



# The Kingsclere Tower

What's On & Local News  
JUNE 2023

# The Kingsclere Tower

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Times are changing! A new month and we now have a new monarch. May his reign demonstrate the same wisdom shown by Elizabeth II.

This month also brings us a new vicar. A very warm welcome to Rev Peter Williams and his wife Beverly. Pete's responsibility for our parish as well as neighbouring ones will be a considerable challenge. May he find plenty of support from our community.

One sad change is the retirement of four exceptional Parish Councillors whose names are on the next page. All have given fine service to the village, and will be hard to replace. The Council is looking for volunteers to stand. We are so fortunate to live in Kingsclere and it would be good to see people coming forward to take up this role.

The epidemic has brought challenges to our Health Services that need to be met. Satisfaction with the NHS has, sadly, declined despite remaining high. Watership Down Health rates above average nationally but their article in this Tower describes how they want to improve communications. Face-to-face consultations seem hard to obtain. Let's hope their efforts succeed.

**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 to the Editor at [kingscleretower@gmail.com](mailto:kingscleretower@gmail.com)  
NOT LATER THAN 12th June 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.**

## KINGSLERE 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



**CORONATION** - What a wonderful coronation weekend in Kingsclere. Thank you to everyone who was involved in the celebrations: all the organisers, Kingsclere Community Association, the Parish Council, Park House Stables, the Village Club, St Mary's Church, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. Thank you to everyone who came to watch the lamp-lighting and the ceremony, everyone who put up bunting, all the "bonkers" people who conga'd in the rain, everyone who came to the party, the Mayor, the group from Cormicy, France, the community stall holders, the singers, the church congregation, the organisers of street parties, the Downs walkers and picnickers.

You were all amazing and are why we love this village. A coronation is an important page in village history. We came together as a community to demonstrate to ourselves, the rest of the world and to future generations that we care about this place and each other. Future families can look back with pride that they live in Kingsclere. (see page 23 for photos.)

**2023 ELECTIONS**— Following an uncontested election, KPC now has 5 Councillors with vacancies for a further 4 members. If you are interested in joining the Parish Council, please do contact the Council office or speak to a Councillor – details on the website. We welcome Borough Councillor Mike Bound who joins Councillors Kerry Morrow and Ken Rhatigan in supporting Kingsclere. A sincere and massive "thankyou" to the outgoing Council Members, Sue Adams, Ian Bowes, Mick Farey and John Sawyer, all of whom did not stand for re-election this time. Their time, commitment and generosity to the Council and the village has been truly amazing and much appreciated. We know they are still staying very involved in village life and on various committees and we look forward to working with them again. We would also like to thank Stuart Frost our former Borough Councillor for his invaluable support and advice during the last two years.

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARDS 2023** – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023. Thank you for all the nominations. We will be making contact with those who are successful once the judging has taken place. There will be an award evening on the 15<sup>th</sup> June and all are welcome. Please let us know if you intend to come along for catering purposes.

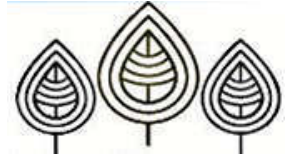
**GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING** – the collections dates are Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June and 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – The next full Council Meeting is scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023 subject to agreement of dates for the coming year at the Annual Meeting in May. 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.

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

## Watership Down Health

### Access and Communication in 2023



We are a people team with a vision 'to work in partnership with our patients and communities to improve health and well-being'. The way we work has adapted and there have been many changes in recent years. There have been digital advances but we value human interaction and seeing people in person.

Due to the increasing demands and pressure on the NHS, we feel the need to state that 'we are human too'. We thought it would be helpful to share some ideas on access and communication and we would value your feedback too. Overton and Kingsclere sites are open during the core hours of 8am – 6.30pm Monday to Friday

Continuity of care is important especially for those people living with complex physical, mental or social problems. We continue to encourage you to see your Named GP or the same clinician through an 'episode of care' even if it is not your Named GP.

Most of our appointments can be booked in advance and will be tailored to suit your needs (face to face, telephone or video).

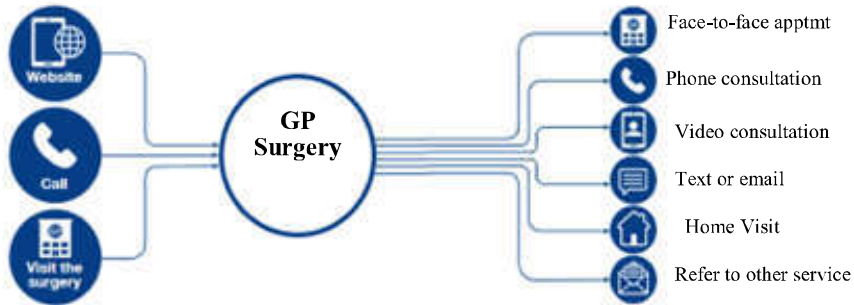
Watership Down Health also provides appointments which are part of what is known as the Enhanced Access scheme. Enhanced Access appointments take place outside of core hours i.e. 6.30pm to 8pm Monday to Friday and is covered by Watership Down Health on a Monday and Tuesday evening, alternately Fridays and Saturdays. These appointments can be booked online or via reception.

We provide a daily duty system for those people who need Urgent/On the day care. Our Duty Team will review your care needs and with you decide on a management plan. Our team is adapting and growing to meet the urgent/ on the day care, whilst not neglecting the other services we provide. To



deliver high quality care, we prioritise safe working conditions for our team, which means that we review the workload and working conditions regularly. Digital options for communication have increased significantly.

We encourage everyone to have on-line access to their medical records to enable you to order your prescriptions, follow up on results, care plans and referrals when necessary. The on-line services that provide this interface sometimes have problems that can mean information is not always available. We may communicate with each other personally by text (AccuRx), email, via NHS App, Patient Access or via our website. None of the digital messaging options offer an urgent response service. We aim to respond in three working days. Please use the same polite tone for the digital formats as you would do in person. Our Practice also has a Face book page and Instagram account for our communities.



Quick Reference Guide to the best ways to access some key health services:  
General NHS advice: visit NHS 111 (<https://111.nhs.uk/>) or call 111. The 111 service is manned by trained staff who will assist you to get the help that you need.

General appointments: book on-line or call the surgery.  
Urgent/On the day appointments: call the surgery and our Duty Team will review your needs with you and decide on a management plan.

Repeat prescriptions: order using the NHS App or the Watership Down Health website. Repeat prescriptions take up to 5 working days to process.  
Test results: check using the NHS App (or equivalent) or call the surgery after 10am. Results of tests which have been requested by the practices are usually available within a week. If the test was organised by a team in the hospital, please liaise with them for the results.

We value patient feedback. Thank you to everyone who takes the time to complete a Friends and Family test feedback or the survey via our web site. Please give us the opportunity to rectify any concerns as soon as they arise.



## ST. MARY'S, KINGSCLERE VILLAGE FETE

**Bank Holiday Monday 28th August 2023**

The Fete Planning Committee have been working hard and I am pleased to report that we can look forward to a fun-filled Fete. Thank you to all parishioners and local businesses for offers of support. We have been very pleased with the response so far.

Musicians have been approached and we are pleased to announce that we have booked the services of a local Rock Choir. We are also hoping to get a local Country Band if we can arrange funding, so if you know of anyone who would be willing to sponsor the musicians, please let us know.

We will require lots of help on the day, so if you have not already contacted us, but feel you would like to help, please speak to Sara or Pam.

We will be collecting bric-a-brac approximately two weeks before the event. Good quality ladies, gents and household accessories, toys, books, CDs and DVDs can be collected now and stored. We would welcome donations of items for the Tombola: bottles (alcohol or non-alcohol), unwanted gifts and any new items.

We have amassed some great prizes for The Grand Raffle, including some very generous vouchers from local businesses and tickets will be available soon.

THANK YOU.

**Tel: Sara Hannan – 299550 or Email: [pamkitch16@gmail.com](mailto:pamkitch16@gmail.com)**

### Accessories Stall St Mary's Kingsclere Village Fete Bank Holiday Monday August 28<sup>th</sup> 2023

Please can you donate good quality, unwanted gifts for our Accessories Stall this year as well as handbags, hats, belts, gloves, pashminas and jewellery.

**Please start putting accessories and gifts aside and contact me from the beginning of July.**

**Thank you.**

**[suzystokoe@btinternet.com](mailto:suzystokoe@btinternet.com)  
01635 297234**



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.

### The Big Coronation Party

A massive thank you to those who braved the impressive downpour and conga'd their way to the party on Coronation Day. Hundreds of you enjoyed the entertainment, food and activities until 1am! (Take a look at photos on KCA and KPC social media.)

The whole weekend of events was an example of how great our village is at coming together to celebrate and support each other. We're so pleased that local businesses and groups used the event to increase awareness, raise funds and connect with the wider community. Of course, these things don't happen by magic alone, they rely on 'do-ers'! If you have time to spare, there are many organisations in the village who would be very glad to hear from you.

### Summer of Fun Play Sessions

All your favourites have been booked for this summer. The 6 play sessions will be from 10am-2pm on Wednesdays: July 26th, August 2nd (National Play Day), 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th.

The sessions are completely free to attend. We've begun a fundraising project with The Good Exchange so if you would like to make a donation towards running costs please go to:

<https://app.thegoodexchange.com/project/20013/kingsclere-community-association/summer-of-fun-2023>

Offers of help with setting up and clearing away are also welcomed.

### What's going on

#### June

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> **Ceroc Workshop 1.30-4.30pm** Contact Val 07958 587256, or email [val@cerocpr.co.uk](mailto:val@cerocpr.co.uk).

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> **Table-Top Sale 10am-1pm.** £10 per table. Please email or phone for a booking form.

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> **Kingsclere Performing Arts & Youth Centre Wine Tasting & Quiz 7pm**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> **Monthly Meet-Up 2pm-4.30pm** (Earlier start time.)

A multi-generational get-together with children from Kingsclere Primary School. 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.

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> **Greener Kingsclere Market 10am-12.30pm**

### KCA Entertainment

A record crowd came to Jan Jack's Comedy Night in April.

Next date: **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September.**

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July Kingsclere Singers Summer Event.

Put the date in your diary.

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

Please visit our website and facebook page for more detailed information.

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

tel: 01635 298497

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

Facebook 

### Kingsclere Gardening Association

At the time of writing, we have had to cancel the evening visit to Gilbert White's Garden in Selborne. They are currently unable to accommodate evening visits. Our Events Secretary is looking at other options, one possibility is to visit Summerdown Mint in Basingstoke. We are still looking to book a date in June. We will keep members informed by email and post updates on Facebook.



By the time you read this we will have held our Annual Plant Sale along with FOSM. The weather is due to be lovely, so I anticipate a well-attended event. A huge thank you to all those who organised the event and everyone who helped out on the day.

It is our **Annual Flower Show on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2023** at the Fieldgate Centre. This is often referred to as the "Dahlia Show" due to the time of year and the perfect growing season for dahlias. We always have a wonderful display of dahlias along with lots of fruit and vegetables. This show is also very popular for "Domestic" class entries such as items of handicraft, cooking and photography. We know there are lots of very talented artists in Kingsclere and our Show would be the perfect place to show off your craft. If you would like to enter, please contact Laura Butler for a Show Schedule on 07770 614971 or email her at: [laura@ro-jen.co.uk](mailto:laura@ro-jen.co.uk)

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

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





**KINGSCLERE VILLAGE CLUB Est. 1921**

**CHARITY 1189234**

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

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

### Coronation Event

Thank you to the volunteers who put up bunting and served refreshments and to the Film Club for the loan of their equipment for the TV coverage of the Coronation. What a pity the weather prevented us from doing the Kingsclere Conga from the Club Garden!



### Community Café



This month's Community Café is on **June 24<sup>th</sup>**, 10am to 1pm. Homemade cakes, tea, coffee and snacks plus a fun quiz. At the craft table, there will be painting and stencil flowers. All ages welcome.

### Shakespeare in the Garden – Last Call

The Festival Players will be returning on **9<sup>th</sup> June** with the romantic comedy Twelfth Night.

£15 performance only (doors open 7pm) or £22.50 performance + picnic (from 6.30pm). From Helen (below), [www.wegottickets.com/event/575521](http://www.wegottickets.com/event/575521), and The Village Butcher.

### Energy Efficiency Project

Hurray! We have hot water on demand, an efficient heating system in the hall, secondary glazed windows, improved heating in the toilet block and a modern boiler for the central heating in the oldest part of the building. At the time of writing, we are awaiting the completion of the heating in the library and work on the external doors. This has been a massive project, years in the planning, and it is an enormous relief to see it coming to fruition. Thank you to all who helped us raise the funds to make it happen.



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

### Busy Bees



The summer term is flying by as we find ourselves halfway through already. This half has included all the fun of the Coronation with the children decorating crowns, drawing their best kings for our coronation tea towels, and the party at the Fieldgate. Thank you to everyone who visited our stalls in the rain!

On June 4<sup>th</sup> we will be holding a Grounds Day from 10am-12pm to tidy up, repair and rejuvenate our outside space. If anyone would like to come and help with this project, we always appreciate volunteers. We look forward to sharing our before and after photos and enjoying the improvements.

After half term we will have more events coming up - keep an eye on our Facebook page for details. Please keep up with our progress and continue to support our ongoing sustainability plans here:

**<https://tinyurl.com/Busy-Bees>**

This point in the year is a time for transition as we prepare those who are leaving us for primary school and the younger ones are getting ready to move up to the older group. We will have places available in September so if you are considering your options for childcare, please come and visit us at the Scout Hut or contact us to find out more.

**[Savebusybeeskingsclere@outlook.com](mailto:Savebusybeeskingsclere@outlook.com)**

### Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby and Toddler Group

**Where: The Village Club**

**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.

The Bunnies had an amazing time at our Teddy Bears' Picnic to celebrate the Coronation! After the excitement of the party, our monthly swap table is back on Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup> - please bring along baby items, clothes, and toys to this session.

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**

## Nature Notes

We have had some fun adventures over the Easter holidays. It was very warm the first week so me, my sister and my mum spent a lot of time outside.



One day we were planting pansies in the front garden when I noticed four red and black butterflies sitting on our path slowly opening and closing their wings. I'm not sure what type of butterfly they were but Mum said that they have probably just emerged from their chrysalis and they need the sun to warm up their wings before they fly away.

Last year when my rabbits were shedding their fur, I collected as much as I could and I saved it in a jar. We gave it to one of our neighbours (Diana) and she put it in one of her bird feeders for them to take. Within a few days all of the fluff had gone! Diana said that some bluetits were taking it to build a nest and it looked like they had fluffy moustaches as they were flying away!

I am always on the lookout for hedgehogs but I don't get to see them very much because I have to go to bed before they come out at night. We have noticed the first signs of them in the garden though. There are little holes in the grass and mud, where they have been digging for food, and also one hedgehog went to the toilet on our grass which I thought was very funny, especially when my mum stepped on it on the way to school!



Lily K

## Sunday Market

25th June 10am-12:30pm

## The Fieldgate Centre

In partnership with the Kingsclere Community Association.

Stalls including refillables, household and personal items, gifts and more!

**Women's & Children's Clothing Swap** – Feel free to take what you need, and donate any clean, ready-to-wear, unstained items.

Watch our FB page and website for details of the next **Repair Cafe** coming soon!

Can you help at events or around the village occasionally? Please contact us if you'd like to discuss.

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

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



## The Church Pages

Dear Friends

Some of us are old enough to remember the BT adverts shown on television with the slogan, "It's good to talk..." As I reflect on the readings for this Sunday – it is Trinity Sunday – and the nature of the relationship between Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I am reminded that the Trinity (which is only mentioned twice in the New Testament) is not so much an abstract theological formula as an expression of our relationship with God. Relationships flourish when there is communication between the parties involved.

Even in a technological age, I believe that talking face-to-face is still the most effective means of sharing conversation because every part of us is then involved. How many times have we sent emails/texts or made phone calls which have been misunderstood because the recipient couldn't see the expression on our face or the gesture that accompanied the message?

I have recently rediscovered a version of the opening of John's gospel which gives much food for thought: "It all arose out of a conversation, conversation within God, in fact the conversation was God. So God started the discussion, and everything came out of this, and nothing happened without consultation. This was the life, life that was the light of all people, shining in the darkness, a darkness which neither understood nor quenched its creativity. John, a man sent by God, came to remind people about the nature of the light so that they would observe. He was not the subject under discussion, but the bearer of an invitation to join in.

The subject of the conversation, the original light, came into the world, the world that had arisen out of his willingness to converse. He fleshed out the words, but the world did not understand. He came to those who knew the language, but they did not respond. Those who did became a new creation (his children). They read the signs and responded. These children were born out of sharing in the creative activity of God. They heard the conversation still going on, here, now, and took part, discovering a new way of being people.

To be invited to share in a conversation about the nature of life was for them, a glorious opportunity not to be missed. May we not miss glorious opportunities for conversation in the weeks ahead as we meet visitors and friends alike across the summer months and may they be Godly conversations!

Peace,

*Rachel*

**Rachel Borgars  
Methodist Minister**

Time to Talk of God report (2001) – Clive Scott





## Worship in our Churches June 2023

Services in our churches will be as follows:



Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> June		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30am Holy Communion St Peter's, Headley	10.30am Holy Communion St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> June		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30am Morning Worship St Peter's, Headley	10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> June		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30am Morning Worship St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30am Holy Communion St Paul's, Ashford Hill	10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> June		10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's, Kingsclere

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

### Saturday Coffee

Fresh brewed coffee, tea and delicious home made cakes.

All welcome – please do pop in!

**10.00 am-12.00 Noon**

in the Kingsmill Room, St Mary's Church

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>**

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

## Kingsclere Methodist Church

### Services for June

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June Rev Rachel Borgars

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June Worship Leaders (Methodist Homes Sunday)

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June Judith Cole

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June Charlie Philip

All services begin at 10 am

Hall for hire (see inside cover of this magazine)

Coffee morning every Thursday 10.30 to 12 am



**Christine Westcombe**

### Lighting up St. Mary's



The sight of St Mary's Church when it is floodlit is truly beautiful. Many people sponsor these lights (£12 per evening) to celebrate an occasion, such as a birthday, wedding, anniversary, christening, or some other special day in their lives.

To book, contact Emma, our Church Administrator, on 07422 687125 or email [administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk](mailto:administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk)

### April

25<sup>th</sup> In loving memory of Gordon Young as he takes his final journey. A loving husband, father, brother, father-in-law and grandad. He will be missed but never forgotten. Now reunited with his wife Frankie.

### May

1<sup>st</sup> Happy 80th Birthday Andy Johnson! A very special husband, dad and grandad. With lots of love from Barbara, Lorraine, Ian and grandchildren xxx

24<sup>th</sup> To welcome Rev Pete Williams as our new Priest in Charge  
28<sup>th</sup> Remembering Mary Langthorne, a very dear Mum, Grandma and Great Grandma with much love on her birthday. Missing you so much.

### June

2<sup>nd</sup> To celebrate the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Alan and Marie Gundry  
5<sup>th</sup> In Loving Memory of Eric Rampton who passed away 5th of June 2019. Always in our thoughts, dearly missed by Christine and Family.  
19<sup>th</sup> Remembering Maureen on her Birthday. Love Anne

## Community Larder

**Open Thursdays 2.30-4pm in the Kingsmill Room  
(on the side of St Mary's Church, Kingsclere)**



If you are you in need of food, please come along to St Mary's Church and for £3 you can choose one bag of dried/tinned items and one bag of fresh/frozen food. Enjoy free refreshments and a chat too. There are no questions asked and no proof required, we want to help all those in our local area that need support. Thanks to kind donors we are able to stock our shelves with tins and dried food each week. Fresh and frozen food is delivered by the Community Food Link, an organisation in Basingstoke, that collects food nearing its 'best before' dates and distributes it to local food banks and larders.

We are still seeing new clients who hadn't heard about the larder and so would be grateful if people can spread the word around the village. If you know of someone who might benefit from some support, please do tell them about us!

Donations are always welcome – please bring along any tinned or dried goods or household items to the Kingsmill Room on a Thursday morning 11.30-12.30. Thank you.

If you have any questions about the food bank please ring the church office on 01635 299528 or 07422 687125.

## Kingsclere and Headley Woodlands WI

Last month during a very lively and enjoyable meeting we voted for our new committee and president. We also welcomed two visitors and were delighted to have our WI advisor, Alison Woodford, in attendance.



We discussed what our competition word would be for 2023/24 and members agreed that Charles Rex was a good choice for this year. Therefore the competition letter for June will be C.

Our meeting on June 14th at the Village Club, 35 George Street, will host a representative from The Blue Lamp Trust with the Bobby Scheme being the charitable arm of the Trust. This is sure to be an interesting and informative talk. Why not come along to listen, enjoy a chat with members while having tea and biscuits? The meeting starts at 1.45pm and we would be delighted to welcome visitors who wish to hear our speaker and find out about their local WI. They can be sure of a very warm welcome.

**Margaret Geary, President, 01635297197**

## Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Ltd



After a long, rather slow-starting and chilly spring, on the afternoons of **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June from 2pm to 6pm**, we will be offering the chance to visit **nine open gardens** representing a range of different styles and sizes. Some of them have been built up by their owners over decades, others have been more recently created and at least half of them have never previously been shown. Tickets which will be valid for the two days will be on sale at the Church from 1.30pm on both days at £10 per adult/£15 per couple with accompanied children up to school leaving age free. **(But, please, assistance dogs only).**

We do hope that as many people as possible will take this opportunity to see some lovely, flowery gardens at their midsummer best and, hopefully, in fair weather! Refreshments will be available at St Mary's Churchyard or in the Kingsmill Room.

**Peter Turner, Chairman**

Website: [friendsofstmaryskingsclere.org](http://friendsofstmaryskingsclere.org).

For membership & enquiries contact [fosmkingsclere@gmail.com](mailto:fosmkingsclere@gmail.com)

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

The winner of the May Draw was

Lesley Elborn – No. 110

**Congratulations, Lesley.**

Next month's Draw will take place at The Crown at approximately 7 pm on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

**200clubkingsclere@gmail.com**

## KINGSCLERE CHARITIES

**Kingsclere Welfare Charity and Kingsclere Apprenticing Charity**

2023 Meeting Dates: 15<sup>th</sup> June 21<sup>st</sup> September 1 6<sup>th</sup> November

The Trustees will meet on the above dates. Applications must be received by the clerk two weeks before this meeting. Apply in the first instance to

**[www.kingsclerecharities.org](http://www.kingsclerecharities.org)**



## Kingsclere Community Library



### Visiting Books Programme!

We will have new 'visiting books' from HCC at the end of June. PLUS we are adding some new books on a regular basis, so do come in and browse!

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.

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

Nicki Lee, Library: phone 01635 297464

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

## Kin<sup>🎵</sup>slere Sin<sup>🎵</sup>ers

Welcomes new singers

Singing is our happy place, make it yours too!

Join us to make music & new friends

*Singing in aid of local charities since 1891*

Varied repertoire of original, classical & popular music. Local performances.

No prior experience necessary, no audition, no need to read music.

Rolling termly /annual subscriptions & 4 no obligation taster sessions.

Rehearsals: Mondays, 7.30-9 pm [Fieldgate Centre](http://www.kingsclere-singers.co.uk),  
Kingsclere, RG20 5SQ

Info [www.kingsclere-singers.co.uk](http://www.kingsclere-singers.co.uk) Hazel O'Leary; 07929 027862

Or email Mary Bushnell; [Kingscleresingers@gmail.com](mailto:Kingscleresingers@gmail.com)

### Bell Ringing

On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May we rang rounds and call changes on eight bells and on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May we rang a quarter peal of 1260 Grandsire Doubles for the Coronation of King Charles III.



Helen Piper

## Kingsclere Rugby Club



Feel Like Getting Fitter and Having Fun?

Why not come and join us at the rugby club over the summer months at the Fieldgate Centre (Kingsclere) where we shall be running the following:

**Summer Touch Tournament** which will be held every Wednesday evening between 31st May - 5th July starting at 7.00 pm and finishing at 8.30 pm. There will be a BBQ at the end of the last session and also a prize for the highest number of attendances. Both males and females can participate.

**Fitness for Rugby** will start on 12th July and run every Wednesday evening between 7.00 - 8.00 pm for the rest of the summer until the beginning of September.

Or for those who are not so energetically inclined there is always

**Walking Rugby** which can be played by both males and females of all ages. The club runs this every Wednesday evening between 7.00 - 8.00 pm.

## Kingsclere Performing Arts & Youth Centre & Kingsclere Community Association

Wine Tasting and Quiz evening  
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June, 7.00pm  
The Fieldgate Centre



In Aid of  
Save 24 Swan Street Campaign

Tickets £15

available from

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

or JLD School of Dancing, 24 Swan Street  
Cheese and French bread provided Raffle



## The Story of English Freedom



From the rebellions of Boudicca against Roman invaders to Magna Carta, the Peasants' Revolt and the modern Poll Tax riots. From the revolutionary ideas put forward in Cromwellian times to influential movers and shakers such as Thomas Paine, the Suffragettes and George Orwell. 'Freedom' has always been a key issue in English history.

**Speaker Andy Thomas**

**Wednesday 21 June at 10am.**

St Mary's Hall, Overton

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



## Fink Food

**Middle Eastern Fusion Food  
Pop Up outlet**

**Outside The Fieldgate Centre**

**Tuesday June 6th and 20th and July 4th  
5.30 – 8pm**

**Profits are reinvested to provide mental health counselling  
For young people in our community through  
No 5 Young People, a local charity**



## North Wessex Downs Walking Festival

Come for a walk during the 2-11 June 2023

This year's North Wessex Downs Walking Festival has 27 walks on offer across the AONB with opportunities to seek out wildlife, history or culture, visit a farm, follow a nature trail, picnic with the family,

create an art journal, or simply soak up the views from the top of the downs. Many walks are free, but booking is essential.

The festival is a great celebration of the top-class walking country, stunning views, heritage and culture of this protected landscape. Walk leaders are all knowledgeable and welcoming and looking forward to bringing alive some of their favourite places for you.

There are family-friendly events, energetic hikes as well as gentle ambles. Go to [northwessexdowns.org](http://northwessexdowns.org) for more information and to book. Be quick as some events are booking up fast!



**Saturday 10 June 2023 at 7.30pm**  
**Kingsclere Village Club, George Street**  
**Doors open at 7.00pm**

## Charade

(1963 - PG - 113min)

Romance and suspense ensue in Paris as a woman is pursued by several men who want a fortune her murdered husband had stolen. Whom can she trust? Stars Cary Grant & Audrey Hepburn.

**Saturday 8 July 2023 - Mrs Miniver (1942 - U - 134min)**

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

## Kingsclere Local History Association



The Village Archives are open on most Monday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm in the Holding Room upstairs at the Villager Club.

Following the Coronation of King Charles 111, we welcome any photographs and other material from celebrations in the village you feel suitable for permanent placement in the Archives.

**Michael Leah Secretary 297403**

## Wolverton Market

The next Market will take place on the 3rd June in the Village Hall from 9.30am until 11am.

There will be the usual stalls which include home grown vegetables and plants, antiques and collectables, household products, books and puzzles, Bric a Brac, handmade garden ornaments, cards and candles.

Coffee, tea and biscuits will also be available to purchase.

Parking is available outside the Hall.

We appreciate your support and we look forward to seeing you.

For more information or if you might be interested in having a Stall, please contact **Wendy Morgan.01635 297 538.**



## June in the Garden



Blazing June! Hopefully, that will happen this month. With so much rain so far this year it has been difficult to work on the garden. This has encouraged the moss to cover beds and lawns. Moss can be picked off the soil easily as a heavy frost that we had earlier in the year has loosened it. It's a really boring job but needs to be done. I was told by a reliable source that moss can be composted but I am still not convinced.

The Chelsea chop is usually done in May at the show time but cutting some plants down by half can still be done. This is to prevent Autumn flowering plants from growing too heavy. Perfect examples are sedums and tall Michaelmas daisy. They will, of course, flower a little later but will look a lot neater.

Cut back the foliage of the spring flowering bulbs. Most of them will have flowered six weeks or more ago so the leaves will be faded. A feed will help the bulbs to flower well next year. As Spring flowers are now finished some space may need filling in the borders. It should be safe to fill these gaps with summer bedding plants now.

There are shrubs this month that should be pruned after flowering eg. weigela and philadelphus. The faded blooms of rhododendrons, camellias and lilacs should be removed. This diverts the shrubs energy that is spent on seeds which is better used building up buds for the flowers for the following year. If lilac becomes overgrown and leggy it can be cut down to 45 cm and will regrow from the base. It may not flower for the first year after it has been chopped down but the shrub will be a better shape.

Cut the flower stems of the hellebores now that the seed heads have developed. These need to be removed before they drop on to the soil and germinate otherwise the garden will be covered in seedlings. Also remove old leaves as these can become infected. If not already done, support any tall growing perennials now. It's also the time to plant hanging baskets.

Early peas should be ready to pick. Keep sowing salad vegetables remembering that lettuce seeds will not germinate in high temperatures. Plant out runner beans and outside tomato plants, sow turnips and oriental vegetables.

Apple trees often struggle to bring all the fruits to maturity. It is a good idea to take out small apples as this should improve the size of those remaining ones on the tree.

It is also the time to take softwood cuttings such as fuchsias, salvia and verbenas.

Favourite plants this month, clematis, Paeonias, iris, alchemilla mollis and pinks.

**Denise Allen**

## Kingsclere CE Primary School



What an exciting summer term we are having! On the first day of the summer term the children were visited by Mrs Ingram from the United Kingdom Space Agency. Mrs Ingram provided a wonderful presentation for the children all about a probe called JUICE which is travelling to Jupiter to search for signs of life.

Year 1 and 2 had a delightful visit to Harold Hillier's Garden where they further developed their understanding of plants as well as the problems that seeds and saplings can face when growing. Some of the children's favourite events of the day included touching and seeing the 'teddy bear tree', walking across the rope bridge and exploring the beautiful flowers around the garden!

Our external school walls, swimming pool changing rooms and fences have recently been painted by Hampshire County Council. We are very pleased with the work that has taken place to refresh and brighten the school's appearance.

Our Year 6 children have recently completed their Standard Assessment Tests (SATs). These are tests that children, (across the country) sit in Year 6. We were so proud of the children's positive approach to the tests and the effort they put in to achieve their very best. The results will be shared with the school later in July.

For King Charles III coronation, the children buried a time capsule containing details about 2023. This included information children had collected about their favourite books, games, fashion, foods and much more. We also planted four fruit trees, to support the environment, something we know that our children and King Charles value. The children have also completed an art project for the coronation where each child in the school has designed a leaf which has been added to our painted coronation tree which is on display in our school hall. The tree looks wonderful and will remind us for many years to come of the coronation of our new King.

We are looking forward to our two special concert performances in St. Mary's church on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June where children will be singing a selection of fun, catchy pop songs, each based on an important and inclusive Christian value. We invite all community members to this event as well as our children's families. Please contact the school if you would like further details: [adminoffice@kingsclere.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@kingsclere.hants.sch.uk)

Mrs Melrose, Kingsclere CE Primary School Headteacher, will be returning from her maternity leave at the end of May and we warmly welcome her back to leading the school.

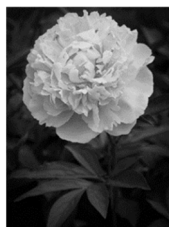
Wishing you a great summer!

**Jo Messenger Acting Headteacher**



## Paeonia

Paeonia or peonies are long lived, spectacular, showy plants that flower usually from May to June. They come in a number of forms



**Paeonia Lactiflora.** The large, fragrant blooms make wonderful cut flowers and although slow to establish, healthy specimens are prolific and long lived. The leaves are large, glossy and dissected and will often give rise to wonderful Autumn colour before dying back in the Winter. Some of the heavier forms will need individual supports inserted under each flower bud. Be aware that they contain a substance that can be harmful if ingested by animals, but they are not listed as toxic to humans.

**P. officinalis.** The reddish pink flowers are comprised of a single or double ring of large outer petals and a central cluster of golden yellow anthers over divided leaves. They rarely need staking.

**P. lutea & P. suffruticosa** The Tree Peony (*suffruticosa* and *lutea*) has stout woody stems and can grow up to 1.8m. They prefer slightly more sheltered positions (out of the wind, but plenty of light) and will normally flower a little later. Old wood will produce new buds the following spring, so prune carefully to an outward facing bud to encourage side shooting and more flowers.

**Itoh Peony** Strong stemmed and long-lasting blooms of the highest quality. These are the most expensive of the Peonies but are worth it. They are more tolerant of cold than their tree Peony relative and have the more compact habit of the herbaceous forms. They flower later with an extended flowering season into the Summer by deadheading them. Feed with low levels of nitrogen such as seaweed, well-rotted manure (with no smell) or leaf compost. They produce new growth each season from ground level so you should cut old stems back to approx. 15cm from the ground.

**Paeonia tenuifolia.** This relatively small form (approx. 60cm) is very cold tolerant in Winter and can also take hot, dry Summers. It has beautifully soft fern like foliage and deep shiny red flowers. The foliage and flowers appear much earlier than other herbaceous types and it will also die down earlier

**Planting.** When planting Peonies it is imperative that they are planted shallowly, or it will give rise to lots of foliage and little or no flowers. Move when they are dormant. The rule to follow is that the roots need to be just below the surface of the soil and the toes (upward growing shoots) should be allowed to peek through early in their growth cycle. Peonies can be split by dividing the roots when the clump gets large, each root section should have at least one toe.

For more tips go to [www.hardyscottagegardenplants.com](http://www.hardyscottagegardenplants.com)

## Coronation Day May 6th 2023



Thanks to Gareth Martin and The Fieldgate Centre for photos



## THE KINGSCLERE TOWER DIRECTORY

**POLICE, FIRE or AMBULANCE** **Emergency 999**

Police Enquiries/Information **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** Peter Williams

**Church Warden:**

John Price johnsaprice@hotmail.com 01635 297780

**Administrator:**

Emma Rivers 01635 299528

administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk 07422 687125

## METHODIST CHURCH:

**Minister:** Rev Rachel Borgars 07889 905753

Rachel.Borgars@methodist.org.uk 01256 895878

<b>Secretary &amp; Hire of Hall</b>	Jeanette Billington	01635 297585
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**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
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Gas Emerg. 0800 111999 Age Concern Local Agent 0800 3287154

Chemist	01635 298419	Watership Down Health	01635 296000
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Kingsclere Library 01635 297464

## BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

**Ken Rhatigan** 07850 530319 Cllr.Ken.Rhatigan@basingstoke.gov.uk

**Mike Bound** 07833612735 Cllr.Mike.Bound@basingstoke.gov.uk

**Kerry Morrow** 07422 651172 Cllr.Kerry.Morrow@basingstoke.gov.uk

## COUNTY COUNCILLOR

**Tom Thacker**    07712695468    tom.thacker@hants.gov.uk

**MP for N.W. Hampshire:**

**Kit Malthouse** 01264 401401 kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk

2, Church Close, Andover, SP10 1DP

**There is a more comprehensive list of local contact numbers on the Parish Council website. Go to [www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk/directory](http://www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk/directory)**