

# The Kingsclere Tower



December 2022 - January 2023

Your Village Magazine

# The Kingsclere Tower

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Christmas means different things to different people. For many, the religious significance is paramount and the Christmas story central to their faith. It is also a time to remember loved ones. As well as the Advent services, there is also the service at 4pm on the 11th December at St Mary's to remember those who have died. Christingle this year will be held on the 18th at St Mary's with a Carol service on the same day at St Paul's Ashford Hill.

A very popular and regular entertainment is Nathan's Christmas Cabaret held at the Fieldgate Centre on the 10th. (See p 5). The Kingsclere Singers provide traditional Christmas entertainment and are holding a number of events you can read about on page 11. They are also involved with the Kingsclere Players in an audio presentation of Charles Dicken's "A Christmas Carol" that wonderful evocation of Victorian Christmas. Enjoy all the Christmas events at the School, the Village Club, the Library and the Fieldgate Centre.

I would like to draw your attention to the article about the Busy Bees on page 10, the Pre School which plays an important role in our village life. Also the Community Larder always welcomes donations especially at this time of year and lastly, please read the article about the local cost of living assistance on page 4.

On behalf of all the Tower team may we wish you  
**Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.**

The Editor

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

#### **To all "Tower" Contributors**

Copy for February to the Editor at [kingscleretower@gmail.com](mailto:kingscleretower@gmail.com)  
NOT LATER THAN 12th January 2023.

If possible please submit articles as a MS Word document, A5 page size, font Times New Roman 11, single spacing. If email not possible, post to:  
23 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Newbury RG20 5PP.  
**Will ALL contributors please include full name & home phone number/e-mail address.**

## KINGSCLERE PARISH COUNCIL

**Chairman:** Cllr Clive Mussett 07800 022432

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

**Telephone:** 01635 298634

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



**FESTIVE BIN COLLECTIONS** - Christmas can mean extra rubbish. Therefore, for the first collection after Christmas ONLY, Basingstoke and Deane will collect extra rubbish sacks left by your grey bin.

It is also an opportunity to recycle as much as you possibly can. B & D will collect extra recycling as long as it is inside a clear bin liner. In dry weather you can leave extra cardboard next to your recycling bin. Please ensure it is flattened and no bigger than 1m x 1m. Wrapping paper cannot be recycled, so please put it in your grey waste bin.

Unless adverse weather affects bin rounds, collections should return to normal from Monday 2 January 2023.

There will be a two-week break for garden waste collections over the festive period. Collections will stop after Friday 23 December and will resume on Monday 9 January 2023.

**CHRISTMAS TREES** - Garden waste customers can leave real Christmas trees out for collection next to their garden waste containers. Trees over 6 ft should be cut in half and all decorations should be removed.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** - Cards without glitter and ribbons may be recycled.

**GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING** - the collections dates are Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>th</sup> December 2022, then 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARDS 2023** - Plans are underway to present the awards in June 2023. We will be asking you to help us recognise those residents who deserve a big public thank you for their commitment. Further details and the application form will be available in the New Year.

**STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2023** - If your child is 4 or will turn 4 before 1 September 2023, they can start school in September 2023. There are other options for parents of four-year-olds who feel their child is not yet ready for school. For more information go to [www.hants.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hants.gov.uk/admissions) where you will also find information about schools in Hampshire. Alternatively, parents can phone 0300 555 1377 or [admissions.team@hants.gov.uk](mailto:admissions.team@hants.gov.uk) for further support. The application deadline for starting Year 1 primary school in 2023 is the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

**2023 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS** - Elections are held for town and parish councils every four years. The next local elections will be held on the Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023. People stand for election for many reasons, but the aim should be to:

- Work to identify issues which are important to the lives of the residents you represent
- improve the quality of life and the environment in your area
- influence and shape the long-term development policy for the parish

- work to bring about improvements through local projects
- lobby other service providers
- work in partnership with other parishes and agencies

Democratic local government is all about local people getting involved in the issues affecting their community.

KPC would be delighted to hear from interested candidates in the coming months so informal discussions about the role can take place and you could potentially come along to few meetings to get an idea of the projects and commitment involved.

For more information, please contact the Parish Clerk at:

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

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**-The next full Council Meeting will be at 7:30pm on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 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.

## Kingsclere Neighbourhood Plan



Some members of the NP group recently met with the agents and owners of the Coppice Road and Stokins Road sites for an update. These are two of the three sites approved for development in our Neighbourhood Plan. After discussions with the Local Planning Authority, the owners have agreed to develop the sites separately. Vivid will develop the Stokins Road site providing 100% affordable housing whilst Bewley Homes will develop the Coppice Road site which will include 40% affordable homes.

It is intended that planning applications will be submitted later next year, but beforehand, the developers will be in consultation with the Parish Council and local residents. The Neighbourhood Plan provides for at least 14 dwellings at Stokins Road and at least 26 dwellings at Coppice Road. Please keep checking the Parish Council website and Facebook for further information.

**Cllr. Sue Adams**

[Cllr.sue.adams@kingsclere-pc.org.uk](mailto:Cllr.sue.adams@kingsclere-pc.org.uk)

## Housing Needs Village Consultation

It's coming up to five years since the Neighbourhood Plan was officially adopted and a lot has changed since then. It's time therefore, to review what residents' views are of the housing needs for the village, so the NP team are conducting a new public consultation. We've recently seen unexpected, large planning applications and changes in approach by the Borough Council which have had a huge effect on the possible housing numbers. This is your chance to express your view on what new housing is needed. Please take part on the Kingsclere Parish Council website or look out for the paper copies.

## Local Cost of Living Assistance

Many organisations are offering assistance locally to individuals and families who are finding the cost-of-living increases to be a challenge this winter. Kingsclere Parish Council is publicising the various services and funds available on its website under 'Cost of Living'. We will also look for ways to spread the word on good old-fashioned paper too.

For local community organisations, there are also resources available to help with coordination, fundraising and volunteer recruitment. These are publicised on the website under '**Cost of Living Forum**'. At a recent meeting at the Fieldgate Centre, several local frontline organisations shared their experiences of increased need and the services they offer, highlighting transport, volunteers, publicity and reaching those most in need as particular priorities.

If you have time to volunteer or are able to contribute, then please contact the organisations listed directly - they will always be grateful for any help.

**Cllr. David Conquest** [cldr.david.conquest@kingsclere-pc.org.uk](mailto:cldr.david.conquest@kingsclere-pc.org.uk)

## Kingsclere Community Library

**CRAFT DAY Children 8-11 years**  
**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 10am-12noon**  
**Make a hedgehog for yourself or as a gift!**

We have a **limited** number of places, so please **get your free ticket** from the library to join in the fun. Crafts from old, discarded books, so it's good recycling too! All materials will be provided.

We have an excellent selection of **Jigsaw Puzzles**. Why not take one or two home to share at Christmas? Open return dates, no rush!

**Read-aloud:** Would you like to share your favourite poem or passage with other keen readers by reading it aloud? Join us on Tuesdays, Dec. 6, 13, 20th, and 3rd and 10th Jan from 3.30 - 4.30pm with your chosen text or pick something in the library.

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

**HOLIDAY CLOSING on Saturday 24 Dec and Tuesday 27 Dec.**

Nicki Lee, Library phone 01635 297464

[Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com) [www.kingsclerelibrary.co.uk](http://www.kingsclerelibrary.co.uk)



If you could lift the roof off The Fieldgate Centre this year you would see an incredible variety of activities from blood donation to stand-up comedy, from Zumba to darts. We have welcomed so many of you who chose the venue to celebrate some of the most significant and memorable times in your life. Even though Covid has impacted the last 12 months there have been over 36,000 visits to the centre.



We have the space to hold even more community activities such as mother and baby sessions, a community cafe and a men's shed, if volunteer organisers/organisations are prepared to take them on. Bring your ideas and your people to collaborate with us.

Thank you to our sponsors and all who have crossed the threshold during 2022 for your support - we hope to see you again soon!

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**  
**from KCA Trustees and everyone at The Fieldgate Centre.**

### December

- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> **Ceroc Workshop** 1.30-4.30pm  
 Dips & Drops (Intermediate Plus)  
 Contact Val 07958 587256
- Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> **Nathan's Christmas Cabaret** 2.45pm & 6pm.  
 Tickets are flying so get yours now!  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/kingsclere-community-association](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/kingsclere-community-association).  
 £15 for an evening of festive song and fun with AVA, NLS  
 Tuition and their West End friends. A charity event.
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> **Yule Sing** 7.30pm  
 Christmas Sing Along with the Kingsclere Singers . FREE Event.
- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> **Table Top SALE** 9.30am-12.30pm.  
 Make space and make money!  
 £10 per table. Buyers £1 on the door. Email for a booking form.
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> **Christmas Monthly Meet-Up** 2.30pm-4.30pm.  
 Coffee/tea, chat and festive music.
- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> **Ceroc Christmas Eve Party** 8pm - midnight.  
 Contact Val 07958 587256

### January

- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> **Monthly Meet-Up** 2.30pm-4.30pm.  
 Coffee/tea, chat and a special presentation.

### February

- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> **Friends of St. Mary's Quiz** 7pm.  
 Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> **Greener Kingsclere Market.** 10am-12.30pm.

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

**tel:** 01635 298497

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

**facebook**

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



*At 7.30pm (doors open 7.00pm)  
at the Village Club, George Street.*

Christmas Social (Please pre-book by 2 December)

Followed by

**Cat Ballou**  
*(1965 -A - 97 minutes - 1 Oscar)*  
*A young schoolteacher turns into an outlaw to avenge her murdered father.*  
*Stars Jane Fonda and Lee Marvin*  
*(Best Actor Oscar for his role as a drunken gunman)*

*Next year:*

*Saturday 14 January 2023 - Operation Mincemeat  
(2021 - 12A - 128 minutes - stars Colin Firth)*

*Saturday 11 February 2023 - Keepfreefor a surprise!*

*Kingsclere Film Club welcomes guests at £7.50.  
New members welcome at any time.*

*For further information call John Sawyer (Chairman) 297221 or Diana Tait  
(Membership Secretary) 298494*

## 1st Kingsclere Scouts, Cubs & Beavers

The Remembrance Parade was well attended by our sections. We are very proud of them all.

Thank you to our flag bearers and colour party of each section for doing such a brilliant job with the flags and laying of the wreaths.

We are pleased to have healthy waiting lists for all sections which is great news!

In order to support the sections we are always looking for adults to get involved with scouting. It's great fun! If you or anyone you know have a couple of hours to spare each week, please do get in touch via the email below.

Our Scout Den, with a kitchen, is available for hire at weekends so please get in contact, via email, if you are interested in booking our space.

Jayne Executive Committee Secretary

1st Kingsclere Scouts

[1stkingsclerescoutssecretary@gmail.com](mailto:1stkingsclerescoutssecretary@gmail.com)



## Kingsclere Village Club

Est. 1921

100 years and counting ...

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

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



### CHRISTMAS MARKET

Don't miss **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 10am to 1pm.**

A festive atmosphere, mulled wine and lots of lovely Christmas goodies for that perfect gift or a treat for yourself. Details of stalls on our social media pages. Free entry.

### "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" the Encore! Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 7 pm,

An audio entertainment from the Kingsclere Players and the Kingsclere Singers. £5 Tickets include a light supper. In aid of Ovarian Cancer.

Book at [www.Eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.Eventbrite.co.uk) or

details via [www.kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk](http://www.kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk) /Tel 298370

### COMMUNITY CAFE

During the colder months, we will be offering homemade soup and a roll for £3 alongside our usual teas, coffee, biscuits and cake. Open 10 am to 1pm

**December 1<sup>st</sup>** (please note the date) Quiz & Christmas Crafts

**January 28<sup>th</sup>** Local History Association display, Quiz and Table-Top Games

### CREATIVES CATCH UP

Calling all those who enjoy creative arts and crafts - come and join us from 10.30. to 12.30 on Community Cafe days for a regular catch-up in the Village Club Committee Room. Bring along your latest project to work on alongside other creatively minded people. There will be a small fee to cover room hire costs.

### GLOWING BRIGHT

The wonderful **Alison Neil** returns with her one-woman show telling the story of double Nobel Prize winner **Marie Curie**. **Saturday February 4<sup>th</sup>** 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm). Tickets £17 from Helen, see below.

Supper included, please inform us of any dietary requirements.

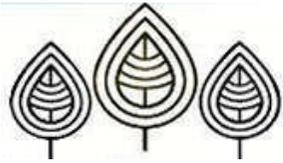
### ABB (Average Blues Band)

Foot-tapping fun on **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**, details in the February Tower.

### AND FINALLY

A huge thank you to all our tenants and users who have been so patient during the refurbishment of the windows. At the time of writing, we have encountered some hold-ups with the planning permission for the new heating system. The Trustees and our contractor are working very hard to resolve the issues.

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



## December Surgery Newsletter

### Adult Flu and Covid vaccination programmes

Good progress is being made on both the Covid Vaccination Autumn programme 2022 and the Flu programme. Our thanks go to our Team and our PPG volunteers who have come to support the clinics. If you have not had your Flu vaccination and are over 70 or have been invited (underlying health reason), please book an appointment.

### Child Flu Clinics

We are still working through contacting the parents of eligible children who are aged 2 - 3 years or aged 4 - 17 with an underlying health condition which puts them at greater risk. Children in years R-7 will be vaccinated in school by the School Health Service.

### Blood Taking

We offer around 600 - 700 blood-taking appointments per month at our surgeries through our phlebotomists and health care assistants. This is still sometimes not enough, so if you can drive, there are other options such as attending one of the hospitals.

The following website gives full information about this service:

<https://www.hampshirehospitals.nhs.uk/our-services/az-departments-and-specialties/pathology-inc-blood-tests/blood-tests>

In addition, patients can call 01256 314751  
(Lines open Monday - Friday 9am to 4.30pm)

If you no longer need a blood appointment, please do remember to cancel it so it realises an appointment for others.

### Pharmacy Team

Over the past three years along with our Primary Care Network we have successfully recruited clinical pharmacists and a pharmacy technician. At times, you may be given a call from Maddie, Hafeeza or Zara who are qualified clinical pharmacists or Alison, our pharmacy technician. Increasingly the clinical pharmacists are also able to offer Structured Medication Reviews which is a full review of all medication a patient is taking. Please note that at the present time, the clinical pharmacists cannot sign prescriptions.

From all our partners and team, we wish all our patients and their families a very **Happy Christmas and New Year**. At Christmas the surgeries will be closed from **Friday 23rd December until Wednesday 28th December** and from **Friday 30th December until Tuesday 3rd January**

## Kingsclere Youth Football Club



### Football News

The girls-only sessions - Years 5 & 6 - are thriving on Monday evenings. If you have a daughter keen to get involved, please get in touch.

Saturdays we have our U8, U9, U10, U11 & U12 teams training at The Holding Field. Our teams are open to all and anyone wishing to join should contact us or just turn up on a Saturday morning from 10am.

Can't train on a Saturday? Don't worry - we have another U12 team that trains Tuesday evenings 5.30-6.30pm at The Fieldgate Muga and a U15 team that trains Wednesdays 6-7pm at The Vyne School in Basingstoke.

Our sessions are run by fun, friendly, welcoming coaches.

Jayne KYFC 07833430009

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

### Defibrillator at the Fieldgate Centre

Kingsclere Youth Football Club is leading an initiative to install a defibrillator at the Fieldgate Centre that will be available all day every day for anyone in need at the centre or in the locality. While there is a defibrillator at the other end of Kingsclere by the fire station, the club believes that there should be one by the major sporting and social centre because, if needed, speed of access is essential. If used within 3 minutes of a sudden cardiac arrest a patient's survival chances are increased by 80%

The Tower magazine has generously agreed to give a substantial grant towards the cost, while another grant has been agreed by a charity that will provide the defibrillator and cabinet, and an additional application has been submitted to Four Lanes Trust. The club itself will be making a large contribution towards the cost but would be grateful for any additional donations of what will be a village facility. These can be given by going to the fund-raising page: <https://www.aeddonate.org.uk/projects/22-916/>

Richard Hanney, Secretary



### Kingsclere Branch

#### Remembrance Day

#### Friday 11th November 2022



May I please say a personal thankyou to all those who attended the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial on the 11th November. Between 30 - 40 people came to pay their respects and your support was as always very much appreciated.

As well as representatives from the older generation it was good to see many younger people in attendance.

Thank you all.

**Wendy Morgan**

## Busy Bees Pre-school (Kingsclere)

Many of you by now may be aware of the current situation at Busy Bees. We have been operating in Kingsclere for forty-six years and have provided good quality childcare (Ofsted's words) to the children in the village and the surrounding area. However, like many businesses, this came at a cost and the spiralling costs of PPE to keep children and staff safe, and the expense of other resources, has depleted our reserves. This period was then followed by two years of a low child birth rate throughout North Hampshire which has affected the number of children in attendance. Hampshire County Council Education Department have advised this 'hopefully' should be a temporary situation but, in the meantime, it has left Busy Bees in a very precarious financial position.

Many of you have very kindly already made financial donations for which we are extremely grateful and we thank you for your support. Our

**Gofundme.com** page is still active, and we ask anyone who can help us to please follow the link or contact Busy Bees via email on

[admin.busybees@btconnect.com](mailto:admin.busybees@btconnect.com)

Sadly, without further support, there is a very real possibility that Busy Bees could close and this would have a devastating impact on the pre-school children in Kingsclere. We play a vital role in children's pre-school education as well as their health and social care. This has been acknowledged by health care professionals locally and at North Rants Hospital.

If you can support Busy Bees, please donate, or get in contact with us.

Many thanks, from the staff and Committee of Busy Bees.

## Kingsclere Village Bunnies

### Baby and Toddler Group

Where: The Village Club

When: Tuesdays 9.00am-11.00am

Cost: £2.50 for 1<sup>st</sup> Child (including snack for child and hot drink and biscuit for adult), 50p per extra child, **£1** per extra adult.

The Bunnies have been enjoying lots of fun activities in the run-up to Christmas including pottery ainting. We are also very excited about our Christmas party on December 13t !

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. We enjoy both indoor and outdoor play with a craft table, plenty of toys and singing time too.

Thank you as always to Swan Street Stores for their continued support of a weekly donation of fresh fruit snacks for the Bunnies.

For information visit our Facebook page, or regular visitors can join our WhatsApp foup for weekly updates. Bunnies will be closed on **December 20<sup>th</sup> and 27** for the festive period. **Tess Watkins 07905 624679**



*Carolling time is here again!*



Join The Kingsclere Singers,  
as part of your Christmas 2022 celebrations.  
Festively supporting with our FREE concerts in aid of local charities.

**Thursday 1st December, 6 pm St Paul's, Ashford Hill**  
In aid of Hampshire & IOW Charitable Trust

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 'A Christmas Carol' the Encore!**  
7 pm, Kingsclere Village Club.  
£5 Tickets include a light supper. In aid of Ovarian Cancer.  
Book at [www.Eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.Eventbrite.co.uk) or  
details via [www.kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk](http://www.kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk) /Tel 298370

**Saturday 10th December, Yule sing,**  
4pm St Mary's, Kingsclere.  
In aid of Young People & Children First.

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December, Fieldgate Christmas concert**  
with mulled wine. In aid of The Fieldgate Centre. 7 pm.

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Carols by Candlelight**  
St Paul's, Ashford Hill, 6 pm

The Kingsclere Singers: singing in the heart of our community since 1922.  
For more information on how to join us, book us, sponsor us and fundraise with us go to:[www.kingsclere-singers.co.uk](http://www.kingsclere-singers.co.uk)  
Follow and like us on Facebook: Kingsclere Singers.  
Joanna Edge 07970166675

## Wolverton Village Market

The next Market will take place in Wolverton Village Hall on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December from 9.30 - 11am. Stalls will include antiques and collectables, locally produced honey, cards and candles. bric-a-brac, plants and vegetables, garden ornaments, household supplies and much more. Tea and Coffee will also be available.

Entrance is free and parking is available outside the Hall.

Please note there will also be a Market on Saturday 7th January 2023.

For further details please contact **Wendy Morgan. 01635 297538**

## Nature Notes

In previous notes, we have commented on an extremely tall grass crop that was cropped annually and has regrown. A recent farming programme featured this plant as Miscanthus. It can occupy poor soils, reaches 6-8 feet annually, is cut and baled for biofuel and has a crop life of twenty years. An added advantage is its potential to provide cover for wildlife.

A pair of plump muntjac could be seen in the paddock behind Fawconer Road on a sunny afternoon enjoying the bounty of acorns scattered in the herbage. The buck was a dusky brown while the doe was a brighter tan. The lure of acorns had tempted them out in broad daylight, and they seemed to be unconcerned by the thunder of heavy traffic on the A339 a few metres away.



Summer has been reluctant to give way to autumn. A hummingbird hawkmoth visited the garden on 11<sup>th</sup> October and bumble bees have taken advantage of the abundance of flowers surviving in a frost-free month.

The Lake, again on a sunny mid-September day, and peering down into clear bankside water, a sudden movement across the leaf bottom, then another following on; unmistakable, Crayfish! They were White Footed crayfish, native to this country and unique and having a bad time due to the introduction of the American Signal Crayfish for the restaurant trade. These are larger, aggressive and physically destructive of our own but also deadly in the spread of crayfish plague to which they themselves are immune, think of grey versus red squirrels. All is not lost! Great efforts have been made to trap the aliens and a widespread programme of breeding and reintroduction of whites has and is taking place. Crayfish have shells so distribution follows chalk and lime streams and clean water lakes where they can absorb the necessary calcium. A real thrill to have seen these.

**Diana Tait and Rod Eldred**

### Saturday Coffee

Fresh brewed coffee, tea and delicious home made cakes.

All welcome - please do pop in!

**10.00-12.00**

in the Kingsmill Room, St Mary's Church

December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup>

January 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>

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

## The Church Pages



Dear Friends

This edition of The Tower will reach you shortly after Advent Sunday - the beginning of a new Church Year. The four weeks of Advent are a vital part of the preparation period before we celebrate again the coming of God into the world in human form as the infant Jesus. A celebration that will continue through the month of January up to the feast of Candlemas, which was the day that all the Church's candles for the year were blessed. The candles that will be lit at the beginning of the service each week during Advent have a significance which adds to the totality of the story, reminding us of the main characters of the unfolding Christmas story.

Increasingly, we see references to 'Xmas' rather than 'Christmas' "When people use Xmas, they really mean Xhaustion, Xcuses, Xchanges, Xcesses, Xtravagances, Xasperations, Xhibitions, and worldly Xcitement."

By leaving 'Christ' in Christmas, we have a different focus for our festivities. John the Baptist, Jesus's cousin spoke of a road being prepared in the wilderness, of mountains being flattened, of valleys being raised up and of crooked roads being made straight. What significance does the season of Christmas hold for us? Is it more than a time to "eat, drink and be merry?" Are we prepared internally to remember the birth of the Messiah into our world and the challenge to the status quo that this brought?

The road to be taken by Jesus in his public ministry was set out in the song that Mary sang following that encounter - the Magnificat. It is a song that speaks of turning the world right way up, of bringing in a kingdom where the watchwords are justice and peace. It is a song that makes demands of us and all people of faith. The message of the song was revolutionary and it was echoed by the song of the angels. For once you accept that God is Love, that God cares about the well-being of every human on the planet, that Christ died for all people not just the ones we like or who do things "our way", it becomes impossible to justify the oppression of one people by another; it becomes impossible to justify that some would live in absolute luxury while others go to bed each night worrying about food and heat, sanitation and freedom. Jesus came to turn the world right way up.

How will our preparations and celebrations reflect that truth to those with whom we share the season? What will differentiate 'Christmas' from 'Xmas' for us?

I wish you a peaceful Christmas and a hopeful New Year,

**Rachel Borgars**  
Methodist Minister

## Worship in our Churches December



Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> December		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am Holy Communion St Peters, Headley	10.30am Holy Communion St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am Family Carols St Peter's, Headley	10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	4pm Remembering at Christmas St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> December		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	10am Carol Service St Paul's, Ashford Hill 4pm Christingle St Mary's Kingsclere
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Christmas Eve Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December			4pm Nativity St Mary's, Kingsclere 11.30pm Midnight Communion St Mary's, Kingsclere
Christmas Day Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am Christmas Day Worship St Paul's, Ashford Hill	11am Christmas Day Communion St Mary's, Kingsclere	

## Worship in our Churches January



Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> January		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> January		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	9.30am Morning Worship St Peter's, Headley	10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	9.30am Morning Worship St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> January		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	9.30am Holy Communion St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> January		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere	
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> January		10.30am Morning Worship and Celebration of Lay Ministry St Mary's, Kingsclere	

## Kingsclere Methodist Church

Services for December 2022 and January 2023

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Jeff Britt
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Rev Canon Jill Bentall
Sunday 18 December	NO MORNING SERVICE
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Carols led by Rev Rachel Borgars 6pm
Sunday 25 <sup>TH</sup> December 2023	Tim Gardner

<u>Sunday</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> January	Maggy Wallace
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Worship Leaders
Sunday 15 <sup>TH</sup> January	Rev Rachel Borgars
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Rev Peter Bennett
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Rev Andy Fitchett

Services commence at 10am and all are welcome

Coffee Morning every Thursday 10.30 to 12 am **Christine Westcombe**  
Hall available for hire. **c\_westcombe@hotmail.com**

### GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD

Kingsclere Methodist Church are hosting a Lunch on Saturday 14th January 2023 in the Methodist Church Hall from 12 noon until 2pm. The simple Lunch will consist of a Bowl of delicious Homemade Soup, a filled Roll and a Cup of Tea or Coffee and a Biscuit. The cost will be £4 per person.

We hope to make this a regular monthly event so please come along and support us. You can be sure of a warm welcome and we look forward to seeing you.

**Wendy Morgan. 01635 297538**

## FOSM Swedish Staycation

We would like to say a very big 'THANK YOU' to everyone who bought tickets for The Swedish Staycation in October, and to everyone who came to help. You know who you are!!

We have to admit, that we had some sleepless nights, wondering if we would sell enough tickets to make the event viable and whether we could muster enough help on the day.

All of our worries were unfounded. We were one short of a capacity crowd! Help arrived from all quarters. Members of FOSM and our Church Family volunteered to make sure that the work-load was evenly distributed. Thank you all.

Special thanks go to our Pilot and Cabin Crew and to our Benny and Bjorn look-alikes for making the afternoon go with a swing!!!

**Andrew and Pam Kitch**



## 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 at 07422 687125 or email [administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk](mailto:administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk)  
**December**

15<sup>th</sup> Paul Read. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear. "Always", Alyson, Eleanor and James. Xxx  
19<sup>th</sup> For Marjorie  
25<sup>th</sup> Remembering Jean and Mervyn Hiller and all the wonderful happy times we had. With all our love from Susan and Mark, Julie and Bob, Gina and Tom

### **January**

14<sup>th</sup> Dearest Eileen, remembering you especially on the 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary of your death. May perpetual light shine upon you and may you rest in peace. With My Love as Always Annex

## Kingsclere Church needs your help!

St. Mary's church is the historical centre of the village and an important part of our heritage.

Our beautiful, Grade 11\* listed building needs several major repairs. Repairs to the bedbug weathervane and clock bell are in hand. Plaster repairs are needed, roof tiles on the main roof are starting to slip and wood worm is attacking the roof beams. Some of these projects have been delayed by lack of funds and the impact of Covid restrictions.

*Did you know that St Mary's church building is Norman and dates from around 1140? The 'bedbug' is said to relate to the bedbugs who disturbed King John during a stay in the area.*

Friends of St Mary's and other trusts provide support but we need to raise most of the cost. So, we are looking for help to protect this historical focal point for the village.

Can you help? We need to raise £45,000 so that the work can be carried out as soon as possible next year. All donations will be very gratefully received. Please contact [finance@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk](mailto:finance@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk) or see our website for more information and how to donate.

Many thanks.

Lesh Stapley (Treasurer) PCC St Mary's Church 01635 299528



## Kingsclere CE Primary School



A huge thank you to everyone who was able to join us for our Kingsclere CE Primary School Fireworks Festival on the 5th November. It was a wonderful evening and the school raised £5000 - this is amazing! The donations will be put towards our library project. We are planning to purchase new library shelving, reading nooks, in and outdoor seating and an outdoor canopy so all our children have an enjoyable space in which to read and explore new books. Thank you to Friends of Kingsclere CE Primary School (PTA) and our brilliant Kingsclere Firework Committee for putting on such a huge event!

Recently, we had our annual review from the Local Authority. The feedback was really positive and recognised the excellent work taking place across the school including the progress and attainment pupils are making in Foundation and Core Subjects, leadership within the school, the school's strong safeguarding culture, increasing collaboration between parents/carers and the school and the support that staff are giving to each individual child in our care. We have a great team at Kingsclere CE Primary and we thank each and every staff member as well as our parents/carers for working in partnership to achieve the very best for the children.

We are looking forward to the Christmas season - including our Christmas Fair on 2 December 2022! See our Christmas Fair poster for further details. Please join us for some mulled wine, mince pies, Christmas stalls, a visit to Father Christmas's grotto and an evening of musical entertainment from our children and our talented musical parents/carers and community members!

**Jo Messenger (Acting Headteacher)**

**CHRISTMAS**  
**FAIR & SANTA'S GROTTTO**  
**DECEMBER 2ND 3:20-6:30PM**  
**RAFFLE . LUCKY DIP . FESTIVE REFRESHMENTS & FOOD**  
**KINGSLERE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, KINGSLERE, RG20 5RE**

## Kingsclere Fireworks 2022 - What a cracking night!

Friends and family throughout our community came together to enjoy the event run by Kingsclere Fireworks at Kingsclere CE Primary School on Saturday 5 November.

This year we were supported by.

**The Attentive Barber, J Verney Plumbing & Property Services, Protech, Kingsclere Youth FC, Budgens - West Kingsclere Garage, L Titcombe & Family Funeral Directors, Total Drainage Systems, A Sewell Electrical, AF Gas, Snuggle Dens, Geoff Chef Hogroast, Kingsclere Rugby Club, Phil Baker, Castle Windows, KDH Cleaning Services and of course Swan Street Stores.**

We were grateful to be supported by our local Fire Service men and women on the night along with our village PCSO.

**This great event raised £5k for our local primary school!**

Thank you SO much to everyone for their continued support. This money will then be match-funded by Greenham Trust to help us with our new library project.

If you are interested in joining the Kingsclere Fireworks Team, we are always looking for new members, please email [fkswireworks@gmail.com](mailto:fkswireworks@gmail.com)

**Jayne, Mike, Phil, Jonno, Chris, Josef & Brandon**  
**Kingsclere Fireworks Team**

### Ring for the King

**Appeal to Recruit more bellringers in time for the Coronation.**



With the announcement of the date for the coronation of the new king, the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers has put out an appeal to recruit more ringers so they are trained in time to *Ring for the King*.

St Mary's Church bell ringers practice on Monday evenings from 7:30pm. We are a friendly group and a great place to learn. We're looking for new ringers so that we can ring the bells more often.

Come and learn a new skill.

Maggie Hiller (Secretary) 01635 297674 or [hillerwolverton@aol.com](mailto:hillerwolverton@aol.com)

### In Memoriam

Ivy Piper sadly died on the 13th November aged 96. She moved to Kingsclere after her marriage to Dick in 1951 and lived in Rose Cottage, Swan Street and 11 years ago to a bungalow in Greenacre with her daughter Helen. She will be remembered as a well loved member of the St Mary's church who was involved with the St Mary's Guild, the WI and the Whist Club. We send her daughters, Helen Piper and Janet Doling, and the other members of her family condolences on this sad occasion.

## Kingsclere Gardening Association

Our next meeting is  
**The Annual General Meeting**  
**10 January 2023 at The Village Club.**



Our next meeting will be the AGM on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

Doors open at 7pm and the AGM will commence at 7.30pm.

There will be cheese, wine, soft drinks and nibbles afterwards.

The AGM is quite a short meeting, usually 20-25 minutes or so. We would love to get new members for the committee as well as new members for the club in general.

If you would like to join the KGA, membership renews in February:

£8 for adults, £6 for senior citizens and children under 18 are free.

Come along to an evening meeting in February or March to join or renew or contact me on the number below. Membership is amazing value for money, included in your membership is:

5 free evening talks with free refreshments and biscuits afterwards.

Club "Points Competition" for exhibits brought along to the evening talks.

The winner is announced at the AGM.

An exclusive summer event for the KGA to visit a private or public garden with a nominal entry fee.

Two flower shows, one in April and one in August, judged to RHS show standards with experienced judges.

Club membership of The Daffodil Society

Club membership of the RHS including the opportunity for a free visit to an RHS garden as a club group.

Club membership of the Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies

Access to members with vast general plant and cultivation knowledge.

Access to members with specialist interests including dahlias, daffodils, pelargoniums/geraniums, allotment/vegetable growing, flower arranging and gardening for flower arranging, hostas and succulents.

Our next evening talk will be on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Bugs for Bug Control, presented by Alan Horgan.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our members.

**Beth Theobald (Secretary) 07916 032250.**

Facebook: Kingsclere Gardening Association. Please come and join our FB group. News, events and schedules for show entries will be advertised there first.

## December in the Garden



As I write this article, we still have had very little frost which has resulted in an amazing Autumn display from the trees. This has extended the period of raking up the leaves. Also with the amount of rain that has fallen, many of the gardening jobs have been delayed.

Apart from removing the fallen leaves, there are several jobs that can be done on fine days. Prune overgrown deciduous hedges, such as beech and hornbeam. If left they become unmanageable and need drastic work to contain them. They are dormant now, so this is a good time to get the job done. If not already done there is still time to cut back tall growing rosebushes

Ornamental vines can grow 10 feet in one season so these can be pruned now. Thin out overcrowded shoots and prune side shoots to two buds from the main stem. Prune blackcurrants. The plants will produce fruit on old and new growth, pmne so that there is a balance of new and old wood.

Brassicas will need attention, particularly if it becomes windy, It's easier to give them a stake when planted as we have trees that draw the plants up which makes them a bit taller and more vulnerable to the elements.

Continue removing any yellowing leaves as these will encourage fungal diseases.

Weather permitting, soil conditions can be improved by digging in well-rotted manure or compost. Sheds and fencing could do with some winter protection, making sure that the product used is not harmful to plants.

The flower borders can still be cut back. With the recent rain, many plants have been spoiled, so if we were to have frosts, they are past looking good which is a pity as some plants can look stunning.

Hippeastrum bulbs are popular as Christmas presents. Pot up now, making sure that the bulb is not planted too deeply. With a little care, the bulbs will flower again next year.

There are a few flowering plants that appear at this time of year. Winter jasmine with yellow flowers has a rather scrambling habit, verbomm, has small clusters of pink highly scented flowers and mahonia which has yellow scented flowers.

Some of the evergreen shrubs give colour in the winter with their variegated leaves, a good shrub is the elaeagnus which has bright yellow margins on the leaves. All of these plants are a very welcome sight in winter.

**Denise Allen**

## Ship Inn Arts

The Shipinnarts Team would like to thank all our audience and local performers who have joined us in these events over 2022 and wish you all a very Happy Christmas and Happy New Year.



### December

#### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2022 Talent at The Ship! 7pm

Judges will come and decide on a winner on the night.

There will be 3 age categories. The winner of each group will receive a trophy and a certificate and also get a chance to play at the 14th January 2023 event. Refreshments will be served.

**Please can the audience phone The Ship on 01189 814504** to book their tickets and then pay on the door on the night. Tickets for the audience £5 - Children are Free.

#### Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 11am - 2pm

**Adult Craft event** - Make your Christmas Table Decoration and you will be served lunch, homemade vegetable chilli and bread. £10 a ticket.

**Tickets are available now on Eventbrite/phone The Ship 01189 814504**

#### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December 7pm Carols with Nigel and the band!

##### Free event.

Come and join us and sing Christmas carols and enjoy some vely nice home-made cakes!!

### 2023 January

#### Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 7pm - 10pm Open Mic

If you would like to come along, please phone The Ship Inn Country Hotel and we can pass your name to Jon Whitfield who is organising these.

Refreshments bread and cheese, bar open for drinks. £2 for food donation.

##### Free event.

#### Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January 3pm - 5pm - "Have a go "

Just come along and contribute to this wonderful afternoon of music, word and theatre. Winners of Ship Inn Talents 2022 invited to perform too.

**Just give us a call if you would like to play/recite anything.**

**Tickets £5 for adults in the audience. Children free. Tickets now on Eventbrite/phone The Ship on 01189 814504**

**Please also see our website: <https://shipinnarts.org/>**

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

## Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Ltd

We hope next year to return to a full programme of fundraising events after the restrictions of the last few years. We start with our popular **Quiz Night** with Ploughman's Supper, slightly later than usual, on



**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February** followed by a **Friends' Lunch at Sandford Springs on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March**. Both of these are relaxed and enjoyable fixtures and we look forward to full houses.

With the coming of Spring, our **Annual Plant Sale** in St Mary's Churchyard, held in conjunction with Kingsclere Gardening Association, will be on the morning of **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May**, and we are working on having an **Open Gardens Trail** one weekend in June or early July with a variety of gardens, big and small, to visit. Other events still at the planning stage will be announced in future issues of the Tower.

**Peter Turner, Chairman** For membership and other enquiries contact [fosmkingsclere@gmail.com](mailto:fosmkingsclere@gmail.com)

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

The November Draw winner was Doris Wallace - No. 54.

Congratulations, Doris.

Next month's Draw will take place at The Crown at approximately 7 pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December

Jane Royle [jane.b.royle@gmail.com](mailto:jane.b.royle@gmail.com) 01635 297430

### The FOSM 200 Club Monthly Draw

~ New Members invited for 2023 ~

Draws for the 200 Club, a Kingsclere lottery supporting the repair, restoration and renovation of our wonderful church building starting in January.

A modest £12 subscription secures one numbered entry in each of twelve monthly draws throughout 2023 with a £50 prize each month for the lucky winner.

Open to all, additional numbers may be bought for £12 to increase your chance of winning. Our maximum membership is 200.

Enquiries to: 01635 297430 or email: [jane.b.royle@gmail.com](mailto:jane.b.royle@gmail.com)

New members please apply by December to be in the 2023 Draws  
Existing members have been contacted separately

## Kingsclere Local History Association



Our next meeting will be our Christmas meeting on THURSDAY 8th DECEMBER when JOHN BROWNWELL will give us a presentation "THE HISTORY OF AVEBURY MANOR AND THE STONE CIRCLE".

John is ex-army and a retired engineer with a keen interest in the Neolithic period. He is an expert on his subject and conducts tours there. The Manor has a very interesting history and John is an excellent speaker.

We enter 2023 with our meeting on THURSDAY 19th JANUARY Local historian SUE ELLIS will present "NOT ALL BEER AND SKITTLES: A SHORT HISTORY OF PUBS, BEER AND BREWERIES".

Sue is currently Chair of Thatcham Historical Society and Secretary of Newbury District Field Club and West Berkshire Heritage Forum.

Sue will tell us of the history of some of West Berkshire and North Hampshire Public Houses along with detail of beer development and the breweries producing them. An interesting insight and full of local flavour!

Our meetings take place in the main hall at Kingsclere Village Club, 37 George Street RG20 5NH and commence at 7.30pm.

Visitors are very welcome at £3pp. **Michael Leah Secretary tel 297403**

### Geoff Rigby: Lifetime Racing Award



Kingsclere resident Geoff Rigby has been recognised for his dedication and commitment to the horseracing industry with a special presentation held at his local track Newbury racecourse on Friday 21st October. Organised by Racing Welfare, the Lifetime in Racing Awards seek to celebrate those who have devoted more than 30 years of their lives to working in horseracing.

UK South winner Geoff, a former apprentice and now stable staff at Park House Stables, was put forward by his employer, trainer Andrew Balding. Geoff first arrived at the Kingsclere yard in 1968 and has been there ever since looking after some top horses including 2021 Royal Ascot Coventry Stakes winner Berkshire Shadow.

Geoff said of the award: "I was very pleased because I wasn't expecting it, even though I've been in racing a long time. It was nice for Andrew to nominate me and all my colleagues were congratulating me and said I deserved it. We had a very enjoyable day and it's a very nice trophy too."

**Information from Racing Welfare**

## 'Dear Editor

On Tuesday 25th October, I had a very frightening experience which I would like to share with your readers,

I am a lady in her seventies and Town two medium sized rescue dogs who love people but are very reactive to other dogs. For this reason, they are always walked on (long) leads and I always walk them somewhere where I can see a long way ahead and therefore take appropriate avoiding action if I see other dogs coming towards me.

The perfect walk for me is therefore what I call "The Gallops" (not sure of its real name), which is the footpath on the left-hand side just outside the village on the Sydmonton Road. It is a popular spot for dog walkers and ramblers alike.

On Tuesday, I was walking as usual about 11am. I had done my outward leg and was on my return journey down the straight stretch back towards my car which was parked in the layby at the start of the public footpath.

I was then confronted by the sight of a pack of hounds with the huntsmen and about 35/40 hunt followers on horseback coming towards me at speed. Those who know the area will know that it is not a very wide strip of ground and it is flanked on one side by a line of jumps, which many of the followers were jumping and on the other by a spinney. As the oncoming hunt were taking up the whole area, I tried to take refuge in the spinney as fast as I could. This was difficult as I do not move as fast as I used to and the whole area is covered in brambles which makes walking through them extremely difficult.

There was no respite once I was in the spinney as some of the hunt followers were riding up the other side of the spinney and quite a few of the hounds had left the main pack and were coming in and out of the wood and coming up to my dogs, who were whirling around on the end of their leads. The only thing I could do was hang on for dear life and try not to fall over, as due to my arthritis, if I fall, I am unable to get up unaided.

As far as I am aware there was no advance notice that the hunt would be coming down that public footpath, that day. There was certainly no warning on the fence at the start of the footpath, had there been, I would of course, have walked my dogs elsewhere.

My dogs and I were luckily unscathed by our experience, but I have to say I found it absolutely terrifying. This public footpath is in frequent use and in my opinion, this could have resulted in a serious accident. I strongly feel that we should have had advance notice of what was happening on that day so that we had the opportunity not to put ourselves in harm's way.

Lucinda Thursfield

## KINGSCLERE AND HEADLEY WOODLANDS W.I.

Kingsclere WI had a very busy month in October. Our speaker, Jane Burrell, was excellent. We will definitely ask her to speak to us again on a different topic. We also went out for a pub lunch. On the last Wednesday of the month, it was the North Downs Group meeting. The speaker Tom Way was brilliant, his photography was amazing and he was a very personable young man!



This month we have our Christmas celebrations. We will be having a buffet lunch provided by Jason of Inner Circle and we will be entertained by the Woolton Hill Handbell Ringers. Our members are looking forward to a fun afternoon. The meeting on the 14th December will start at 1pm at our usual meeting place, the Village Club.

Why not join us in January for our usual meeting, we would love to meet you and as you can see, we generally have a very varied programme.

11th January 2023 sees us return to our normal meeting time of 1.45pm at the Village Club. Our speaker this month is Jackie Dimmack telling us of her 30 years in the Hampshire police. This is a PowerPoint presentation without electricity. Intrigued? Come along and listen. You will be most welcome.

**Margaret Geary, President 01635297197**

### Kingsclere Tower Magazine Delivery Volunteers Required 2023

The Tower Magazine team is busy preparing for the 2023 editions and looking forward to delivering it to the 1600+ residences in and around Kingsclere from January - November 2023.

Our dedicated team of volunteers deliver the Towers to your door each month, (and have done for many years) come rain or shine.

They sometimes need to take time off for various reasons. So to enable us to continue this valuable service we would like to set up a small reserve team that can help out at short notice (7-10 days), should any one of the team need to take a break.

The delivery locations can vary, so if you have good knowledge of the village and surrounding area your occasional help would be much appreciated. If you can only offer to help in your local area that would also be much appreciated.

The magazine is prepared for delivery on the last Friday (normally) each month.

Additional details please contact: Brian Elborn (Tower Distribution)  
b.elborn345@btinternet.com Tel: 01635 298704 Mob: 077741075473

Next Market, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February,  
10-12.30 at the Fieldgate



**This market INCLUDES a 'Children's Clothing Exchange'**

Children grow! Clothing is expensive for your pocket and the planet. Bring along good, clean clothing to swap.

\*\* Further details on our website and FB page in January.

**Our Christmas market was a huge success** and almost double the size of our previous markets. Many stallholders will be returning next year - they were delighted with the friendly customers and enthusiasm.

**Recycling at the market: Batteries** (not car), **Medicine blister packs, Plastic Milk Tops, Inkjet Cartridges** (originals only, not compatible or laser), **Bras, Eyeglasses.**

**REMEMBER!!** Now you can **recycle your medicine blister packs** at Kingsclere Surgery! Empty packs only please.

**Coming in 2023 - Kingsclere Repair Cafe!** Can you fix, mend or put back together cloth s, toys, furniture, electrical equipment, household or garden items or anything else? Contact us if you'd like to volunteer! The date is to be arranged for early 2023 and monthly thereafter.

\*Market in partnership with the Kingsclere Community Centre.

Keep up with the latest - let us know if you want to be on our email list.

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

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

### Police



This is my farewell message as I am leaving to progress to police constable in February 2023. After two fantastic years of being the Kingsclere beat officer, my time has come to progress into the role that I wanted to do since I was a child. I will be very sad to leave the beat and this job as I have made many great relationships. Nevertheless, it is now my time to leave, there will be someone taking over my role in the near future. Once again, thank you for being such a great community to be part of.

PCSO Joshua Revett 18145  
[joshua.revett@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:joshua.revett@hampshire.police.uk)

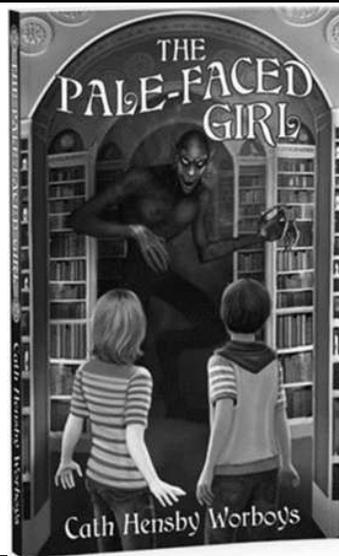
**Tadley Neighbourhood Policing Team**  
website: [www.hampshire.police.uk](http://www.hampshire.police.uk)

**Kingsclere author's debut novel  
available now!**

*'The Pale-Faced Girl'* by  
Cath Hensby Worboys

The perfect Christmas gift!  
A fantasy adventure, ideal for ages 10-14

Paperback available from  
The Village Butcher £8.99 cash only  
Or contact Cath at  
[cathhensbyworboys@gmail.com](mailto:cathhensbyworboys@gmail.com)



**VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY!**



**Are You:**

A Good Listener?

Caring & Understanding?

A Parent/Grandparent/Carer?

Do you have 1-2 hours a week you could spare?

We are looking for Volunteers to support families in  
the Community,

**YOU** can make a difference in someone's life.

**INTERESTED?**

**Contact us:-**

Tel: 01256 325793

Email: [info@homestart-nwhampshire.org.uk](mailto:info@homestart-nwhampshire.org.uk)

Website: [www.homestart-nwhampshire.org.uk](http://www.homestart-nwhampshire.org.uk)

Volunteers benefit from 10-25 hours training over 2-4 weeks  
**starting Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023 @9:30am-2:30pm**

**BECAUSE CHILDHOOD CAN'T WAIT!**

**THE KINGSCLERE TOWER DIRECTORY**

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

**CHURCH CONTACTS**

**St. MARY'S CHURCH:**

Vicar TBA

Church Warden:

**Administrator:**

Emma Rivers

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

01635 299528

07422 687125

**METHODIST CHURCH:**

**Minister:** Rev Rachel Borgars

[Rachel.Borgars@methodist.org.uk](mailto:Rachel.Borgars@methodist.org.uk)

07889 905753

01256 895878

**Secretary & Hire of Hall** Jeanette Billington

01635 297585

**ROMAN CATHOLIC:** Rev Patrick Tansey

0118 9814572

Bas & Deane	01256 844844	Swan Street <b>PO</b>	01635 297035
Buses	0345 8101000	Vet	01635 297557 or 40565
Trains	0845 748 4950	Dentist	01635 299981
GasEmerg.	0800 111999	Age Concern Local Agent	0800 3287154
Chemist	01635 298419	Watership Down Health	01635 296000
Kingsclere Library	01635 297464		

**BOROUGH COUNCILLORS**

**Ken Rhatigan** 07850 530319

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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](http://www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk/directory)**