



The Kingsclere Tower



What's On & Local News
MAY 2023



The Kingsclere Tower

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Welcome to the May edition of the Kingsclere tower. This is my first time as editor ably supported by Cathy Williams who did all the real work.

May is looking like a busy month in the village with the Local Elections and an NHS Blood Donation on the 4th at the Fieldgate, followed by the Coronation weekend on the 5th with a lot of activities happening in the village including a party at the Fieldgate on the 6th. Then there's Shakespeare in the Garden on the 9th and the Friends of St Marys/Kingsclere Gardening Association Plant Sale on the 20th.

As Denise Allen writes inside, May's a busy time in the garden and as I write this, I can hear the neighbours' lawn mowers which are making me feel a little guilty.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of the Kingsclere tower and we look forward to seeing you at the events. Please contact us if you have any feedback, suggestions or contributions for the next issue. Thank you for your support!

Steve Gaines May Editor

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

To all "Tower" Contributors

**Copy for June 2023 to the Editor at: kingscleretower@gmail.com
 NOT LATER THAN 12th May 2023.**

If possible please submit articles as a MS Word document, A5 page size, font Times New Roman 11, single spacing. *If email not possible, post to:*
 23 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Newbury RG20 5PP.

**Will ALL contributors please include full name
 and contact phone number/email address.**

Kingsclere Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr Clive Mussett (07800 022432)

Email: clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk

Telephone: 01635 298634

Office: 37 George St, Kingsclere RG20 5NH

Please call to make an appointment to visit the office



2023 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS 4th May – There is an uncontested result for our Parish Council and 5 existing councillors will be re-elected on the 4th. We do have four vacancies for councillors, so please do get in touch if you are interested in learning more.

POLLING STATION - The Fieldgate Centre – on the 4th May - Entrance to the Polling Station at the Fieldgate Centre during the period 10.00 to 18.30 will be via the back entrance to the building - opposite the recycling area. The room where the Polling Station is located is right beside the back entrance.

There will be a NHS Blood Donation session running in the centre so it is necessary to keep the Blood Donation activity separate from the polling activity. Blood donation is an essential contribution to saving lives. Thank you for taking those few extra steps to cast your vote.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – Thank you to all who supported and took part in the Annual Parish Meeting. It was very well attended, and huge thanks also to Rachel Campbell CEO for Citizens Advice Tadley. It was great to see how the organisation has helped many in our community.

ANNUAL REPORT – The Annual Report will be compiled soon - Please can organisations who wish to be included in the publication send a written report to the clerk to the Council before the 28th April.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARDS 2023 – 15th June 2023. The nomination form is available on Kingsclere Parish Council's Website to nominate your chosen person. We ask you to help us recognise those residents who deserve a big public thank you for their commitment and contribution to the village. Thank you for the nominations received so far.

DOGS ON LEADS – Please do remember to keep your dogs on leads when walking footpaths, particularly where your dog can stray away from the path and over farmland / grassland. There are ground nesting birds and young stock around.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – The next full Council Meeting follows the Annual Meeting of the Council which commences at 7:30pm on Monday 22nd May 2023 in the Village Club. We welcome the attendance of all parishioners at our meetings and anyone who wishes to raise any matters of concern will be given the opportunity to do so during Public Questions.

GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING – the collections dates are Wednesday 17th and 31st May, and 14th June 2023.

For further information on anything in this article please contact Clerk to the Council on the email/telephone number given.

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



@kingsclerepc



facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil

Kingsclere Neighbourhood Plan



Paper copies of the village housing needs questionnaire are now available to collect from the Parish Council and Community library. An on-line version is still available on the Parish Council website. If you have not already done so, **please complete the housing needs questionnaire**. We need to know if views have changed since the Neighbourhood Plan was completed in 2018. It only takes 5-10 minutes. If you prefer a paper copy kindly email me at the address below or contact the Parish Clerk. Please share widely in the village so we get as many responses from as wide a range of people as possible.

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

KINGSLERE CHARITIES

Incorporating:

Kingsclere Welfare Charity and Kingsclere Apprenticing Charity

2023 Meeting Dates:

Thursday 15th June Thursday 21st September Thursday 16th November

The Trustees will meet on the above dates. Applications must be received by the clerk two weeks before each meeting. Apply in the first instance to www.kingsclerecharities.org where information and application forms can be found by selecting the appropriate charity for your needs, and submitting to the clerk. Alternatively please email kingsclerecharities@iname.com

Kingsclere Local History Association



Our monthly speaker meetings are now finished until our new programme commences in September. We will, however, be continuing to open the Village Archives upstairs in the Holding Room at the Village Club from 2pm to 4pm on Monday afternoons.

With the Coronation of King Charles taking place shortly there will be many celebratory gatherings and events taking place in the village. Please bear in mind that we will welcome contributions of photographs and any other suitable material you feel suitable for permanent inclusion in the Archives. Here we don't want to just wait and see but take a more pro-active stance to encourage positive response.

Thank you in anticipation.

Michael Leah, Secretary 297403

Next Market

will be in June. Please watch out for details!



Would you be able to help make Kingsclere 'greener'?

Our very small group is organising the market, getting the Repair Cafe off the ground and running, trying to achieve 'Plastic Free Community' status with Surfers Against Sewage, encourage recycling.... and there is more we would like to do! But we need help.

If you might be able to put in some time, regularly or occasionally, please will you get in touch? We need people to help out at the market and clothing swaps, people to help at the Repair Cafe both with repairing and mending but also helping to organise, and we need some volunteers to help collect the blister packs from the surgery on a regular basis. Some administrative or PR help would also be very welcome.

Please email if you'd like more information on ways to help, and thank you for considering. We know everyone's time is valuable.

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



Kingsclere Coronation Party & Celebrations

Friday 5th May 8.45pm

Jubilee Light Switch On Village Square

Saturday 6th May

**Coronation Ceremony on TV Village Club
 Kingsclere Coronation Conga
 to the**

Big Coronation Party

The Fieldgate Centre 3pm 'til late

Live music – Entertainment & Fun for all Ages
 Community Stalls – Street Food – BBQ – Bar Open

Sunday 7th May

**Service of Celebration for all at
 St Mary's Church
 Downs Walk and The Big Lunch Picnic**



For more information and to book a community stall scan the QR code or visit www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk
 Details will be updated as we get more information.



supported by
 Basingstoke
 and Deane





The Fieldgate Centre is run by Kingsclere Community Association, as a charity (No 1168366). The association is made up of volunteers who rely on the support and participation of the community.

The Big Coronation Party Saturday 6th May - 3pm 'til late

Entertainment & Fun for all Ages – Live Music & Performances
Community Stalls – Street Food – BBQ – Raffle – Bar Open

Come along with family and friends to support this event, organised by enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers from village organisations. KCA and Kingsclere Parish Council are grateful to Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council for awarding a grant of £1000 to support the event.

Polling Station - The Fieldgate Centre - 4th May (See Page 2)

Entrance to the Polling Station at the Fieldgate Centre 10.00 to 18.30 will be via the back entrance to the building - opposite the recycling area.

An NHS Blood Donation session will also run in the centre separately.

What's on...

May

Thur 4th Polling Day - See above and Page 2

Tue 16th Monthly Meet-Up 2.30-4.30pm. All welcome. Pop in for chat, refreshments and optional activities. Helpers welcome. Contact the office if you need a lift and we'll try to help.

June

Sun 11th Ceroc Workshop 1.30-4.30pm Contact Val 07958 587256, or email val@cerocpr.co.uk

Sat 17th Table-Top Sale 10am-1pm

Tue 20th Monthly Meet-Up 2.30pm-4.30pm

Sun 25th Greener Kingsclere Market 10am-12.30pm

July

Sun 16th Kingsclere Singers Summer Event. Put the date in your diary.

The main social area is open as a welcoming 'warm hub' on most Wednesday mornings from 9.30am-1pm (We advise calling the office to check beforehand)

email: fieldgatecentre@outlook.com

telephone 01635 298497

www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk

Kingsclere Tennis Club

If you would like to play tennis locally, Adult, Junior and Family memberships are available at very reasonable rates. ALL WELCOME!



There is a simple booking system in place to make organizing play easier for all members.

The summer season starts on 1st May 2023. To join or to renew membership contact: Adam Price **07725 901362** or email: adamprice27st@gmail.com

To join a mixed group playing on Thursday mornings: Daphne **07768 664347**
To join in with other social tennis contact:
Nigel 07785 763967 or Adam 07725 901362

Kingsclere Players



Peter Pan is flying into Kingsclere this Christmas!

Kingsclere Players in partnership with Kingsclere Community Association are bringing Neverland to the Fieldgate this Christmas.

Never want to grow up? Here's your chance to join the lost boys in this year's panto.... **PETER PAN!**

We're looking for all creative talents of all ages... Take part in acting or set design, sewing of costumes to lighting and sound effects. Whether you're onstage, backstage or just part of making the magic and having a laugh, we want you to be there with us!

SAVE THE DATES!

Peter Pan Promo Days - Find out more how you can take part
Wednesday 28th June, 7:30pm, The Crown, Kingsclere
Saturday 8th July, 3pm - KIDS DAY (Ages 6-17), The Crown, Kingsclere

Peter Pan Audition Day
Sunday 9th July, 3pm, The Fieldgate Centre

Email Kingsclere Players by 30th June if you'd like to get involved but can't make one of the dates at kingsclere.players@yahoo.co.uk

We look forward to seeing you there!

Jessica Craker

Kingsclere Gardening Association

Our next meeting is

**Kingsclere Gardening Association and Friends of St Mary's
Plant Sale**

Saturday 20th May 2022 10am-12am St Mary's Church Yard



KGA and FOSM have come together again this year for this Annual Plant Sale. The popular format is back with a couple of additions; we will have a DONATIONS table that will accept any plants brought along on the day, also the people on hand for advice and sales will be easy to recognise as they will be wearing an apron and name badge. We already have lots of cottage garden perennials, hostas, dahlias and vegetable plants growing well for the sale.

The Kingsmill Room will be open from **6-7pm on Friday 19th May** for anyone who would like to drop off donations early, we would ask wherever possible the plants are named. Please get in touch with me if you would like anything collected from you beforehand. There will be information leaflets about the Kingsclere Gardening Association and how to become a member. Remember this is a cash only event as we are unable to take card payments.

Forthcoming events:

Meal out at The Vyne at Hannington is also on **20th May at 6.30 for 7pm**. Please let Sylvia know if you would like to go:
Sylviapennington@btinternet.com

We have a summer garden visit organised for the **15th June to Gilbert White's** historic garden in Selborne. Again, please let Sylvia know if you would like to add your name to the list.

Beth Theobald (Secretary) 07916 032250

Facebook: Kingsclere Gardening Association



FOSM 200 Club

The winner of the April Draw was Olive Wallace – No.53
Congratulations, Olive

Next month's Draw will take place at The Crown at approximately 7 pm on
Tuesday 9th May

Jane Royle jane.b.royle@gmail.com 01635 297430

Kingsclere Community Library

HOURS Tuesday & Thursday 1.00pm - 5.30pm
Saturday 10.00am - 1.00pm



Visiting Books Programme!

We have begun a programme of borrowing books from the Hampshire Library system to give you more reading options.

We will have 100 books in many different genres and categories for you to borrow, and we will change them every three months. So, if you thought you had read everything we had, do come back! We are also adding new books of our own to the collection.

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

Nicki Lee, Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com www.kingsclerelibrary.co.uk
Library phone number: 01635 297464



Kingsclere Film Club

Saturday 13th May 2023 at 7.30pm
Kingsclere Village Club, George Street
Doors open at 7.00pm

West Side Story

(2021 - 12A - 156min - 1 Oscar)

An adaptation of the 1957 musical, West Side Story explores forbidden love and the rivalry between the Jets and the Sharks, two teenage street gangs of different ethnic backgrounds. Dazzles with street dancing, drama and Leonard Bernstein's outstanding musical score.

Next month: Saturday, 13th June 2023

Charade

(1963 - PG - 113min)

Kingsclere Film Club welcomes guests at £7.50.

New members are welcome at any time.

For further information call: **Diana Tait (Membership Secretary) 298494**

Dear Editor,

Alan Roy Jones

We would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their kind messages of support, flowers and meaningful card following the passing of Alan. He was a very much-loved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. Our special thanks to Rev. Jill Bentall who led the service so beautifully. Ash Brook Independent Funeral Directors for their compassion, sympathy and understanding, Hazel O'Leary for their uplifting contribution and Emma Rivers for her kindness and help.

Winn Jones, Adrian Jones and Beverley Bradley

Watership Down Health



Covid Vaccination Spring Booster

The Spring Booster programme started at the beginning of April 2023. Local centres started offering vaccinations from 17 April 2023 and will continue until the end of June 2023. We have invited our eligible patients (75+) by Text to book an appointment via the HIOW call centre (0300 561 0018) or the National Booking system. Please note that the practice cannot directly book patients into this service. Other eligible patients will be notified in due course.

Use of On-line Services

Please be aware that the number of On-line services providers continues to increase. WDH have no control over providers or services offered to patients. We have become aware recently of patients that have inadvertently clicked on links to private/fee-pay services due to how "private work" was presented on the same web page as our GP practice booking information. This is outside our control. All services that Watership Down Health offer patients, such as consultations with GPs and blood tests, are free at the point of delivery. Please be mindful when clicking on *private services*: patients only go ahead if they wish to sign up for private services as there will be a charge.

Blood Pressure Monitoring

A blood pressure test is a simple way of checking if blood pressure is too high or too low. Blood pressure tests can be carried out at a local pharmacy and GP practice, or even in some opticians and supermarkets. Each of the Watership Down Health waiting rooms has a blood pressure monitoring machine. Patients can take a reading and then give to Reception for it to be added to the patient's record.

Home blood pressure monitoring enables patients with hypertension (high blood pressure) to measure their blood pressure readings with their GP from home using a patient's own digital blood pressure monitor. There are a variety of low-cost blood pressure monitors available. Please help by giving us your readings regularly. Our web Blood Pressure Review form can be completed at: <https://www.watershipdownhealth.com/navigator/blood-pressure-review/>

MIND Wellbeing Practitioners

Charlotte Hughes and Sharon Went will be working as Wellbeing Practitioners for Andover Mind at Watership Down. They will be working with patients who are struggling with their mental health and wellbeing, providing support and short-term recovery interventions through a series of 45-minute appointments. Appointments can take place face-to-face in surgeries or over the telephone. To book an appointment, ask Reception.

May is National Walking month. Helpful hints are available at:

<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us/national-walking-month>

The Church Pages



Beyond Easter

One of the Bible readings suggested for the Sunday after Easter is part of Peter's first letter to the early church which includes these words:

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..." (1 Peter 1:3-9)

Further on in the same letter, he writes:

"... in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you;" (1 Peter 3:15)

It seems to me that Peter is setting out how he envisages the early church should respond to the resurrection of Jesus and how that will play out in the years to come: it is to be something shared with others, an experience that will bring hope. An experience that so many of us are still searching for today as we watch the global news unfolding or read the latest examples of humanity's dehumanising actions towards members of the same human race.

The Easter experience remains a lifelong one. It is an account of re-appearance, re-acquainting and re-affirming, as experienced by Mary and the women who came to the tomb early in the morning; by Thomas who was not to be fobbed off with a second-hand experience of the risen Christ, by the other disciples and by Peter who, despite his numerous denials of his links with Jesus, was still entrusted with the pastoral care of the early church.

The experience of joy, encouragement and forgiveness which was shared on that first Easter Day remains accessible to all who still seek it today. It offers a different way of looking at the world; of building up rather than belittling; of love rather than hate. It is a way of living and loving that offers each of us a new start, not just once, but each and every day of our lives...

In hope and peace,

Rachel

Rachel Borgars
Methodist Minister

St Mary's Church

Worship in our Churches

May 2023



Services in our churches will be as follows:

Thu 4 th		Morning Worship 10.30am St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sun 7 th	Celebration Service (Holy Communion) 9.30am St Peter's, Headley	Celebration Service (Morning Worship) 10.30am St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thu 11 th		Morning Worship 10.30am St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sun 14 th	Morning Worship 9.30am St Peter's, Headley	Morning Worship 10.30am St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thu 18 th		Holy Communion for Ascension Day 10.30am St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sun 21 st	Morning Worship 9.30am St Paul's, Ashford Hill	Morning Worship 10.30am St Mary's, Kingsclere
Wed 24 th	***Licencing of Rev Pete Williams 7.30pm St Paul's, Ashford Hill	
Thu 25 th		Morning Worship 10.30am St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sun 28 th	Holy Communion 9.30am St Paul's, Ashford Hill	Morning Worship with Baptisms 10.30am St Mary's, Kingsclere

www.stmaryskingsclere.co.uk

Work will be done on St Mary's Bell Tower during May/June. This will mean that the clock on the church will be temporarily stopped and will show the incorrect time and may be silent as we repair a bell mechanism and the bell housing.

***We are delighted to be able to confirm that our new Priest in Charge of Kingsclere, Ashford Hill and Headley Churches, Rev Pete Williams, will be licenced on 24th May 2023 at 7.30pm. The service will take place in St Paul's, Ashford Hill. Pete's first service in Kingsclere will be on 28th May at 10.30am.

St Mary's Church - Saturday Coffee

Freshly brewed coffee, tea and delicious homemade cakes.
All welcome – please do pop in!

May 6th, 13th and 27th 10.00-12.00 in the Kingsmill Room
Volunteers welcome – if you're able to pour coffee, welcome people or make cakes occasionally please do contact the church office on **01635 299528**.

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



April

19th Remembering Michael Sharman on his birthday. Missing you so much.
With love from the family.

May

4th Loving memories of Moira on her birthday.

7th To celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III

31st Remembering Hazel Soper on her birthday. A dear Mum, Grandma and Great Grandma. With love from all the family.

Kingsclere Methodist Church

Services for May

Sun 7 th	Joint service morning worship at St Marys Church to celebrate the coronation.
Sun 14 th	Joint service morning worship at Whitchurch Methodist Church 10.30am
Sun 21 st	Morning worship with our Worship Leaders – 10am
Sun 28 th	Morning worship - Rev Canon Jill Bentall - 10am

Coffee Morning every Thursday 10.30 - 12am

Hall available for hire (see details at the back of this magazine)

Christine Westcombe email c_westcombe@hotmail.com

Royal British Legion



VE Day Remembrance Monday 8th May at 3pm

We ask that people join us in gathering around the memorial at approximately 2.50pm ready for 3pm when there will be a short service along with a prayer.

St. Mary's Village Fete

Monday 28th August

The Fete Committee are working hard to ensure the 2023 Fete will be an amazing Village event.

We have secured some interesting Grand Draw Prizes and ticket sales will begin very soon. We still need a couple more prizes, so if you work for a company who you think may be able to provide a prize, then please let us know.

We have secured the services of a Rock Choir and are hoping to engage a country music band. This is where we need your help. We need a sponsor or sponsors to help with the cost of the band. If you know of anyone who would be willing to sponsor us, then please let us know. Full acknowledgement will be given.

Finally – for this month – just to say that we will need a lot of help setting up and clearing away. We have already received offers of help, but if you feel able to assist, then just email or phone.

Tel: Sara Hannan – 299550 or Email: pamkitch16@gmail.com

Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Ltd

Our next annual event is the always popular and well-supported

**Plant Sale with Kingsclere Gardening Association,
in St Mary's Churchyard on the morning of Saturday 20th May**

If you are splitting and potting up perennials, or have young plants sown this year to spare, we should welcome contributions. Please contact:

Jane Royle on 01635 297430 or by email to jane.b.royle@gmail.com

Despite dramatic weather in the last year, which has taken its toll on some plants, we hope that nine or ten gardens will be included in our

**Open Gardens Trail, from 2pm. to 6pm
on the afternoons of Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th June.**

There will be a wide range of garden sizes and styles, some long-established, some recently created, and at least half of them not previously shown. Maps and tickets valid for both days will be on sale at the Church at £10 per adult/£15 per couple, with accompanied children up to school leaving age free. Refreshments will be available at St Mary's Churchyard or in the Kingsmill Room.

The FOSM website is now live! friendsofstmaryskingsclere.org

Peter Turner, Chairman

For membership and other enquiries contact: fosmkingsclere@gmail.com



The Hampshire Hoppit

The annual Hampshire Hoppit trail race (from Kingsclere Stables) is scheduled for **Sunday 18th June 2023**. This will be our 8th annual running of the race, and we are expecting it to sell-out once again with around 900 runners. The race is a not-for-profit event, with any additional funds (after costs) distributed to Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance and also Basingstoke & Mid Hants Athletics Club.

Anna Lisa Balding has once again been very accommodating and has offered access to her land on the race day, as has William Huntingdon.

We love it when locals appear at our race after simply jogging to the start rather than driving!

The race website <https://hampshiretrailmarathon.co.uk/>

Kingsclere & Headley Woodlands W.I.

Kingsclere Village Club, 35 George Street



After the changes we had to make this past couple of months; the cancellation of the March meeting due to the sudden quite deep snow, then having to move to the Methodist Hall for our April meeting because of the installation of new heating in the Village Club, we are this month back in the Village Club for our May meeting. This is our Annual meeting when we review our year, confirm our committee and elect the president for the coming WI year.

Our meeting is on **Wednesday, 10th May, commencing at 1.45pm** in the Village Club, 35 George Street. We will have in attendance our WI advisor from Hampshire Federation to conduct the election of the president and answer any questions members may have about the direction in which the WI is moving in order to get away from the "Jam and Jerusalem" image. Our members like nothing more than having a cup of tea, cake and a chat with friends, plus the bonus of an eclectic mix of speakers. Do come along and see for yourselves that we are a friendly bunch and welcome everyone who comes through the door.

Margaret Geary, President tel 01635 297197

Shipinnarts

The Ship Inn Country Hotel, Ashford Hill, RG19 8BD

Tel: 01189 814504

See Events 2023 on our website for more details of each event:

<https://shipinnarts.org/> **Tickets on Eventbrite or direct from The Ship**

What's on in MAY

Come and join us! You will be warmly welcomed.

Fri 5th 7pm – 10pm Open Mic. FREE If you would like to come along, just turn up. Refreshments of bread and cheese, and bar open for drinks. Donation pot for food. Please do pop in for a drink.

Tue 9th 11am – 2pm Craft event Come along and bring a craft you love, or a craft to share. It will be shortly after the Kings Coronation, so we could make a scrap book of your memories and your high points of the weekend, or make something for this special event. Come and join just for a chat. Tea and coffee provided. Please bring your own lunch. **Tickets £5**

Sat 20th 7pm 3p Suite with Colin Eglin, Martin Grundy and Andrew Jackson. 3p Suite are an award-winning close harmony *a cappella* trio. They perform a range of music including Rixton, One Republic, Michael Bublé, One Direction, The Beatles, Simon and Garfunkel. **Tickets £5**

Fri 26th 11am – 2pm Wellbeing Workshop (Free)
Learn to love yourself and others. Tel 01189 814504 to book
Vanessa, Georgi, Hazel, Jon and Alison - Shipinnarts Team



Quiz Night at the Crown - Saturday 3rd June

Join us for an evening of quiz fun in aid of Cancer Research UK.

Tickets £20, including a buffet dinner.

Email: kingsclereCRF@outlook.com

or check the Events tab of our Facebook page: facebook.com/KingsclereCRF

We look forward to seeing you there!

Mandy, Beccy, Claire and Sean



KINGSCLERE VILLAGE CLUB

Est. 1921 CHARITY 1189234

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

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

Coronation

As part of the Village Coronation Celebrations, we will be showing the Coronation live on the big screen with light refreshments available and a display in the main hall. Free entry. In the afternoon, the Club garden will be a gathering point for the **Coronation Conga** - see the Coronation events page 5 for further details



Chair Exercise



Do you have standing/mobility problems? Gentle but effective Chairiobics, a mainly seated exercise class, increases muscle strength, endurance, balance and stability. Thursdays 1.30- 2.30pm
Cost £88 (11 sessions). Contact Emma on bookings@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk

Community Cafe

This month's Community Café is on **May 20th** and includes a display by the **Local History Society**. There will be a craft table for the children with a royal theme. All welcome for homemade cakes, snacks and hot drinks.

Shakespeare in the Garden

The Festival Players will be returning on **9th June** with **Twelfth Night**.
£15 performance only (doors open 7pm) or £22.50 performance + picnic (from 6.30pm). From Helen (below) www.wegottickets.com/event/575521 and the Village Butcher.

ABB

A very enjoyable evening was had by all and funds were added to our Energy Efficiency Project. A special thank you to Alyson & Louise for all their hard work – including tackling a mountain of washing up!

Future events

We are planning a family event in the summer – more details in the next Tower. Unfortunately, the May and July markets cannot now take place.

Helen 297390 or events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk

May In The Garden

The garden should be looking its best this month, the trees will be in full leaf giving a good background to the gardens. The late flowering bulbs will be giving a good show: tulips, alliums, camassia and bluebells. No matter how many bluebells I dig up from the garden they still multiply. They look beautiful in a woodland setting, but I do not recommend them in the flower border, just too vigorous for my taste. Primula Denticulata is a favourite of mine that flowers this month, but unfortunately they do not perform well in our soil.

Clematis will also be flowering now. There are many varieties and they will all need to be cut back at different times, always read the label when purchasing the plant. Clematis plants can suffer from clematis wilt - the plant looks to be dying. I had this happen a few years ago. I solved the problem by digging up the plant and replanting it in another part of the garden where it flourished. Clematis plants do not like too much sun on their roots and dislike drying out. We have one in the garden with the roots underwater for several months in the winter. It continues to flower beautifully each year in the Summer.

With the longer days, it gives us the chance to get more jobs done. The early flowering shrubs will need to be cut back to encourage new growth and keep the plants controlled. Some shrubs will grow huge if left uncut. One of those shrubs that can become very large is lilac, so cut back now after flowering.

Lots of other jobs to do now. Hoe the soil to kill weed seedlings. Keep mowing and feeding the lawns. Watch out for pests and diseases, try not to use chemicals as they not only kill the pests but also the good insects. If you own a pond, remove any pond weed regularly otherwise it will take over.

Formal evergreen hedging can be trimmed e.g. box. Unfortunately, the dreaded moth has attacked the box plants in this area. Sadly, it can only be treated with a chemical. After spraying cut out the affected area and hope that new growth will appear.

Herbaceous plants and climbers will need support, taking care not to damage plants when tying in and staking. Sweet peas will need attention regularly as they grow so vigorously. Plant out hardy annuals in the borders. Remember to keep dead heading, this will prolong the flowering period.

Sow runner and French beans, plant leeks, sow chard and leaf beet. Plant marrows and courgettes. These like plenty of water and good soil enriched with organic matter. Net brassicas, as the cabbage white butterfly will feast on them, as will pigeons. Protect strawberries with straw to keep the fruits from being damaged.

The plants sold at the Plant Sale in May (held in the church grounds) are probably worth investing in. Most will have come from local gardens which will make the plants more reliable, as they will be plants that tolerate our soil conditions. Take a look as you may find something interesting. **Denise Allen**

Nature Notes

In T.S. Eliot's poem *The Wasteland* April is described as

*"the cruellest month breeding
Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing
Memory and desire stirring
Dull roots with spring rain."*

It's true that April's welcome warm sunshine can tempt us out of our winter layers only to be curtly reminded of bitter gusts and freezing rain, but I will happily withstand those brisk reminders of winter's lingering embrace, if the trade off is the joy of seeing spring emerge and blossom.

Buds: I've been scouring branches for them for weeks, excited to watch them swell with the promise of colour and scent. Tulips have shot up in ranks of poised swords, with slithers of red, pink and yellow teasing through their green cases.

Along the stream, iris reach up from the shallows. The willow's yellow catkins lengthen into a frozen golden shower. Hedges are fattening up again - a relief to those of us who prefer more privacy in our gardens and driveways.

Walking with another mum at Basildon park, we are surprised by two blue tits so engrossed in their battle for territory that they tumble through the air, twisting together to within inches of our prams. The quiet of the garden is often interrupted by the clatter of wings of amorous collared doves.



Our toddler wakes us very early one morning and we spot a hedgehog snuffling around the wild part of the garden. It is possible he is awake too soon in the year, encouraged by the recent uptake in temperatures.



The late frosts may yet chasten our eagerness for spring. Eliot may be right; perhaps April is too soon to surface from the warm earth. But here - a Red Admiral butterfly lands in my path and suns itself - a symbol of confident hope that the season has well and truly changed.

Lydia Harley-Tomlinson

Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby & Toddler Group

Where: The Village Club, George St

When: Tuesdays, 9:00am – 11:00am

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



After the excitement of our fun-packed Easter party, the Bunnies are now looking forward to a **Teddy Bears' Picnic!** Come and join us on **Tuesday May 2nd**, for our King Charles III Coronation celebrations, which include crown making and a Teddy Bears' Picnic in the garden (weather permitting). Our monthly swap table, usually held on the first Tuesday of the month, will be back in June to make way for our Coronation party.

We are a very friendly selection of mums, dads, grandparents, and child minders with children from tiny babies to energetic toddlers, and we love welcoming new visitors to our play sessions. Thank you as always to Swan Street Stores for their continued support of a weekly donation of fresh fruit snacks for the bunnies. For information visit our Facebook page, or regular visitors can join our WhatsApp group for weekly updates.

Tess Watkins 07905 624679

REWILDING SURVEY

<https://tinyurl.com/RewildingHants>



Have your say on how we manage nature in Hampshire

Take part in this survey as part of a research project looking at rewilding in Hampshire. Rewilding is the process of getting land back to its natural state, to combat the damage done through years of poor management. With limited space, new areas are now being questioned on their capacity to be rewilded. Everyone deserves a say in how we manage the landscape so by completing this survey you will be able to voice your opinions. Scan the QR code to complete the 3-minute survey or go to the URL.

Kingsclere CE Primary School



At the end of the Spring Term one of our Easter celebrations included an Easter performance of the cantata, 'Roll Back the Stone' which the whole school performed at St. Mary's church. The cantata told the story of Easter through songs and spoken words and the children performed brilliantly. It was also really great to see so many parents and carers join us at the church to enjoy the children's performance. A special thank you to Emma Rivers and John Price for helping the school run the event (including miking up the choirs and each year group!) and to Hazel O' Leary who played entrance and exit music on the organ and accompanied the song, 'Lord of the Dance' which all the children, staff and audience sang together with great energy!

During the Spring Term, we were so proud of our sixty-eight, Key Stage 2 children that took part in the 25th Anniversary Cross Country competition at Newbury Showground. In each year group competition, children ran against approximately 400 children from other school and many of our children reached the finish line in the first quarter of their age group – well done children!

We have had more sporting success in football too! Huge congratulations go to our Year 5 and Year 6 girls' football team who came first place against local schools – bringing home gold medals! We are very proud of the children's performance and continue to wish them well in future competitions this term!

At the end of term, the whole school took part in Ground's Day. This was an opportunity for children to spend the whole day using our outside area to further support curriculum learning and it included our Year 3 and 4 children walking through Kingsclere village and comparing the surrounding area with that of our twinned town Cormicy and Year 1 and 2 collecting natural objects to create Easter Art in the style of Andrew Goldsworthy.

As we head into the summer term, we look forward to the many exciting events ahead, including our swimming gala, our KingFest Campout, Bikeability, Sports Week, iSingPop, our Year 5 and 6 residential and much more!

Mrs Jo Messenger, Acting Headteacher

Kin&scclere Sin&lers

Are Recruiting

After two successful Spring concerts "Musical Allsorts" we are keen to welcome more singers. Join us to make music & new friends

♪♪ Singing in aid of local charities since 1891 ♪♪

As a talented amateur group we are also VERY keen to collaborate with other local groups and organisations. Our Secretary Mary is at kingscleresingers@gmail.com if you would like to get in touch.

We greatly appreciate your support and hope to welcome you along to our next **Lunchtime 'lite bite' concert**. This is on **16th July** at **The Fieldgate, Kingsclere**. Another selection of entertainments with refreshments and a 'bring your own Picnic'.

u3a learn,
laugh,
live
Overton and district



The 'F' word

Sue Flipping

Funerals are still generally a taboo subject until we lose a loved one and then we have to make the arrangements coping with grief as well as decision-making.

In a life-affirming talk that has surprises, anecdotes, and more humour than you might expect, I take the fear out of looking ahead and considering our own, or a loved one's funeral. I also consider what the recent government investigation into the funeral industry means for all of us.

I take care that the talk acknowledges the sensitive nature of the topic, recognising that at least some in the audience have faced a bereavement.

Join us for this talk on

Wednesday 15th March at 10 a.m. St Mary's Hall, Overton

Free to members - Non-members £3 on the door



WHITCHURCH
SILK MILL

info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk
Tel: 01256 892065
www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk

Fundraising

Recent fundraising events have proved very popular, raising nearly £3000, but there's always more to be done to raise funds for keeping the Mill running smoothly. You can help by patronising the shop and café, attending events and workshops or simply by giving a donation, however large or small. Are you part of a group that would like to visit for afternoon tea or a tour? Do you have a talent that you would be happy to share through a talk or workshop? If so, please get in touch. An application for a National Lottery Heritage Fund Resilience Grant has been submitted and if successful will help us continue to inspire a passion and preserve the skills for heritage silk weaving.

Kalush – Eurovision Fun Day at the Mill - 13th May

Join us for a family fun day packed full of things Eurovision, as we celebrate the UK hosting the contest on behalf of last year's winners, Ukraine. See our website for more details.

Weave a Wall Hanging Workshops - multiple days between 10th & 21st June

Our popular wall hanging workshops are back and this time we'll have two looms and room for two people at each session. If you'd like simply to book for yourself and meet a new friend, please feel free to do so! The workshops are suitable for adults only and must be booked. Mill Trustee Annette Poulton will be the workshop leader. She has a vast amount of weaving experience in both design and higher education: she co-founded DesignZamis, exhibiting and selling worldwide; she taught at Winchester School of Art for 20 years and is a visiting lecturer at Central Saint Martins; in 2021 she was awarded the Silver Medal from The Worshipful Company of Weavers for her contribution to woven textiles, design and education. Please see our website for full details. If none of the dates offered suit, call 01256 892065 to discuss options with us.

Keeping Calm and Carrying On: Women's Lives on the Homefront in World War 2 - Thursday 29th June, 7.30pm

An evening with A J Pearce, author of *Mrs Porter Calling*.
Tickets £20 including a welcome drink.

Current Exhibition – 'In and around the Mill' - until 25th June,

Visual Marks – Textile Artists will be in our exhibition space showing art inspired by the Mill and its surroundings. The group's artists use many forms of media, including machine and hand stitching, painting, collage and appliqué, and the exhibition shows a diverse and interesting collection for visitors to enjoy. Free with admission to the Mill.

Pins and Needles Craft Group - 4th May (usually first Thurs of the month)

Our friendly adult crafting group is open to all. In May we'll be teaching beginners to crochet.

Tickets £10 including tuition, materials, and a hot drink. Booking is essential

THE KINGSCLERE TOWER DIRECTORY

POLICE, FIRE or AMBULANCE

Police Enquiries/Information

Emergency 999

non Emergency 101

Kingsclere Health Centre:

01635 296000

North Hampshire Hospital, Basingstoke

01256 473202

Parish Council: 37 George Street (see page 2)

01635 298634

Kingsclere Charities Clerk: Jan Pearce

01635 269184

kingsclerecharities@iname.com

Dial-a-Ride

01256 462101

CHURCH CONTACTS

St. MARY'S CHURCH:

Vicar

Church Warden:

Rev Peter Williams as from 24th May 2023

Administrator:

Emma Rivers

01635 299528

administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk

07422 687125

METHODIST CHURCH:

07889 905753

Minister: Rev Rachel Borgars

Rachel.Borgars@methodist.org.uk

01256 895878

Secretary & Hire of Hall Jeanette Billington

01635 297585

ROMAN CATHOLIC:

Rev Patrick Tansey

0118 9814572

tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Bas & Deane 01256 844844

Swan Street P O

01635 297035

Buses 0345 8101000

Vet

01635 297557 or 40565

Trains 0845 748 4950

Dentist

01635 299981

Gas Emerg. 0800 111999

Age Concern Local Agent 0800 3287154

Chemist 01635 298419

Watership Down Health 01635 296000

Kingsclere Library 01635 297464

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MP for N.W. Hampshire:

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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