and the Hospice is immensely appreciative of all your donations.

It would be good to add to the Kingsclere list of box holders, so if you would like one, or need a further box, please contact me on 297036.

I would like to pay tribute to the late Josie Norton who did so much for many years to raise funds for the Hospice, her contribution was invaluable.

Many thanks to everyone for their donations to this important charity, we know your money makes a difference.

**Clare Risoe tel 01635 297036**

## Kingsclere Community Library

"Your local FREE library"

### GIANT USED BOOK SALE!

Thank you so much to everyone who has already donated books. This sale will be the biggest ever, with all the books more easily browsed in our larger space at The Fieldgate Centre.

**The Fieldgate Centre on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October** 9:00am - 4:00pm,  
and **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October** 10:00am - 3:00pm

We would be delighted to receive your **book donations** at the library during our open hours.

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

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

Our first **AGM** as a charity is on **Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October** at 7:00pm. We are holding this in the Atkinson Room at the Fieldgate Centre.

### HOURS

Tuesdays 1.00pm - 5.30pm  
Thursdays 2.30pm - 7.00pm  
Saturdays 10.00am - 1.00pm

**Nicki Lee, Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com 07899 623872**





## HALLOWEEN

COME OUT IF YOU DARE  
DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY TO **THE DELTAS**

FRIDAY 29TH OCTOBER 7.30 P.M. - 11.30 P.M.  
ECCHINSWELL VILLAGE HALL

PUT ON YOUR SPOOKY COSTUME AND DANCING SHOE  
OR JUST SIT AND LISTEN TO THE MUSIC

BAR

TICKETS AVAILABLE ecchinswellhall@gmail.com £10.00





# Kingsclere Film Club

## Annual General Meeting

AGM will be held at 7.30pm on **Saturday, 9 October 2021** at the Village Club

**Film** to be shown after the meeting **to be confirmed**

New Members will be welcome

**John Sawyer (Chairman) 297221 or [jrsawyer@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jrsawyer@hotmail.co.uk)**

## Boardgamers of Basingstoke



Did you play some games with your family over the long lockdowns? Did you enjoy the social interaction, the laughing at a bad dice roll and want to try some new, modern games? Come and join us at Boardgamers of Basingstoke. We meet every other Saturday at Chineham Christ Church, starting at 6pm until late. We'd love to introduce you to some of the fantastic games that the modern table top games industry has produced. We have games where you race to build railroads across the country or games where you can work together to save priceless artefacts from a sinking island. Perhaps you want an even greater challenge and you want to build a civilization that will last a thousand years!

If you have fond memories of playing games from your youth and would like to reconnect with a shared hobby come along to one of our sessions - the first visit is free! Our next sessions are:

**9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> October**, and every two weeks after that.

Search for Boardgamersofbasingstoke on Facebook, Instagram, and Meetup.com for more information.

**James Cruickshank 07803 616162**

# The Church Pages



We're looking at the theme of joy in our services this autumn. It may seem a strange topic after such a tough 18 months and particularly as the challenges of Covid continue to affect our lives in so many ways. It may even be seen as offensive or insensitive to be talking of such a topic when so many have suffered or are suffering with the grace impact of the pandemic. And by focusing on joy, I would not want that to be seen as belittling any of the genuine, deep, heart-wrenching pain that many have experienced, or denying its significance, as if to sweep it under the carpet and move on. In fact, I want this theme to be something that helps us as we face such trials and gives us a resource for maintaining hope even in the face of such darkness.

The theme, after all, is not happiness but joy, and there is a distinction. Happiness is something that is fleeting, that comes and goes with circumstance, that is sometimes intensely present and at other times conspicuously absent. Joy, on the other hand, is something that endures despite the very difficult circumstances of our lives. It is a constant in the ups and downs of life. And it is something that believers are commanded to do in the Bible: "Rejoice in the Lord always! I will say it again, rejoice!"

But how can this be? How can someone be commanded to be joyful? Well, notice in the verse above, that it is a particular kind of joy. It is a joy which is found not in good food, close friendships, exhilarating activities, wonderful holidays – no, it is a joy in the Lord. It is a call to look to the Lord and all that He has done and is doing in our lives. It is a call to remember the love of God for each of us, and the grace of God in giving up His Only Son, Jesus Christ, to the anguish of Roman crucifixion, for us. It is a pointer to the final day when the pain and tears of this life will be wiped away by the second coming of Jesus, when all will be put right. With that as our preoccupation, an abiding, deep joy runs through us, giving us all we need to face each day.

**Blessings,**

**Ben**

## St Mary's Church

### Sunday Worship in our Churches

### OCTOBER



Services in our churches in October will be as follows:

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	9.30am Holy Communion St Peter's Headley	10.30am Holy Communion with Junior Church (Harvest) St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30am Morning Worship St Peter's Headley (Harvest)	10.30am All-Age Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30am Morning Worship St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship with Junior Church St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30am Holy Communion St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship with Junior Church St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> October		10.30am Morning Worship with Junior Church St Mary's, Kingsclere

### Private Prayer & Mid-Week Service

St Mary's Church will be open each Thursday between 10am and 1pm for those that 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.

### Saturday Morning Coffee at St Mary's

We are delighted to announce the return of St Mary's Saturday morning coffee!

Please do join us for tea, coffee and homemade cakes in the Kingsmill Room between 10am and 12 noon. We start back on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, and will be there every Saturday except when the Village Club hosts its monthly coffee morning. Dates for October are 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, and we really look forward to welcoming you back

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

## 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)



### September

5<sup>th</sup> In loving memory of Kevin Alexander who would have been 54 years old today. Lighting up the church so the village remembers you - just as you're always in our loving thoughts. Love Mum and Gary x

### October

3<sup>rd</sup> In memory of Maisie Lawrence who would have been 93 today. The pain of losing you is still too much to bear. Helen, Jean and family

9<sup>th</sup> For Luke and Nic - Happy "big birthdays" from all your family and friends x x x

21<sup>st</sup> Remembering Neil Westcombe on his birthday, loved and missed so very much. Love Always, Elaine, Christopher, Suzanna, Helen, Chris, Thomas and Oliver

24<sup>th</sup> For Martin & Sheilah's Ruby Wedding Anniversary

## Kingsclere Methodist Church

Services for : October

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Rev Andy Fitchet
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Rev Jenny Ellis
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Rev Rachel Borgars (Holy Communion)
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Rev Canon Jill Bentall
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Worship Leaders

All Services begin at 10am and all are welcome

Christine Westcombe tel **07485 083874** email [c\\_westcombe@hotmail.com](mailto:c_westcombe@hotmail.com)

# ST MARY'S SUMMER FETE

*Bank Holiday Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021*

**THANK YOU KINGSLERE** – We were hoping for a good turn-out for our Summer Fete on Bank Holiday Monday and you certainly did not disappoint. What a great success!!

Final adjustments have to be made, but it looks like you helped us raise just over £9000. Thanks to Peter, Simon and Rob for collecting and counting all the money. Think they worked into the wee small hours!!!



The weather was kind to us, the music performed by The Only Band in the Village and Thames Valley Chorus kept us entertained, the Village Pub kept us watered and the Tea Shop and Barbeque kept us fed. As always, the Bric-a-Brac stall and Tombola proved popular, as did the books, toys and games.

We saw some very chic apparel on the Accessories stall and Jane, our trusty face-painter was still working at 5 pm. The Artisan Craft Stall was a new addition this year and proved very popular as did the produce stall and our Ice Cream Vendor – Rev. Ben!! We must have had at least 100 cakes donated.

The Dog Show proved to be exceptionally popular with over 150 entries. Best in Show 2021 was won by Poppy and Sophie Steadman from Coppice Road, Kingsclere. It was also good to see local organisations in attendance. Look out for the 'official' photographs from MOL Photography.



A big thank you to our Sponsors – Downer & Co. Estate Agents of Newbury and Claws 'n' Paws. Their involvement was invaluable. We are very grateful to our local businesses - Swan Street Stores, The Village Butcher, The Crown, Claws 'n' Paws, Twist Hair and Beauty, The Dew Pond, The Honesty Group and Highclere Castle for their generosity. We were well-supported by many other organisations further afield – too many to mention here. Thank you also to all the homeowners who allowed us to put up advertising signs outside of their houses! Think it caused quite a bit of interest!

*continued on opposite page...*

*St Mary's Summer Fete continued...*

Last (but certainly not least) The Fete Committee would like to thank all of you who helped in some way. We managed to 'rope-in' most of our congregation and that of our Methodist friends.

Our families helped out and friends and neighbours came forward (or had their arms twisted). You all know who you are and hopefully also know that without your support the day would not have been such a huge success.



Hopefully you will agree that our aim to make the Fete a celebration for everyone at the end of Lockdown was met.



PS – If any of you would like to do it again next year – please contact us.

**The Fete Committee of 2021:**

**Sarah Mussett, John Price, Andrew Kitch, Pam Kitch**

**200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200**

The September Draw was at The Village Fete on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021  
The winner was: Sarah Mussett – No. 55 **Congratulations, Sarah**

The October Draw will be made at The Crown –  
approximately 8 pm on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021

**You have to be in it to win it! If you would like to join us in 2022 – please contact**

**Andrew and Pam Kitch**

**pamkitch16@gmail.com andrewkitch16@gmail.com 01635 299743**

## Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Ltd

Our AGMs for 2019/20 and 2020/21, delayed because of Covid restrictions, will be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November in the Atkinson Room at the Fieldgate Centre, starting at 6.30pm. Do come and enjoy a glass of wine with us.

Our next event will be the **Post-Christmas Village Walk on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> December** starting from St Mary's Churchyard. This is an ideal way for all the family (and dogs) to walk off the effects of the celebrations, and hopefully to look forward to a more settled year after the strangeness of the pandemic.

In 2022, our first event will be our popular **Quiz Night with Ploughman's Supper** at the **Fieldgate Centre on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January**. This is always great fun, so put the date in next year's diary now, and be sure to buy tickets early when they go on sale in January! As ever, you can either make up teams of eight, or we'll group you on the night to make up a team.

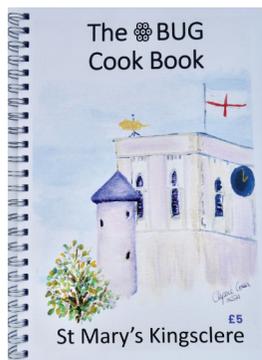
Full details will appear in future issues of The Tower. We look forward to seeing you!

**Peter Turner, Chairman**

## Bug Cook Book

We have now completed The Bug Cook Book and copies are selling fast. I am told they will make excellent Christmas Presents.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed recipes, helped with sponsorship and advertised within the book. Because of their generosity, all printing costs were covered, so all sale monies will go towards helping to cure the drainage problem at St. Mary's.



If you have not already purchased a copy – for a limited time they will be available to purchase for £5 from the following village businesses:

Claws 'n' Paws  
MOL Photography  
Swan Street Stores  
The Village Butcher

Cash Only Please  
Many thanks

**Pam Kitch Tel 01635 299743 Email Pamkitch16@gmail.com**

## Kingsclere Village Club 1921 - 2021



It was great to see so many of you at the Festival Players' wonderful production of **Henry V**. Thanks to all those who helped to make the evening such a success. We are already looking forward to next summer's **Midsummer Night's Dream** - no date yet but watch this space...

### COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Our monthly Community Café is going from strength to strength, so don't miss the Café on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This month's theme is **Quiz Fun**. All are welcome; you can join in with the activities or just have a quiet cuppa and a chat. Mobility issues? Please contact 07813 368259 and we will try to arrange transport.



**Future Café Dates:** November 20<sup>th</sup> (Xmas Crafts) and December 11<sup>th</sup> (pre-Christmas cheer)

### THE GARDEN



You may have noticed how good the garden has been looking lately, so thanks to those who have helped with planting, weeding and general maintenance. We are continuing to develop our outdoor space and have launched an appeal to buy **new garden furniture** so that our hirers will have the option of meeting outside. Thanks to a generous donation from the **Peter Baker Foundation** and matched funding from the **Greenham Common Trust**, we are very close to our target. If you wish to donate please do so via <https://app.thegoodexchange.com/project/19065/kingsclere-village-club/garden-chairs-and-tables> A big thank you to all those who have already donated.

**Helen 297390 or events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk**

<http://www.kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk> or [www.facebook.com/kingsclerevillageclub](http://www.facebook.com/kingsclerevillageclub)

## October In The Garden

Gardens, Parks, and Woodlands will be at their best this month, before the leaves begin to fall. The autumn colour lasts for a very short time, but can be stunning

There should be still plenty of colour in the garden; Michaelmas daisies always cheer the place up; they come in a good variety of colours. They can be invasive if left to their own devices, but regular lifting and dividing will control them. I'm rather fond of hardy chrysanthemums; if the growing tips are pinched out, rather like fuchsias, you will get a much bushier plant and many more flowers.

Nerines are good now. Remember not to plant too deep and give them plenty of drainage in a warm position. Kaffir Lily is another good plant for the autumn, comes in red, white and several shades of pink. Can be invasive but the small bulbs can be pulled out if not required. A very good cut flower plant. Many plants will have seed heads ready to collect and dry to plant next year. Place on paper towelling for a few days, somewhere warm, so they are completely dry before storing in paper bags or envelopes.

There is still time to prune tall shrubs and climbing roses. Trim conifers if necessary, take care not to cut into the old wood as this is unlikely to regenerate.

Cut back perennials that have finished flowering. Dahlias can be dug up after the first frost. If those grown in sheltered spots are left in the ground they need to be protected by a pile of soil after they have been cut down, to prevent the frost from penetrating.

Time to plant pots and baskets for the winter and spring. Even in the winter months there are plenty of plants that are good in containers: grasses, ivys, heathers, and violas, are just a few.

Runner and French beans will be finishing now. Cut down the plants and compost. If possible leave the roots in the ground as they return valuable nutrients to the soil. Dig over other parts of the vegetable garden to allow the frost to break up the soil, particularly if the soil is heavy clay. The last of the potatoes should be lifted and dried out to be stored.

Finish planting spring cabbages and autumn onion sets.

The most enjoyable job now is deciding which bulbs to plant for the spring. Tulips are high on my list, how lucky we are that they cost so little when you consider how valuable they were when first introduced.

**Denise Allen**

## Nature Notes

A warm late Summer's evening and frantic activity is taking place on the lawn, the launch of The Marriage Flight of black ants. The nest is brimming and certain members, male and female must move on to found new colonies and to do this they have grown wings. They scramble into the air, and some are borne away on light breezes whilst the majority quickly fall to earth. The lucky ones search for foreign partners, males to impregnate and die, females to be impregnated and form a new colony, job over, wings are shed. One year we pushed sticks into the earth near the nest and instinct directed the aviators to climb up to get a better take-off.

We occasionally mention trees that have fallen, survived lying horizontally and from which their branches on the upper side have become substantial trunks, they are apparently referred to as Phoenix trees.

*Small tortoiseshell butterfly  
feasting on buddleia nectar*



A modest year for butterflies, only one painted lady seen, very bedraggled, usual numbers of red admirals, peacocks and brimstones and the welcome sight of more numerous small tortoiseshells. Buddleia flowers were the best butterfly attracters in high summer.

A variety of bumblebees have dominated the garden this summer and very welcome they have been. It was fascinating to watch them working across so many different flowers, daisies of all kinds being favourites, from huge sunflowers to much smaller species. Honeybees however have been noticeably scarce until early September when large clumps of sedum spectabile came into flower. Dozens of honeybees are being attracted to the tiny pink flowers and it is good to see them. Strangely, they ignore a similar white flowered plant nearby. Tea in the garden included a jar of honey. To our surprise it was a honeybee that visited the open jar and gorged itself and not the usual picnic wasp! A local beekeeper assured us that honeybees are attracted to honey even not of their own making.

**Diana Tait and Rod Eldred**

## Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby & Toddler Group

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

**When:** Tuesday, 9:00am – 11:00am

**Cost:** First visit free, £1 for bumps & babies, £2 for 1<sup>st</sup> child and 50p for additional children



Face masks optional, please wear one if you would like to.

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

If you are new to Bunnies, we’d love for you to join us. We are open to expectant parents, grandparents looking after preschoolers, childminders and anyone else who cares for a child/children under 5, please come along!

If you’ve not been before, you are welcome to come along for a free taster visit. Doors open at 9am, but please don’t feel that you have to be there at 9 on the dot, we know what it can take to get children out the door in the morning! The children enjoy free play throughout the morning until 10:30am when we stop for a snack break and finish up with nursery rhymes and singing. There will also be a craft activity each week if your little one likes to be creative. Tea and Coffee is provided for adults – essential for a natter with friends!

We hope to see you soon, please do come along and say hello, it really is a lot of fun.

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

## Kingsclere CE Primary School



What a fantastic start to term we have had already, filled with excited and engaged children, as well as a few days of lovely sunshine!

Our children have enjoyed exploring our new Health & Wellbeing Suite installed over the summer. A huge thank you to FKS particularly who have supported with this funding alongside some other grant schemes.

We have welcomed our new YR children into school this term, it has been wonderful to see them exploring the learning environment and new equipment. Thank you to our Y6 Buddies who have acted as wonderful role models and supported settling them in, such a credit to our school!

If you have a child due to start school next year, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment to see us in action. Our open mornings are 22<sup>nd</sup> October & 3<sup>rd</sup> November 9-11am & open afternoons are 19<sup>th</sup> November & 7<sup>th</sup> January 1.30-2.30pm. Please call 01635 298583, we look forward to hearing from you!

With best wishes, **Mrs Melrose, Headteacher**

## Kingsclere & Headley Woodlands W.I.

Kingsclere Village Club, 35 George Street



We had our second meeting of the year on September 8th with lunch at the Crown pub in the village. This was our long-awaited Annual meeting for 2021 (usually held in May) which resulted in our new committee and Margaret Geary confirmed as President for the seventh year running!

Our next meeting will be on **13<sup>th</sup> October** at 1.45pm when we have a visit from Joanna Edge to show us (and us to partake in) **Seated Yoga**. This is not something we have tried before but we are always prepared to try something new. We perhaps won’t look like the figure in the September issue of the Tower but who will be looking, we’ll be too busy trying out the positions! Joanna runs many classes in the surrounding area and during the pandemic, has run classes online too.

At our Annual meeting in September we had a new lady become a W.I. Member and fully expect another visitor who was there to join next month. Why don’t you give us a try. We are all friendly and really want to welcome some new members.

We meet every second Wednesday of the month so if you are free, come along to join in the fun.

**Margaret Geary tel 01635 297197**

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## Would you like to read your monthly Tower online or on your device?

Simply email the editors at [kingscleretower@gmail.com](mailto:kingscleretower@gmail.com) and ask to subscribe.

You will receive your Tower through your email.

Why not tell friends and relations who may have moved away?

(At the moment, you will still receive paper copies through the door as well.)

## Kingsclere Heritage Association

Our next meeting will be on **THURSDAY 21st OCTOBER** when we welcome a return visit by local historian and author **BOB CLARK**. This time Bob will give us a talk on:

### " THE FALSE MESSIAH OF OVERTON "

We will hear of the activities of this somewhat infamous character whose name was William Franklin and whose story begins in neighbouring Overton where he was born. It was said that some 600 people believed that Christ had come to North Hampshire. Hear about William and some other eccentrics who bubbled to the surface in the chaos following the English Civil War.

We meet in the main hall at the Village Club commencing at 7.30pm. Visitors are always welcome at £3 p.p.

The Village Archives situated in the Holding Room on the second floor at the Village Club are open from 2.00pm to 4.00pm on Monday afternoons. Our Archivists will be pleased to assist with any enquiries.

**Michael Leah, Secretary tel 297403**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October**  
**10:30am – 1:30pm**  
**Fieldgate Centre**



Our fourth sustainable market, and each is bigger and better than the last! Shop for more ecologically friendly products for yourself, your family, your home and for gifts.

We will also be having more information about greener, planet-friendlier opportunities and choices.

**Entry is FREE!** Meet up with friends to enjoy a coffee and refreshments, too.

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.

Outdoor space is available and the hall will be very well ventilated. A decision on mask requirements will be made the week prior to the market.

In partnership with the Kingsclere Community Association.

**Nicki, Sarah & Lucinda greenerkingsclere@gmail.com**

## Kingsclere Photo Club

Thriving and friendly club for most ages and abilities covering many aspects of photography, with an emphasis on sharing work rather than competitive, also a traditional darkroom.



Meetings the first Wednesday of the month, normally at the Village Club, George Street, doors open 7.15pm for 7.45pm start, first visit free.

### 14<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PHOTO EXHIBITION Sat 16<sup>th</sup> & Sun 17<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Last year our exhibition of members work was on-line, this year we are to hold 'for real' again in the main hall, Kingsclere Village Club, George Street.

**Saturday 10am – 5pm, Sunday 11am – 4pm.**

Come and enjoy seeing our photos! There will be a Covid-19 compliant one-way system in operation.

We will be launching our super 2022 Calendar @ £6 each.

Portrait Raffle by MOL Photography, and Picture Sales

For more information and programme see our website [www.kingsclerephoto.org](http://www.kingsclerephoto.org) or contact us at [Kingsclerephotoclub@gmail.com](mailto:Kingsclerephotoclub@gmail.com)

## u3a Overton and District

**DO come to our October meeting:**

**The Weird and Wonderful World of the Law**

Speaker: **David Allen**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October- 10.00am**

**St Mary's Hall, Overton**

An enjoyable romp through the legal world; drawing on over twenty years as a locum solicitor travelling around the country, encountering raging judges, dotty clients and weird cases. David will take us on a journey through bizarre true-life oddities, daft old laws still in place and political correctness gone raving mad!



