

The Kingsclere Tower



November 2021

Your Village Magazine



Busy Bees Pre-school

The Scout Hut, Strokins Road, Kingsclere Newbury Berks RG20 5RH

Tel: 01635 299566 email: admin.busybees@btconnect.com

Creating an environment that stimulates and enhances children's learning and development.

Set in the heart of the community, Busy Bees Pre-school is open from 9am to 3pm daily during term time.

We offer Full Day Care or Sessional Care. Lunch Club is optional.

We are registered with Ofsted who graded us **GOOD** in a recent inspection. We are in receipt of the Early Years Grant, which offers 15 hours' childcare per week for every child from the term after their third birthday. We also accept two-year funding for those children who meet the criteria. www3.hants.gov.uk/2-year-old-offer

To arrange a visit or obtain a registration form please contact us on 01635 299566

Alternatively, you can visit our Facebook page on:

facebook.com/busybeespreschool,kingsclere

We look forward to seeing you!

Please support our advertisers – they support us



The Fieldgate Centre

Kingsclere Community Association

Your community, your place

**Large flexible space
available for hire:**

- **Hold your celebration**
- **Run your event**
- **Stage your show**

Dance Floor with Mirror Wall | Licensed Bar | Meeting Rooms
Disco Lights & Sound System | Social Area | Disabled Access
Stage with Theatre Lighting | Fully Equipped Kitchen | Car Park with CCTV

Weekly classes in: Pilates, Aerobics, Indoor Bowling, Ceroc, Slimming World, Entertainment and Community Events - Check our website for news, events and how to book.

www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk | 01635 298497 | fieldgatecentre@outlook.com

The Fieldgate Centre, Fieldgate Drive, Kingsclere, RG20 5SQ

The Kingsclere Community Association, a charity run by volunteers, operates the Fieldgate Centre. We need your help to make sure the centre is place that the community can use for a wide range of activities and to run events for the community. Please contact the office if you would like to offer some of your time.

Office open 0900 - 1300 Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Registered Charity Number 1168366

The Kingsclere Tower

EDITORS: Sarah Hewitt, Nicki Lee and Mike Stokoe

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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! If you don't have that experience—no problem! We'll provide the help and back-up whilst you learn the necessary skills. An additional talent to add to your CV or your ability to self publish.

Please contact the editors for more information.

The Editors

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

NOT LATER THAN 12th November.

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

KINGSCLERE PARISH COUNCIL (KPC)**Chairman: Cllr John Sawyer (297221)****email: clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk****Telephone: 01635 298634****Office: 37 George Street, Kingsclere RG20 5NH****Public Opening: Mon 2.30- 4.30pm & Wed 10-12noon**

THANK YOU - I would like to register the thanks of the whole Parish Council to Cllr Adam Price who sadly resigned on 26 September. Adam has contributed significantly to the work of the Council and was instrumental in procuring and monitoring our SIDS (Speed Indication Devices). With changed circumstances he felt unable to devote the time required to the role of Parish Councillor. We wish him all the best and thank him for his commitment, wise judgement and the time he invested in the Council's work.

Cllr John Sawyer

ROAD CLOSURE – REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 14TH NOV-2021 – The Parish Council will be closing the roads to traffic in the centre of the village again this year for the Remembrance Walk along Swan Street and the Silence at 11am. We respectfully ask motorists to be mindful of this.

ANNUAL REPORT – The Annual Report 2021 has now been produced, printed, and is currently waiting to be delivered to all households in the village. At the time of writing it is hoped it will arrive through your letter boxes soon. The Parish Council wish to express thanks to all who contributed.

PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE OPENING HOURS – from November the office hours will change to Monday afternoons 2.30 – 4.30pm and Wednesday 10.00 – 12.00 noon. The Clerk can be contacted by phone Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays and emails are monitored regularly throughout the week. There are occasions where the Clerk must go out and meet contractors or check issues in and around the village, but a notice will always be left advising on return if this has to occur during office opening. You are welcome to call ahead to check if a member of staff is present before visiting the office.

KPC MOWING AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT RENEWAL– The current contract comes to the end of its three-year term next Spring. The Parish Council invites anyone who is interested in the contract and wishes to be included in the tender process to get in touch with the clerk who will then ensure the schedule and relevant paperwork is forwarded. The closing dates for tenders to be submitted is the 3rd January 2022 at 10am.

GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING – the collections dates are 3rd and 17th November and then 1st December. Please ensure all bins are out by 7am.

GARDEN WASTE COLLECTIONS - Last update from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council: 1 October 2021

Garden waste collections SUSPENDED. Due to the ongoing national shortage of HGV drivers, Basingstoke and Deane have had to take the difficult decision to temporarily suspend garden waste collections due from the week of Monday 4 October. This is to target our driver resources to protecting our core household waste and recycling collection services. We will review the situation regularly and hope that, if the HGV driver availability improves, we will be able to resume the service in November. The missed collections will be added to customers' accounts. To ensure that subscription records remain on the system to add this extension, it is important that customers renew their subscription quickly if they get a reminder.

**GENERAL WHEELY BIN COLLECTION UPDATE
from Basingstoke and Deane Website -**

Crews are currently working hard to complete as many rounds as possible but owing to staffing issues around COVID, shortage of HGV drivers and sickness, some collections may not take place.

If this happens any outstanding work will be completed first. So if your collection is scheduled for today it may be collected later than usual. In some areas glass may be collected separately to allow the recycling crews to complete as many rounds as possible. Please continue to leave your bins or boxes out until they are collected.

If only your bin, rather than the whole street has been missed, please complete the online form found at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/bin/collections. Please make sure you have your property number on your bin, as this helps our crews return it to the correct place after it has been emptied. We can send you bin stickers to write your property number on. Just complete the online sticker request form, again at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/bin/collections.

The Customer Services number is 01256 844844.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – will be at 7:30pm on Monday 29th November 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.



KINGSCLERE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

It's been three years since our Neighbourhood Plan was approved. Since then, all planning applications have been assessed against policies in the NP along with Basingstoke & Deane's Local Development Plan and to date we have been fortunate in preventing major development around our village. Along with policies in the Local Plan, our NP has prevented development outside the settlement policy boundary, including defeating an appeal for land at Cottismore Garden Centre being used as a park for shipping containers.

Since adoption of the Local Plan national policy has since changed and housing need is now set at a national level reflecting Government's intention to boost supply.

The Borough Council have therefore commenced a review of their Local Plan. The revised Plan will run from 2023 to 2039, an additional 10 years. Based on a longer plan period, the Borough's housing requirement would be 16,200 dwellings (900 x 18 years). The current target is 850 dwellings per annum. Unfortunately, this increase will affect Kingsclere and other settlements. At a recent meeting the Parish Council were informed by B&D that Kingsclere has an indicative allocation of an additional 175 homes. The final figure could be more or less, but we will not know until Spring 2022 when B&D publish the consultation on the revised Local Plan. Rather than leave all decisions on development to the Borough Council, the Parish Council have advised B&D that we wish to allocate any additional housing through the Neighbourhood Planning process so that residents can have their say. We already know that developers are interested in sites at Porch Farm, Yew Tree Farm and Gaily Mill.

There is little we can do until the revised Local Plan consultation is published next Spring. In the meantime, the Parish Council urge all residents to keep up to date with information published by B&D and the Parish Council, including PC minutes which can be found on the PC website.

Cllr. Sue Adams

Cllr.sue.adams@kingsclere-pc.org.uk

The Parish website www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk



@kingsclerepc



facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil



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.

A huge thank you to our volunteers, sponsors and audience for a great Race Night. A good time was had by all and £700 was raised for our refurbishment project, which will be match-funded by the Greenham Trust.

The Fieldgate Bar

KCA and the local community have benefitted for as long as any of us can remember, from two key people who have opened the bar for every occasion. Mike Rattue retired this year after many years as our popular bar manager. He did this as a volunteer come rain or shine. Michael Woolley, who has been a much liked and reliable assistant bar manager, has moved to pastures new near his home in Devon. We miss them both as vital members of the Fieldgate 'family'.

The refreshed and re-equipped bar is ready for regular use by the sports teams, hirers and for special functions. We offer a wide range of bottled beers, wine, spirits and soft drinks, with kegs of beer available on request.

Dates for your diary

November

7th Ceroc FREE Beginners Day Learn to Partner Dance 12pm – 3pm

14th Ceroc Workshop 1pm – 4.30pm www.cerocnewbury.co.uk
07958 587256

16th Monthly Meet-Up 2.30pm – 4.30pm. All welcome.

18th & 23rd Blood Donor Session www.giveblood.co.uk

28th Greener Kingsclere Market www.greenerkingsclere.co.uk

December

5th Ceroc Workshop

11th Cabaret Evening - see separate info in this issue. A limited number of tickets are available at

www.ticketsource/kingsclere-community-association

.... more Christmas events in next month's issue.

website: www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk telephone 01635 298497

email: fieldgatecentre@outlook.com Follow us on facebook



Flu Clinics Patients Over 65 will be able to have their Flu vaccine and Covid Booster at the same time at *Jameson House. Patients who do not wish to have a Flu and Covid booster at the same time will need to wait a clear 7 days between having these vaccines if they have them at the alternative pharmacies.

Under-65 clinics for patients with Underlying Health Conditions will be offered a vaccination at Kingsclere or Overton. We will contact patients as vaccine supplies become available.

Blood Bottle Supplies The situation due to a lack of blood bottle supplies has now eased. We are working through the backlog that was created. We would urge any patients who may be concerned that they have missed an important blood test, to contact us.

The Health Service and GP Practice We have recently posted an NHS document on our website "*Why are GP practices still working differently?*" The pandemic is not over. GP practices have been working hard all through the pandemic to continue delivering services to people.

Our patient numbers have gone up from around 18,000 (pre-pandemic) to 18,541, due to new housing. We have taken on additional salaried doctors over the last 2 years and use locums when doctors are on leave. We now have 1 additional doctor than before the pandemic.

Despite the additional posts within our Practice and PCN Team, demand is still outstripping pre-Covid levels. Daily Appointments pre-Covid were around 280 per day, now running at an average of 370-380 per day (a 30% increase). Some days this increases to 410-420.

Since Covid occurred we have much higher requirements on practices as regards seeing suspect Covid patients in an appropriately secure area, total triage and a higher level of hygiene arrangements between clinicians seeing patients.

We hope this corrects some of the scare stories in the media and we would assure all our patients that WDH is open, the team are seeing patients Face to Face and that we are here for you.

Please contact the practice if you would like to receive the full newsletter.

Brian Elkins (Chair of Patient Practice Group WDH)

. *Jameson House, Chineham Court RG24 8AG nr. The Hampshire Court **ED**

Editors note: Apologies for any confusion last month – the Oct. 2020 news was inadvertently published



Royal British Legion Remembrance Sunday

Your village branch of The Royal British Legion is planning on a full Remembrance Parade and Service this year, COVID regulations allowing us to do so.

This year's Remembrance Day will be on Sunday 14th November 2021.

We will meet from 10.35am at the Council Car Park on Swan Street, before moving to the Memorial from 10.50am for an outside service. This will be followed by a service inside St Mary's Church.

All are welcome to march with us and attend the outside and inside memorial service in what will be our first in the past two years.

Should you or your organisation wish to lay a wreath on the day please do contact me or come and see us at our Poppy Launch Stall outside The Crown on Saturday 30th October from 11am.



Mark Holden

Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby and Toddler Group



We are really pleased to be growing our numbers again and seeing lots of returning faces each week. With the weather turning cooler, please remember to bring lots of layers so the children can enjoy outside play while the weather holds. It's great to be able to enjoy some fresh air in the lovely garden at the Village Club, but it won't be long before gloves become essential to keep those little fingers moving!

As always, we are open to extra helpers who have any free time on a Tuesday morning to join us. You don't need to have children attending to come along, even just an extra few pair of hands with tidying up at the end are very welcome!

Where: The Village Club, George St

When: Tuesday, 9:00am – 11:00am

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

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

villagebunniestoddlergroup@gmail.com

Kingsclere CE Primary School



It has been a really exciting term already and we have been busy exploring the local environment as well as visiting places further afield. Our infant children, as part of their 'Enquiry about Life' as a Kingsclere pupil, have enjoyed hearing visitors talk about the school from years past – some of whom were pupils here nearly 50 years ago!

Our Year 5/6 pupils visited Green Park to study the wind turbine as part of their Eco-project, sparking a petition to me to investigate solar energy for the school. We now have a selection of solar panels installed and the children are looking forward to monitoring the impact and developing their knowledge further!

It was an honour to have been one of three schools chosen to partake in the Mayor's Variety Show at the Anvil in Basingstoke. The pupils sang beautifully and represented the school remarkably well. Some of our pupils were chosen as soloists, but we are so proud of all of the children's achievements!

We hope that members of the village community will enjoy our Fireworks event planned this year on the school site. It will be a little smaller than usual but we are looking forward to lighting up the skies!

Mrs Melrose
Headteacher



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The October Draw was made at The Crown Public House on Tuesday
5th October 2021

The winner was: Michael Shore – No. 63

CONGRATULATIONS MICHAEL

November draw is scheduled to take place at the Crown Public House
on Friday 5th November at 8 pm

Andrew and Pam Kitch

pamkitch16@gmail.com andrewkitch16@gmail.com

Police Report

There has been a theft from motor vehicle at White Hill car park. Can I please advise residents to do the following:



Please remain vigilant as vehicle crime is often opportunistic. Officers ask if you witness suspicious activity or are targeted by a motor vehicle theft, to call 101 or to call 999 if the crime is in progress.

Information can also be submitted via our online form:

<https://www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

Officers ask the public to please check their cars and take the following steps to keep your vehicle and belongings safe.

Park in well-lit areas.

Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.

Take all your valuables with you.

Do not leave your keys in your vehicle.

Do not leave the area while your vehicle's engine is running.

Remember to lock your vehicle every time you walk away to prevent vehicle theft.

PCSO Joshua Revett 18145
Tadley Neighbourhood Policing Team
Tadley Police Station - Mulfords Hill, Tadley RG26 3HZ
joshua.revett@hampshire.police.uk
Website: www.hampshire.police.uk

Ecchinswell and Sydmonton CE Primary School



Open Morning

Tuesday November 23rd

9.30 am until 11.30 am

All welcome to come and look around.

Nature Notes

We walked out to Cottington Ridge recently and, returning along the Hannington Track, were pleasantly surprised at the improvement. From a track with a scant bush or two, there is now a flourishing, well developed, mixed hedge along the track edge running down the slope to the valley floor. We were particularly pleased as some years ago we were part of a small group of volunteers planting the flimsy wands and wouldn't have put much on their survival. On the other side of the track a flower bank has been established where once a bare field edge had been. The flower show is largely over but there are still flashes of crimson from poppies and sky blue from chicory.



The poet describes autumn as a season of 'mellow fruitfulness' and certainly it is proving to be so with an abundance of windfalls. Strangely, the usual hordes of wasps gorging on the sweet juices are noticeably absent. A kind offer from a resident to harvest a glut of damsons resulted in several visits and bruised fruit underfoot was similarly devoid of wasps. Although often regarded as the 'bad boys' of the insect world wasps are carnivorous and fulfil a useful role in pest control.

While nuts and berries are plentiful the acorn harvest is poor according to a radio report. An important winter food for jays, it has been estimated that one bird can cache up to 5,000 acorns in cracks, crevices, under pebbles and buried. Very many will be recovered as jays have good memories, lost acorns often become new trees.

It is 21 years since Betty Shaw wondered if we would like to take on Nature Notes for The Tower and we have got the hang of it now but if at times certain subjects appear to have been covered previously, please remember that by and large, Nature is very constant!

Diana Tait and Rod Eldred

The Editors would like to congratulate and thank Rod and Diana for their 'Nature Note' contributions to the Tower over an amazing 21 years!

Reflections

They'd hit rock bottom. There was no way out. They were stuck. The smell of sweat, disinfectant, oil, tea, rum and more was barely tolerable.

Nauseousness, hearts racing, and fierce headaches were predominant feelings. What could they do?



So felt the 59 crew of HMS Seal on the 5th May 1940, stuck at the bottom of the sea in a strait between Denmark and Sweden. It was the submariner's worst nightmare. Forced to dive to avoid enemy fire, evading them for hours, the submarine sadly got caught in a mooring cable of a sea mine, the stern being seriously damaged by the explosion, and stuck in the mud at the bottom of the sea.

One final attempt was to be made to reach the surface. After 23 hours, the captain, Rupert Lonsdale, announced to the control room, "We have run out of ideas. So I am going to call the crew together and we shall say some simple prayers. Our object will be to ask God to help us". This captain believed Jesus' words that "All things are possible with God".

The crew gathered, all bar two men, and Captain Lonsdale prayed, finishing his prayer with "Please, O Lord, deliver us". They then prayed the Lord's Prayer, and concluded with quiet personal prayers.

For the final attempt, a rope was tied to the front of the submarine which was raised 25 degrees off the surface, and all men were commanded to climb up the rope into the front compartments. It was a feeble attempt to use the men as ballast. They did so, struggling weakly to get there under the strain of lack of oxygen, most having already reconciled themselves with their impending slow death.

The final order was given; the last two tanks blown and engines ran at maximum power, and, incredibly, Seal broke free from the seabed and slowly rose to the surface.

Though the submarine was stranded, a sitting duck, in enemy waters, and the whole crew including the captain surrendered, they lived. After the war, having spent 5 years in prison camps, Lonsdale and many of his crew were released. The captain and many others had witnessed a dramatic answer to prayer.

Those prayers were heard, and ours can be too as we lay our concerns and challenges before God, who is good and longs to hear and respond to our prayers.

Blessings, Ben



Sunday Worship in our Churches NOVEMBER

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

Sunday 7 th November	9.30am Holy Communion St Peter's, Headley	10.30am Holy Communion & Confirmation Service with Junior Church St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 14 th November	10.50am Remembrance Service St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.50am Remembrance Service St Mary's, Kingsclere	3pm Remembrance Service St Peter's, Headley
Sunday 21 st November	9.30am Morning Worship St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship with Baptism & Junior Church St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 28 th November	9.30am Holy Communion St Paul's, Ashford Hill	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 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.

www.stmaryskingsclere.co.uk

Kingsclere Methodist Church

Service Dates for November

7th November - Jane Sutton

14th November - Remembrance Service at St Mary's

21st November- Geoff Britt

28th November - Rev'd Peter Bennett

All services begin at 10am and all are very welcome to join us.



Christine Westcombe
c_westcombe@ hotmail.com 07485083874

Our food distribution scheme is now Kingsclere's

Community Larder

**Open every Thursday from 2:30 – 5:30pm
In the Kingsmill Room, St. Mary's Church**



Why the change? We've been running a food distribution scheme in response to the pandemic since April 2020. It's been a great village resource which we know is still needed. So, it's time to move on to a more permanent footing.

Can I still get hold of food? Of course, we'll be open as a pop-up shop from 2.30pm to 5.30pm each Thursday. £3 for a bag of basic groceries as well as a selection of fresh food.

Who is this for? Anyone who is struggling to provide food or essentials for themselves or their family. We don't judge and you don't need to be referred.

What are the benefits of the change? People will be able to choose rather than receiving things they just don't need that week. Even if you only need a couple of things occasionally, please pop in.

Where does the stock come from? We're delighted that so many lovely people in the village are willing to drop off donations to support their neighbours. Please do continue to help, we can't do this without you. Our current list of items needed is sent by email and posted on Facebook.

Fare Share in Basingstoke deliver excess fresh food from supermarkets weekly.

What's happening when each Thursday?

Drop off any donations between 11.30am and 12.30pm.

Community Larder open from 2.30pm – 5.30pm.

Pop in for tea, coffee and a chat with our volunteers in the afternoon.

If you have any queries, please ring the church office on 07422 687125 or see our new Community Larder Facebook Page – search for @larderkingsclere.

St. Mary's Church

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



October

- 7th In memory of Rita whose funeral took place today. Love from Peter, Bruce, Stephy and all the family far and wide
- 30th Remembering Rita on what would have been her 78th Birthday. Love from Peter, Bruce and Stephy

November

- 7th Celebrating with those being confirmed by the Bishop of Basingstoke today in St Mary's Church
- 8th In memory of Maisie Lawrence who passed away a year ago today. "It broke our hearts to lose you, But you did not go alone, For part of us went with you, The day God called you home". All our love always Helen, Jean and family.'
- 23rd Dearest Eileen - With love as always on your special day, Anne & Bill
xx

Dear Editor,

To all the friends and family of Pauline Elizabeth Trowbridge (Betty) please note the burial of ashes will take place on the 8th November 2021 with her beloved husband Albert Edward Trowbridge.

Betty was a well-loved member of the local Kingsclere community and a member of the Methodist Church.

The service starts at 1pm St Denys Church, Northmoor, Oxfordshire, OX29 5SX.

It's been a long wait for Betty over the Covid Period but she will at last be reunited with her husband.

For further information call Richard Trowbridge on 07788713666.

Richard Trowbridge

Are you finding it increasingly difficult to live in this 'online' world? You are not alone.



As a charity supporting disabled people in Basingstoke, we are seeing a sharp increase in the digital divide, of older people and those with a disability being 'left behind'.

Basingstoke & District Disability Forum (BDDF)'s services are all free and available to anyone with a disability, visible or invisible. If you feel you will benefit from what we do, then we are here to help you.

Since the outbreak of the pandemic services have been forced to move online, not just for BDDF but for every charity and business in the world. For people who do not have access to a computer, this can be a very lonely, isolating experience.

At BDDF we are working hard to reach our members who do not have computer skills, or who are lacking digital confidence. During September and October, we have been running a five-week basic IT course at the Basingstoke Discovery Centre. Our learners are discovering how to send emails, safely shop online, join video calls so that they can see loved ones, and search the web.

Some of our learners didn't have access to any technology at home, so we teamed up with BVA's Reboot IT scheme to offer free refurbished laptops to those who would otherwise not have the means to buy one.

We have some more funding to help more disabled and older people to get connected. If you or someone you know needs our help, please contact us on 01256 423869 or email info@bddf.org.uk. As soon as we have enough people interested, we will work with our partners to deliver a further basic IT course to teach them the skills they need to get online. For those who simply could not afford to buy a computer we will refer them to obtain one free of charge, subject to availability.



Unfortunately our speaker for the November talk is no longer able to come, but luckily Tony Summers, who was due to address us next year, has been able to fill the gap.

10am Wednesday 17th November
St Mary's Hall, Overton RG25 3HA
'Climate Change and World Population'.
Non-members are welcome and pay £3 on the door.

Kingsclere Community Library

Are you able to lend a hand?

YOUR local public community library can only remain open with the support of our community.

We are in need of new volunteers to replace some of our group who have retired.

If you can volunteer even one shift each month (normally 2½ hours, 3 hours Saturday) this would be a tremendous help.

You would be joining a friendly group, welcoming people to the library and checking out their books. NO EXPERIENCE required, just a willingness to learn and contribute.

Please phone or email with any questions or for more information.

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

Nicki Lee, 07899 623872
Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com
www.kingsclerelibrary.co.uk



The Living Paintings Trust

We are a charity based in Kingsclere. Our free postal library of Touch to See books provides access to the visual world for blind and partially sighted children from age 2 and up. Our children's picture books include braille along with beautifully painted, raised tactile pictures and an atmospheric, educational and entertaining audio guide.

We are currently looking for volunteers who are experienced painters to help us by painting the plastic, tactile images that we add to the children's picture books and also volunteers to help us to assemble our books onsite.

If you are able to help and would like some further details it would be wonderful to hear from you.

Andrea Stannard, Coordinator livingpaintings.org T: 01635 299771



Kingsclere Local History Association

(formerly Kingsclere Heritage Association)



For some time we have considered changing our name as research has shown that we need a title which tells more directly what we are about. At our AGM on 30th September we agreed to change our Constitution to show our new name as Kingsclere Local History Association.

Our next meeting will be on

THURSDAY 18th NOVEMBER

TONY CROSS, retired Curator of the Alton Museum, will present
'THE ROMANCE OF THE LETTERBOX'

The iconic red pillar box has been a distinctive feature on the roads of Britain for over one hundred and fifty years. Tony will recount to us an interesting story of its development.

We meet in the main hall at Kingsclere Village Club and our meetings commence at 7.30pm. Visitors are always very welcome at £3 pp.

Michael Leah
Secretary tel 297403



Saturday, 13th November, 2021
at 7.30pm
(doors open at 7.00pm)

at the Village Club, George Street

NOMADLAND
(12A - 107min - 3 Oscars - 4 BAFTAs)

Story of a woman who has lost everything in the Great Recession and leads a nomadic life through the American West in her van.

11 December - **The Red Balloon** - preceded by the 'Christmas Do'
(Please prepay for this)

New members and guests are welcome

Further information: John Sawyer (Chairman) 297221
or Diana Tait (Membership Sec.) 298494

Kingsclere Gardening Association

We will be a meeting at

**The Village Club
Thursday November 11th.**



Our speaker is Mr. Chris Bird from the Sparsholt Agricultural college .

His talk will be Right Plant Right Place.

Every one welcome, members free, visitors £2.00.

It will be good to see members again after this long break. Let's hope we can continue next year as we used to.

The meeting starts at 7.30pm doors open 7.00pm.

John Eckton 01256 850017

Nathan's Kingsclere Christmas Cabaret is back!

If you fancy festive fun and entertainment with a free glass of mulled wine, come on down to the Fieldgate Centre on 11th December 2.45pm matinee or 6.00pm evening performance.

Tickets through The Fieldgate Centre
www.ticketsource.co.uk/kingsclere-community-association

Tickets: Adults: £12 / Children: £6

West End singers!

**include Jodie Steele from *Six & Heathers*,
Rohan Richards from *Dreamgirls*
and**

Kingsclere's very own Kelly O'Leary from *Les Misérables*.

A raffle with wonderful prizes including West End theatre tickets, Spa treatments and many more. All proceeds going towards **Target Ovarian Cancer** in support of local women who are suffering with this disease.

Please provide proof of covid status; either Covid vaccination or negative lateral flow on the door.
Enquiries: 07510804244

November in the Garden



Sadly the autumn colour has gone from the garden leaving only berries, evergreens and any trees that have a decorative bark.

One of the jobs that can be terribly boring is to rake up the fallen leaves. If left they will harbour unwelcome creatures. If you are unable to collect all the leaves, the worms will do a very good job of taking care of them, but of course it is better to collect most of the leaves and use them to make leaf mould. This will take probably a year if left in the dark e.g. a bag or bin.

With the wind that can turn into gales at this time of the year, it is essential to tie in climbers as they can become damaged. I like to half prune my roses as this helps to stop them rocking with the wind, leaving the complete pruning until April. It is also a good time to check tree ties and stakes.

Roses and most deciduous trees and shrubs can be planted now. Bare rooted plants work well as they are better value for money than container grown plants.

There are a few plants that can be cut back at the moment. Grasses and bamboos can be and also herbaceous plants, although some people like to leave them as they feel that they look attractive when they become frosted. Of course if you have a large garden this will be leaving too much tidying up until the spring which will be hard work.

The vegetable garden can be dug over to allow the frost to break the soil up. If you grow Brussel sprouts, keep harvesting, picking from the bottom as the largest sprouts form at the base of the plant first. Any brassicas that are still growing will need netting as the pigeons will enjoy feasting on them. Cauliflowers will need the curds protected. Do this by folding the inner leaves over the top to keep them white.

The garden shed will probably need tidying up before it gets too cold, making room for the garden tools that should be cleaned, oiled, and stored until the spring.

It's getting to the end of the time for planting tulips. This is best done by the end of the month, but early December at the very latest. Don't forget to give them plenty of grit as they like good drainage.

Now that the shorter days are here it's time to look through the seed catalogues. Planning next year in your garden, it's always good to try and grow something different.

The berries are rather good this year. I'm sure the birds will have a feast on them at some stage, but before that happens just enjoy the show. I can't remember seeing so many berries on the rowan trees and the pyracanthas.

Denise Allen



Kingsclere Village Club 1921-2021

BACK TO NORMAL (ALMOST!)

It is really good to see our classes, clubs and societies re-starting their activities at the Club. Many of you will have enjoyed the Heritage Association's recent talk, watched a film with the Film Club or attended the Photo Club's wonderful exhibition. The Gardening Club will re-start their meetings this month, there are fitness and yoga classes and for children Bunnies and Moo Music are in full swing. Apologies if I have forgotten something – there is a lot going on!

LOOKING FORWARD TO CHRISTMAS?

The theme of this month's **COMMUNITY CAFÉ** is Christmas Crafts.
November 20th, 10a.m. to 2p.m.

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. On December 11th there will be pre-Christmas cheer!



We have all sorts of Christmas themed stalls coming to our fabulous **CHRISTMAS MARKET** on **Sunday 12th December**, from **10am. to 4.30pm.**



Come along and find that perfect present.

More details in next month's Tower.

Helen 297390 or events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk

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

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



It has been such a long time since the collection of donation boxes has been possible and now seems a good time to regroup and to reach out to all box holders, for a fresh start in 2022.

Please get in touch by phone so that I can update the Charity's records with any change of address or preference and to discuss when and how you would like your box collected.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Sue Grove-White
01635 297683

www.childrenssociety.org.uk

'Every young person deserves a good childhood'



Greener Kingsclere
Reduce Refill Re-use

Sunday 28TH November
10.30am – 1.30pm
Fieldgate Centre

Our first CHRISTMAS market!

Our stall holders will have holiday gifts, decorations and food, plus many of our usual planet friendly alternatives for every-day needs.

Entry is FREE! Meet up with friends to enjoy a coffee and refreshments, too. Our markets have turned into fun social occasions as well as shopping.

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.

In partnership with the Kingsclere Community Centre.

Nicki, Sarah & Lucinda greenerkingsclere@gmail.com
www.Greener-kingsclere.co.uk

Kingsclere PHOTO Club

EXHIBITION RESULTS

Thank you to everyone who saw our recent exhibition. We hope you enjoyed the show!

The photo most voted as the 'favourite picture' was 'Wreck of the Helvetia' taken on Worm's Head, South Wales by Mary Ferguson.



The winner of the portrait raffle kindly donated by M.O.L. PHOTOGRAPHY was Liz Hammond from Camberley with square 68, congratulations to her and thank you to everyone who had a go.

2022 CALENDARS

Our super 2022 calendars are on sale, available while stocks last from MOL Photography (Mornings only Mon-Thurs) and SPAR Kingsclere (Swan Street Stores) at just £6 each, and make ideal gifts!



FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

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

Weds 3rd Nov Practical evening

Photographing food, and launch of 'Self Portrait' challenge.

Weds 1st Dec AGM and 'Best photo of 2021' competition.

For more club information, see our website www.kingsclerephoto.org or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/kingsclerephoto> Or email is at kingsclerephotoclub@gmail.com

Kingsclere & Headley Woodlands WI



Our Meeting for October with Joanna Edge has not yet taken place but I'm sure that members are still feeling the benefits derived from doing seated yoga and are feeling more relaxed after being shown relaxation techniques. Joanna moved her classes online during the pandemic so we were delighted to have her attend our meeting in person.

We are looking forward to welcoming another 'new to us' speaker on 10th November at 1.45pm, when we will be shown how to decorate Christmas wreaths. Cynthia Morris will be our guest and if members want to, whilst watching Cynthia, they too can decorate a wreath with greenery and baubles. So much more fun than popping to the shop to buy one (even supposing one is available this year and there is petrol to get to the shops!) We are looking forward to maybe showing our inner creative side.

Ladies of Kingsclere and surrounding areas, do you have a spare couple of hours on the second Wednesday of each month? If so, do come along to the Village Club and get a friendly welcome from your local Women's Institute.

Margaret Geary
President
Tel: 01635 297197

Boardgamers of Kingsclere



Are you looking for something to keep you entertained during the colder months? Welcome to your new hobby!

We're a new club meeting for the first time at
7pm on 18th November in the Village Club.

We'll bring a selection of modern board games to play and will be very happy to teach you how to play. There will be games to suit everyone - from simple and quick games to longer, strategic games. Most importantly, there will be a chance to socialise, laugh and enjoy the company of others while playing.

See the Village club website or Facebook page to sign up. There will be a cost of £5 to cover room hire but teas and coffees are included!

James Cruickshank 07803616162

THE KINGSCLERE TOWER DIRECTORY

POLICE, FIRE or AMBULANCE	Emergency 999
Police Enquiries/Information	non Emergency 101

POLICE, FIRE or AMBULANCE	Emergency 999
Police Enquiries/Information	non Emergency 101

01635 296000

01256 473202

01635 298634

01256 462101

CHURCH CONTACTS

St. MARY'S CHURCH:

01635 298471

Church Wardens:

07918 076630

01635 291900

Administrator:

07790 934972

METHODIST CHURCH:

Chief Steward:

01635 297585

ROMAN CATHOLIC: Rev Patrick Tansey 0118 9814572

0118 9814572

0110, 0111, 1011, 1111

07899623872

01635 297035

01635 297557 or 40565

01635 299981

Age Concern Local Agent 07813 368259

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

cllr.ken.rhatigan@basingstoke.gov.uk

cllr.Stuart.Frost@basingstoke.gov.uk

cllr.geoff.poland@basingstoke.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

tom.thacker@hants.gov.uk

MP for N.W. Hampshire:

kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk

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There is a more comprehensive list of local contact numbers on the Parish Council website. Go to www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk/directory