

# The Kingsclere Tower



**May 2017**

**Your Village Magazine**

# The Kingsclere Tower

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Your Tower Village Magazine is delivered free of charge to every household in Kingsclere, thanks to our teams of volunteers, and of course our advertisers who pay for the printing of the magazine.

It is also available at many locations around the village, including several shops, the library, and St. Mary's.

You may also read it on-line on the Parish Council website, or have it delivered to your email in-box. Please email the editors to subscribe.

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

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

**COPY FOR June** to the editors at 3 Blue Meadow, Garrett Close  
**kingscleretower@gmail.com by May12th**  
***Copy MUST include name, address/phone number***

# Kingsclere Parish Council

**KINGSCLERE PARISH COUNCIL (KPC)**

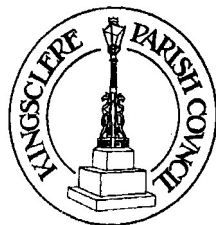
**Chairman:** John Sawyer (297221)

**Clerk:** Louise Porton (298634)

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

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

**Public Opening:** Mon & Wed 9:30-11:30am



**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** – The APM will be held on 15th May 2017 followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. Please come along and support this event, this is your opportunity to come and meet everyone involved in the running of your community. Andy Bates, Chairman of the Kingsclere Community Association will be giving a brief talk on the recent progress and future projects at the Fieldgate Centre. There will also be a presentation to the Post Office Counter Staff from George Street at the meeting.

**ALLOTMENTS** – Most of the vacant plots have been taken up but at the time of going to press there are still two half plots available – if you are interested please contact the clerk (contact details above).

The Allotment Holders Annual Picnic will be taking place on 22nd July 2017 where the prize winners of the Allotment Competition will be announced (judging will take place the week before) – please could current trophy winners return theirs to the Parish Office asap.

**Children's Competition** – Grow the tallest Sunflower – seedlings available from Beth Theobald, email [beth.theobald@btinternet.com](mailto:beth.theobald@btinternet.com) or contact the clerk on the details above. Sunflowers will be measured on the day of the picnic.

**DOG FOULING** - Once again dog fouling in public places and particularly on the Recreation Ground, is becoming a problem. Can we appeal again to everyone walking dogs to ensure that they clear up after their pets. Dog waste can be disposed of in all the public litter bins all around the village.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – will be at 7:30pm on Monday 22nd May 2017, in the Village Club, (unless otherwise notified). We welcome the attendance of all parishioners at our meetings and anyone who wishes to raise any matters of concern will be given the opportunity to do so.

**GREEN WHEELY BINS – Collection days for May: 10th and 24th**

## Parish Paths

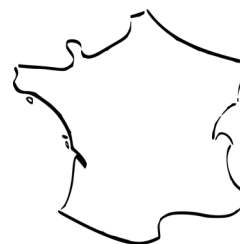
The parish paths group met on Sunday 2nd April. We were very grateful for the 11 volunteers who turned out on a beautiful spring morning. The group worked together in the Malt House open space. Thanks to Heath and Alan who led the group, as we were away.

The next working group is on Sunday 30th April meeting at the shed at 9.45am, please do come and join us if you can spare a couple of hours.

For more details please contact Ian and Pam on [kingsclereparish-paths@btinternet.com](mailto:kingsclereparish-paths@btinternet.com)



**Thanks, Ian and Pam**



## KINGSCLERE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

**QUIZ EVENING**, Friday 12th May 7.30 pm, Kingsclere Village Club Tickets £10 for members, £12 for non-members, to include a 2-course cold buffet. There will be a champagne raffle and a bar.

Thank you to everyone who attended the fantastic Bistrot evening – we hope to see you all at the Quiz Evening which will be equally enjoyable.

## ANNUAL DUCK RACE

This will be on Saturday 24 June after the school summer fair.

## CORMICY VISIT: THURSDAY 13 – SUNDAY 16 JULY 2017

As The Tower goes to press, there are still a few places available. The trip will include fireworks and dancing on the Thursday, and a boat trip on the Marne is proposed for 14 July, Bastille Day. The rest of the programme is yet to be confirmed. Cormicy is in the Champagne region of France and, as usual, there will be lots of delicious French food and local champagne. Accommodation is with French families in Cormicy and the only expense is the travel. Do join us – we always have a wonderful time and will be maintaining our friendship and links with Cormicy despite leaving the EU.

Please email [kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk) to book your visit to France and Quiz evening tickets, alternatively telephone Sue Watson on 01635 298940 or Sue Earl on 01635 298286.

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

@kingsclerepc [facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil)

## POLICE REPORT

For the parishes of Kingsclere, Headley, Ashford Hill and Hannington  
PCSO 16129 Freya Batchelor

freya.batchelor@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Crime summary for March 2017

Total crimes reported: 8

Assault: 4

Burglary other than in a dwelling: 1

Criminal Damage: 1

Anti-Social behaviour: 2

### Burglary

Between 24/03/2017 and 29/03/2017 unknown offender(s) attempted to gain access to a residential care home in Kingsclere, through a communal laundry door, causing damage to the door. If you have any further information please contact 101 and quote reference: 44170116668.

### Kingsclere Primary School

Please may I once again remind parents who are picking up children from Kingsclere Primary School to be considerate when parking in Priors Close. You should avoid blocking driveways or parking too close to the junctions, which might cause an accident. With regard to Ashford Hill Primary School, parents are asked to park in the church car-park a short distance away; it is the designated car park for the school.

### Parking in George St

I am receiving more complaints about vehicles parking on the pavement and on double yellow lines, especially along George Street, Kingsclere. Parking on the pavement can seriously inconvenience pedestrians, wheelchair users, people with visual impairment and those with prams or pushchairs. Please remember the pavement is for pedestrians and not vehicles.

### Reporting incidents

After speaking to local residents I have been made aware of incidents that have not been reported. It is very important that if you witness an incident or see anything suspicious, you must report it to the police. Normally, you should dial 101 if a crime has already been committed, or you have another concern that does not require an emergency response. For example, if:

Your car has been stolen

Your property has been damaged

You suspect drug use or dealing in your neighbourhood

You are aware of anti-social behaviour

However, you should always call 999 when it is an emergency, such as when a crime is in progress, or someone suspected of a crime is nearby, or when there is danger to life, or violence is being used or threatened. What about nuisance or environmental issues? You should continue to contact your local council about issues in your area such as:

- Dog fouling
- Abandoned vehicles
- Dumping and fly-tipping
- Vandalism to public property

Finally, please feel free to email me if you have any concerns, or would just like some advice. However, you should immediately report any incidents by phoning 101 or 999. While I am happy to take reports via email, please note that I work shifts and may be on rest-days or leave, and not receive your email for a few days.

PCSO Freya Batchelor



## Nature Notes

The first lambs we saw this year were triplets and so newborn that the first of them was only just standing, Number 2 lay on the grass somewhat amazed at the world around it, and Number 3 was being efficiently licked into life by the very capable mother. Lambs demonstrate such energy and fun as they do vertical take-off jumps and dash madly round each other.



The season features greatly in our notes this month. The cool morning had given way to gentle warmth as we walked down a hilly path of a field in where ewes were watching their lambs. The ewes were lying down and gently chewing cud, but the lambs had gone a stage further. They were sprawled flat on the cool grass with their legs out in front of them and soaking up every drop of sunshine: Winter had passed and Spring arrived! At The Vyne recently there was a small group of people staring intently at a sunny bank on which there was a tangle of brushwood. We joined them and at first saw nothing unusual, but then, as our eyes grew accustomed to the brightness, we became aware of movement - grass snakes. They were juveniles and emerging from within the woodpile and into the spring sunshine.



A pair of robins using a nest-box in the garden, have enjoyed a supply of mealworms from a hanging feeder. Two different habits evolved in feeding the chicks. Sometimes one bird would fly straight from feeder to nest, at other times a number of short flights from one perch to another finally ended at the nest. On one occasion fourteen diversions occurred. As both parents are identical it was impossible to know if each bird followed a different habit.

**Diana Tait and Rod Eldred**



### **Kingsclere Community Library**

Our Second AGM

Thursday 25 May, 7:30 followed by Volunteer Party & Celebration

Thank you to everyone who supported our fund raising

Fact or Fiction? Evening in March. It was great fun thanks to Lucinda and her team of panellists, a good meal and the raffle. Thanks to the many local businesses supporting us – and of course thanks to everyone who came along.

Rhymetime with Rita on the second Tuesday of every month

Book Group – watch this space! Reading group hopefully starting soon at the Library!

Opening hours: Tues & Thurs 1 – 5:30; Saturdays 9:30 – 2

**Nicki Lee, [kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com)**

### **CONCERT AT ST PAUL'S CHURCH**

Saturday 20th May 7pm

The Barfield Handbell Ringers

will present

"Mid-May Music and Mischief!"

Tickets: £7.50 adults, children £1

To reserve your tickets please contact Vanessa Martin 01635 299227

The Barfield Handbell Ringers from Thatcham bring the captivating sight and sound of music played on 97 handbells. With an extensive repertoire of music from several centuries from which to choose the programme, this concert will include a wide range of music - classical, hymns and popular! Come along and share this amazing evening!



### **St Michael's Hospice Coffee Morning**

Saturday, 17th June. 10am – 12 noon

**VILLAGE CLUB**

Please come for coffee and cake – bring friends and family. Stalls include:- cakes, jams/preserves. Tombola and raffle prizes. Face painting and mini manicures for the ladies. Any donations of prizes would be greatly appreciated. Could you spare ½ hour to man a stall or make tea? Do you have suggestions of new things to add to the event? Fresh ideas are always welcome, especially ways of encouraging more people to come along. Feel free to contact me. I look forward to seeing you there.

**Sarah Melling 297823.**

### **KINGSCLERE BOWLING CLUB**



is hosting Open Days at the William Holden Field, Ashford Hill Road on Sat. 20th May from 2:30 p.m and Sun. 21st May from 2:30 p.m.

Come and give lawn bowls a try. It is a very enjoyable and social sport.

Bowls can be played by all ages, abilities, and genders. Families will be welcome, tuition will be given, and bowls will be available for your use. We just ask that you wear flat shoes or trainers.

New members would be very welcome with membership fees starting from just £20 per annum.

If you are unable to attend an open day or would like more information then please telephone Brian Watts on 01189 816892, or visit [www.kingsclerebowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.kingsclerebowlingclub.co.uk)



### **Kingsclere Tennis Club**

Adult, Junior and Family memberships available at very reasonable rates.

Play socially, or in Basingstoke and Newbury league matches.

**ALL WELCOME!**

The club has asked Ignition Tennis to run junior coaching sessions at our courts on Tuesdays after school. This is expected to be for children aged 5 – 10 years. Interested parents should email [admin@ignitiontennis.com](mailto:admin@ignitiontennis.com) to register interest and to find out more details.

If you are an adult interested in playing socially on Thursday mornings, we have organised 4s for members. For details, contact Daphne Snook on 07768 664347

For Kingsclere Tennis Club Membership check the website: [www.kingscleretennisclub.co.uk](http://www.kingscleretennisclub.co.uk)

**Chris Pearce on 01635 298737.**



## The Fieldgate Centre – May Events

**Saturday 13th May 7.30pm - midnight:**

### The Great Gatsby Fun Casino Night.

Tickets £15 from the George & Horn, Village Butchers, Fieldgate Bar. Entry price includes buffet, starting fun money, pro croupiers and champagne cocktail on arrival.

**Friday 19th May 9.30-11am: Kingsclere Business Connect.**

A networking and business community event with guest talk 'How to Network like a Pro'. Sponsored by Calla.

**Saturday 27th May 8pm - midnight: Ceroc Freestyle**

Contact: Val 07958 587256

### New Classes

Tuesdays 6pm - 7pm Puppy training classes. Places still available.

Contact Sue Parkin Russell: 0787 6207343

### Mornings

Body Control Pilates classes 4 mornings per week.

Contact Joanna Lewis: 01635 255081

Visit our website to see the full calendar of classes and events.  
[www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk](http://www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk)

### A Big Thank You

We'd like to thank volunteers from Vodafone who spent a day with us in March, paintbrush in hand, helping to give the Fieldgate a fresh new look.

We're working hard to make the Fieldgate a nicer place for everyone to enjoy and this is being made possible by:

**Valspar** which has donated sufficient paint to redecorate most of the centre, **The Legge Family Trust** for donating enough funds to refurbish the Atkinson room and, **Howe and Son/ The Co-op Society** for making a donation towards new furniture for the Atkinson room.

### Can You Help?

We still need volunteer painters! We'll be holding painting sessions in the near future to continue redecorating the centre and we'd love your help. Please contact the centre office if you can spare a few hours to help. We'll provide the paint, the tools and light refreshments.

New office opening hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am - 1pm.

Email [fieldgatecentre.btconnect.com](mailto:fieldgatecentre.btconnect.com) Telephone 01635 298497



The Fieldgate Centre

## Learn a new skill at Kingsclere Village Club

Our summer term started 24th April, but if you missed the enrolment deadline you may still be able to join some of our classes.

Our Wednesday yoga classes with Debbie Clark (11:00-12:00 and 19:00 – 20:00) run for blocks of 6 weeks, so there will be an opportunity to join around half term.

We are delighted with such a positive response to the new Friday Pilates with level 3 teacher Liz Williams. To accommodate an earlier booking, that class now runs from 11.15 a.m to 12.15.

A reminder that drawing and painting classes for beginners and intermediates have also started. You can choose a 2-hour class (1.30-3.30 pm, or a 3-hour class (1.30-4.40 p.m.)

Existing students can 'introduce a friend'. If they sign up for a class that we run, you can claim a free class the following term for both under our loyalty scheme. Please mention this at the time of enquiry or booking.

The range of classes and activities at the Village Club is much wider than this. Please look at our website or ask for information about what other teachers and groups have to offer.

To enquire about a class or reserve a place, please contact Tracey Lethbridge on 291248, email [education@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk](mailto:education@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk)



### Concerts in Silchester Church

Saturday 13th May, 7.30pm  
The Hurst Singers dir. Eric James  
Accompanist: Alison Thurlow.  
Mozart, Verdi, Dvorak, Bruckner,  
and songs from West Side Story



Saturday 27th May, 7.30 pm  
The Belle Canto Trio  
with David Gillis, piano  
Songs from musicals and  
operetta



Tickets for both concerts £10  
including glass of wine  
Children free  
Contact: Ralph Atton 0118 970 0825

### Tadley and Baughurst Art Club – Spring Exhibition

Around a hundred original paintings, craft items, cards and 3D images will be on show at the TABAC Spring Exhibition, being held in the Ambrose Allen Centre, Franklin Avenue, Tadley RG26 4ER, on Saturday 6th May (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and Sunday 7th May (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.). Admission and parking are free.

TABAC has been running for over 30 years. For further details and images of paintings, contact Andrea Lawson: [tadleyandbaughurstartclub@gmail.com](mailto:tadleyandbaughurstartclub@gmail.com)



### Advance warning: The Village Fete

Planning is already underway for the annual St Mary's August Bank Holiday Fete to be held in the churchyard on Monday 28 August. Please keep an eye on the Tower each month for further news.....

# The Church Pages



## Reflections

This month sees the beginning of our new weekly services at St. Mary's church, Kingsclere. Meeting in the Kingsmill Room at 8:45 a.m. for breakfast and then 9:15 in church for the service, we hope these services will enable us to worship God and equip us to live as people who are committed to Jesus. The theme of the first term of these services is Following Jesus: big shoes to fill. You may have seen the banner or even seen the shoes! The idea is that, as Christians, we are meant to be followers of Jesus and that his example is one which is very challenging. He asks us to be like Him and His shoes are difficult to fill.

This has been brought home to me very clearly as I write in the middle of holy week, which is when we remember Jesus' last week before his death and resurrection. Hearing about Jesus in that week 2000 or so years ago inspires but also disheartens me. I'm inspired by the courageous Jesus who, knowing what awaited Him in Jerusalem, entered the city on the back of a donkey, and yet I'm disheartened because so often I lack the courage even to mention His name. I'm inspired by the humble Jesus, who washed his disciples' feet the night before He died, including the feet of his betrayer, Judas, and yet I'm disheartened that, more often than not, I want to be served and not to serve. I'm inspired by the obedient Jesus who went through all the mocking, torture and humiliation because it was what He was called to do, and yet I'm disheartened that most of the time I want to do my own thing. I'm inspired by the forgiving Jesus who said "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do" as He was crucified, and yet disheartened that I hold many things against many people. I could go on. If we are called to follow Jesus, it seems impossible.

However, I know God does not want to dishearten us. In one sense, following Jesus is an impossible task but in another, it is possible if we continually ask for his Spirit to empower us. I hope and pray that these new services might help us to receive His Spirit and be enabled to be true followers of Jesus.

Blessings,

**Ben.**

## Services in May 2017

Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 4	<b>8am</b>	Holy Communion – St Paul's, Ashford Hill
	<b>9.15am</b>	Morning Worship with Baptism and Junior Church – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am)
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 5	<b>8am</b>	Holy Communion – St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>9.15am</b>	Morning Worship with Junior Church – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am)
	<b>10.30am</b>	Holy Communion – St Peter's, Headley
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> May Easter 6	<b>8am</b>	Holy Communion – St Peter's Church, Headley
	<b>9.15am</b>	Family / All Age / Messy Service – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am)
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> May Ascension Day	<b>7.30pm</b>	Ascension Day Eucharist – St Peter's, Headley
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 7	<b>8am</b>	Holy Communion – St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>9.15am</b>	Holy Communion with Junior Church – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am)
	<b>10.30am</b>	All Age Worship with Baptism – St Paul's, Ashford Hill (coffee before the service)
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> June Easter 8	<b>8am</b>	Holy Communion – St Paul's, Ashford Hill
	<b>9.15am</b>	Morning Worship with Junior Church – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am)

**Our ABC service for children and their carers will be held in St Mary's, Kingsclere on 15th May at 9.30am**

<b>St. Mary's Church</b>		
<b>Vicar</b>	Rev Ben Read, The Vicarage, Foxs Lane	☎ 298471
<b>Churchwarden</b>	Steve Jaques	☎ 07887 428145
	Steve.jaques@me.com	
<b>Churchwarden</b>	Eileen Selsey	☎ 42962
	eileen.selsey@hotmail.co.uk	
<b>Administrator</b>	Emma Rivers	☎ 07790 934972
	administrator@clerewoodlands.org.uk	

## Methodist Notes

Preachers and services for May

All Services start at 10am

7th May	Helen Watson	Morning Worship
14th May	Geoff Britt	Morning Worship
21st May	Local Arrangement / Alternative Worship	
28th May	Rev. Rachel Borgars	Holy Communion

## Quiz Evening

Kingsclere Methodist Church are holding a Quiz Evening on Saturday 6th May at 6.15pm in the church school-room.

There will be teams of up to 6 people, but just come along and join a team on the night.

Tickets £7.50 to include a Ploughman's Supper and soft drinks.

**Wendy Morgan 297538**

\*\*\*\*\*

In aid of Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere

## PLANT SALE

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May, in St Mary's Churchyard**

Opening at 10a.m.

Lots of good plants, at reasonable prices!

\*\*\*\*\*

<b>Roman Catholic</b>		
<b>Rev Patrick Tansey</b>	tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	0118 981 4572
<b>Methodist Chapel</b>		
<b>Chief Warden</b>	Wendy Morgan	☎ 297538
<b>Secretary/Hire of Hall</b>	Jeanette Billington	☎ 297585

## Lighting Up St Mary's

- 13th March In memory of our lovely Aunty Molly Pierce
- 25th March In celebration of our Golden Wedding Anniversary - Mary and Ray Bushnell.
- 4th May Loving memories of Moira on her birthday.
- 24th May David you are missed every minute of everyday with love Floss "shine bright"
- 26 - 29th May Happy 50th birthday Caitlin, here to celebrate with your UK family. First Christmas of the last war her Grandfather in the Canadian Army arrived in Aldershot on Christmas Eve. Next day my Dad invited him to join our family for the day. My Mum and his new wife started to write to each other; over 70 years later with friendships over 4 generations our families have kept in touch and crossed the Pond to visit many times.
- 27th May Loving memories of Joyce Frith our dear Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother.
- 31st May Remembering Hazel Soper, a dear Mum, Grandma and Great Grandma on her birthday.

To book please contact Andy and Sarah Bates, Brook House, Popes Hill, Kingsclere RG20 5SJ. 01635 299710. [www.clerewoodlands.org.uk](http://www.clerewoodlands.org.uk) £12 per evening, block booking discounts. Cheques payable to St Mary's Kingsclere PCC, gift aid welcome. Deadline for June Tower is May 10th.

## From the Registers of St Mary's

Funeral *I am the resurrection and the life says the Lord*

24th March Brian Verney aged 66

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

St Mary's 200 Club April Winner 2017 no 121 Richard Selsey

Well done, Richard

Entries drawn first week of each month, various village venues

## Sandham Memorial Chapel

### *First World War poetry readings*

On Saturday 6th May and Sunday 4th June, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. there will be readings of poetry every 15-20 minutes. These are included in the normal entrance charge for the Chapel (£10 for adults, £5 for children, free to NT members).

### *Talk on the history and art of the Chapel*

On Monday 8th May there will be a talk and guided tour of the Chapel and Stanley Spencer's murals. This runs for an hour, followed by questions and discussion. There is a charge of £6 for this, in addition to the Chapel entrance charge.

### *Service*

There will be a service in the Chapel on Tuesday 9th May at 10 a.m., conducted by the local Rector, David Bartholomew.

### *Exhibition of artists' work*

Every week from Saturday 29th April to Sunday 21st May inclusive, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the West Berkshire Open Studios will show artists' work to view and buy.

There is no entrance charge, as the show is not in the Chapel itself.

**Alison Paton 01635 278394**

## Growing2gether Open Day

Saturday

13th & 20th May 10am – 3pm

Large range of fantastic plants and hanging baskets at competitive prices

Outdoor crafts for children

Refreshments and cake stalls

Tombola

Raffle

Debit cards accepted

Location— next door to our friends at the Cottismore Garden Centre.





## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION KINGSCLERE

The Kingsclere Branch meets at The Crown at 7.30pm on the first Tuesday of every month. Recent news:

17 members attended the AGM together. Two representatives of County HQ also attended and commented that, in contrast with many other village branches, we seemed to be doing well.

The Branch "Captain Dunn Trophy" for dedication and service was awarded to Trevor Marriner.

Ken Cox was awarded The RBL Certificate of Excellent Service. He was thanked for his huge support, particularly for his years of work creating the garden opposite the War Memorial and planting out the beds round the War Memorial. Due to Ken that area has become a proud focus at the centre of our village. Trevor has now taken over that task.

Recent meetings have been enhanced by very interesting talks from our Secretary, Dudley Wall who has a great store of memorabilia, and Mark Holden who has recently retired from ROYAL SIGNALS. (To be continued.)

A coach trip to the National Arboretum has been arranged for 1 June. Anyone wishing to apply for the few tickets left or for the waiting list should apply to the Chair, Wendy Morgan (298538)

The branch will greatly welcome anyone considering joining. Just come to one of our meetings. No Service experience needed.

**Tom Sneyd**

## Royal British Legion – Poppy Appeal 2016

The final donations have brought the total raised to a fantastic £3531.66. This money will be put to good use, helping those who served in the Second World War and many more recent conflicts.

A huge thank-you to all the shops, restaurants and pubs who kindly held collection-boxes for us, and also to the churches of St Mary, Kingsclere and St Lawrence, Echchinswell, who donated their Remembrance Sunday offertories to the Appeal.

Thank you also to the Rev. Ben, the Rev. Rachel and Father Patrick for all their help and support, and to everyone else who contributed in so many ways.

We shall be holding several musters at the War Memorial during the year and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there.

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."

**Wendy Morgan, Poppy Appeal Organiser**



Second Saturday of the month at 7.30pm (doors open 7.00pm) at the Village Club, George Street.

**Saturday, 13 May, 2017**



(2015 - Certificate 12A - 117 minutes)

An Irish immigrant lands in 1950s Brooklyn, where she quickly falls into a romance with a local. When her past catches up with her, however, she must choose between two countries and the lives that exist for her in each. Based on Colm Toibin's novel.

**Saturday, 10 June, 2017 - Bridge of Spies**

For further information about the Club or use of our equipment, please contact John Sawyer (Chairman) 297221 or Diana Tait (Membership Sec) 298494

Kingsclere Film Club welcomes guests at £7.50, subject to space.

## Kingsclere Gardening Association

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

#### 50TH SUMMER SHOW

Saturday 1 July 2:00pm at the Fieldgate Centre

#### OPEN GARDENS 2017

Sunday 16 July 2:00 – 6:00pm

Gardens and allotments to view, refreshments and produce to buy

More details of both events will follow in the June edition of The Tower,  
or please telephone Chris Earl on 01635 298286



### THE PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF KINGSCLERE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone who attended the FKS Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Saturday. With special thanks to The Vine in Hannington, Bill's of Newbury and Castle Window for supplying the raffle prizes.

Our School Summer Fair is on Saturday 24th June, starting at midday. This year the theme is 'Fun at the Farm'; there'll be Donkey Rides, Bouncy Castle, Face Painting, Fun Games with great prizes, a fantastic Raffle plus cakes, ice creams and a BBQ with delicious produce from The Village Butcher. We will also have performances from local groups and much, much more. So make sure you come along and enjoy all the fun of the fair!!

And don't miss our Campout with Kingfest on Sat 15th July. Come along and enjoy the bands, a hog roast and camp for the night in the school field. More details to follow!!

### Dates for your diary

Fri 19th May - Bags 2 School

Sat 24th June - School Summer Fair

Sat 15th July - Campout & Kingfest

Rachel Knight

### Calling all Monty Python Fans!

The Basingstoke Amateur Theatrical Society  
are staging their production of

# MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT™

at the Haymarket Theatre, Basingstoke  
from Tuesday 16th to Saturday 20th May

This hilarious musical, based on the film  
Monty Python and the Holy Grail,  
has words and music by Eric Idle.

Performances 7.30 p.m nightly  
and a Saturday Matinee at 2.30 pm.

Tickets for the opening night at a special low price of £18.00

Other performances £23.50 (£15.00 for under-16s)

Box Office: Tel.01256 844244

[www.bats.net/productions](http://www.bats.net/productions)

St Mary's Church are delighted to be working with Kingsclere Primary School to bring

### ISing POP

to the village in June. This is a singing and recording project which will involve the whole school taking part in workshops during the week, learning pop songs based on Christian Values. Once they have learnt the songs, the children will then get the opportunity to produce their own album. The project finale will be a series of concerts in St Mary's on Friday 16th June. All are invited to come along to the concerts!

Year R to 4 at 10-11am

Year R, 1, 2, 5 & 6 at 2-3pm

Year 3,4,5 & 6 at 6-7pm

Tickets will be available nearer the time – look out for more details nearer the time.



### **Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby and Toddler Group**

Welcome! You do not need to have had your baby to join us – come along to as many sessions as you want to before his or her arrival. Once your baby is here, we have a protected baby area with bouncy chairs, rugs and baby toys for them to use, as well as toys and activities, both indoor

and outdoor, for older babies and toddlers.

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

**When:** Every Tuesday, 9am-11am

**Cost:** First visit free. After that, £1 for bumps and unweaned babies. £2 for first child (including snack donated by Swan St Stores) and 50p for additional children.

We would love to expand our group with new friends and we promise to make you feel welcome and offer any support you may need.

Do search “Kingsclere Village Bunnies” to find us on Facebook – we also have a Preloved page on which you can buy, sell and give away items locally.

**Rachel Kirby**



### **Foresters Friendly Society**

The Foresters will be visiting Kew Gardens on Saturday 17th June 2017.

The coach will leave The Square, Kingsclere at 9.00 a.m.

If you would like to participate please contact Eric Fowler, 2 Medway Close, Thatcham, Berks. RG18 3AU or telephone 01635 863765.

# BUSY BEES

ESTABLISHED SINCE 1983



### **Busy Bees Pre-school (Kingsclere)**

Our Mad Hatters Easter Tea Party was a great success. with delicious food and a lovely afternoon hunting for eggs. Thank you for your support.

Busy Bees have applied for a Local Infrastructure Grant to make some urgent improvements to The Scout Hut. We have reached the second round and have a good case. After twenty years of community use the flooring inside needs replacing. The outside fencing is only being held up by hay-bales and tyres; it also needs replacing urgently. The local cat population has taken to using our bark-covered area as their outdoor litter tray. This may seem amusing, but it poses a serious health risk for young children and pregnant mothers. So we need to replace the bark chips with a more appropriate rubberised flooring.

The Scout Executive Committee and our local Borough Councillor, Ken Rhatigan, fully support our grant application, as the improvements will benefit all Scout Hut users.

To support our application, we need to collect as much evidence as possible from the community, so please spare a few moments to complete our survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/P56W7BJ>

Alternatively, you can email any statements of support to Busy Bees Chairperson, Claire Ellis at [claireellis.email@gmail.com](mailto:claireellis.email@gmail.com).

We thank you in advance for your support and will keep you updated.

**Claire Ellis**

## The Rec

The Dell Recreation Ground, to use it's proper name, or "the Park" as some people call it has belonged to the people of Kingsclere since 1845.

Kingsclere was one of the last parishes in Hampshire to retain open fields which are not a particularly efficient agriculture. In 1843 there were still 2000 acres mainly concentrated in the valley where the stables are and including Dell Hill. That year an act for General Enclosure for Kingsclere was passed and the Parliamentary Commissioners supervised the break up of the open fields into smaller ones enclosed by hedges. This was done by 1845.

Above the Dell a piece of land was allocated to the residents as The Pleasure Ground. It was held in trust for the people and when the Parish Council was formed in 1894 the members became the trustees of the charity, which they still are today.

Originally it was maintained by sheep grazing but it was later maintained by the farmer at Brimley Hill Farm who managed it as a hay meadow. The top of the ridge was levelled in the 1960s to create a football pitch for the Saturday and Sunday Teams leaving the southern part as a meadow. It was no longer required for hay so the trustees decided to manage it as a wildflower meadow. This means cutting it once or twice a year and carting away the cut vegetation. The meadow is rich in plants and especially cowslips, pyramid orchids, yellow rattle and knapweed broomrape.

In the 1970s it was designated as a village green which protects it as a public open space. Traces of the old open field plots can still be seen.

**Peter Woodman**

## Kingsclere Youth...could more facilities be provided?

Can our community do more to nurture the excellent potential of youthful energy?

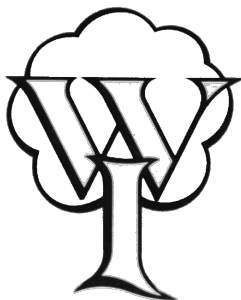
Some incidents of anti-social behaviour have occurred recently. I write to suggest renewed debate as a route to urgent planning and action. We are rightly proud of the many clubs and activities already provided for our young people but they deserves the widest possible publicity, over and above the current use of social media. Increased advertising in The Tower and perhaps contributions to Newbury Weekly News would be useful.

Insurance paid after the Youth Club fire of 2005 amounted to £140,000. It still seems to be available. Those who could benefit from it ought to help the Trustees find affordable ways of spending it. Ideas such as a 'Youth Shelter', a special room at the Fieldgate centre and an all-weather rink for scooters have so far not materialised. (Some were too costly). We need an urgent start to enable our youngsters to feel valued and their needs addressed. Perhaps a 'Teens' Facilities Focus Group' could be set up to work with the Youth Club Trustees on projects for the near future. Who is the teenager who could represent their ideas? It would only need one interested family to set the ball rolling!

The future belongs to our young people. Let us create a new mechanism to enable them to make more positive contributions to their own lives the life of our village. I do not foresee a future role for myself in this but Pat O'Leary has kindly offered to help me coordinate any immediate suggestions or offers. I also suggest further discussion through next month's Tower please.

Our local police need information to help them look after the welfare of Kingsclere. You can reach them easily through 101. Please do not hesitate to call them about any incident of an anti-social nature or other information to help them help us.

**Tom Sneyd, Swan Street. (tom@evib.net)**



## KINGSCLERE & HEADLEY WOODLANDS W.I.

Our Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th May, starting at 1.30 p.m. This is a business meeting only, with the chief purpose of electing the officers – President, Treasurer and Secretary – as well as the committee members for the coming year, which starts

in June.

A printed programme for the year to 9 May 2018 will be distributed at our next regular meeting, on Wednesday 14th June 2017. I can reveal that the speaker then will be an experienced craftswomen, who will present spinning, weaving and various types of fabric. More details in the next issue of the Tower.

Although there is no speaker at the Annual Meeting, visitors are welcome, as always, and the £2 charge includes tea.

**Nova Saunderson Tel. 01635 299570**

## HANNINGTON W.I.

Open evening on Thursday 1st June at 7.30pm Hannington Village Hall  
Your last chance to hear Aaron Phipps, paralympic athlete, address a W.I. audience.

Aaron was part of the British national wheelchair rugby team in the 2012 Paralympics. As a teenager, he was keen on rollerblading and skateboarding, as well as sports like basketball. But aged 15 he suddenly contracted both meningitis and blood-poisoning. After being in a coma for two weeks, he had to have both legs and most of his fingers amputated. How he overcame all this and achieved success in Olympic sport is an inspiring story.

Donations to the Meningitis Research Foundation.

**Maggie Hughes maggiehughes11@gmail.com**

## THE KINGSCLERE TOWER DIRECTORY

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Police Enquiries/Information **non Emergency 101**  
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**North Hampshire Hospital, Basingstoke** 01256 473202  
**Kingsclere & Ashford Hill with Headley Care Group:**  
General Enquiries 01635 298794 *Transport only* 07880-658187  
**Parish Council:** 37 George Street (see page 2) 298634  
**Dial-a-Ride** 01256 462101  
**Churches:** *see contact details within Church Pages inside*

Bas & Deane	01256 844844	Cub Scouts	298413
Buses	0845 121 0180	Girl Guides	299875
Trains	0845 748 4950	Kingsclere Library	0300 555 1387
Gas Emerg.	0800 11999	Post Office	298211
S.Electric	0845 770 8090	Vet	29557 or 40565
S.Water	0845 278 0845	Dentist	0844 576 9339
Busy Bees	297576	Fieldgate Centre	298497
Chemist	298419	Village Club	297913

## BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

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## COUNTY COUNCILLOR

**Keith Chapman** 0118 9700831 [keith.chapman@hants.gov.uk](mailto:keith.chapman@hants.gov.uk)

## MP for N.W Hampshire:

**Kit Malthouse** 01264 401401 [kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk](mailto: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)**