

The Kingsclere Tower



August 2022

Your Village Magazine

The Kingsclere Tower

EDITORS: Mike Stokoe & Stephen Steare
 ADVERTISING: Brian Elborn b.elborn345@btinternet.com tel 298704
 DISTRIBUTION: Brian Elborn tel 298704
 ASSEMBLY: Andrew Kitch tel 299743
 PRINTERS: Kingsclere Design and Print
 LAYOUT/COVER: Cathy Williams

Schools Out! The showers of June have yielded to settled, sunny and hot weather for July and, if long term forecasts are to be believed, into early August.

We are so fortunate to live in a community nestled within beautiful surrounding countryside, and weather permitting to be able to walk the paths within our parish and beyond. We also are lucky to have green spaces aplenty to enjoy within the village, including the playing fields and recreation grounds, the allotments, the Wild Flower Meadow at the top of Recreation Ground, the Community Orchard, and the lake at Wells Head.

If you value and/or enjoy our green spaces, please consider helping to develop and keep them well managed. Volunteers are needed to manage the Malthouse Open Ground (behind St Mary's Church) and to clear and maintain our Parish Paths; please see the relevant articles inside for more information. Enjoy the last month of summer, whatever you do.

The Editor

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

To all "Tower" Contributors

**Copy for September 2022 to the Editor at kingscleretower@gmail.com
 NOT LATER THAN 12th August 2022.**

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

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

Kingsclere Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr John Sawyer (297221)
Email: clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk
Telephone: 01635 298634
Office: 37 George St, Kingsclere RG20 5NH
Public Opening: Office is currently closed to public



KINGSCLERE'S ANNUAL REPORT 2022 – Thank you to all those village organisations who have contributed to this year's report. It will be with you shortly, if not already delivered. Please do contact the office and let us know if you haven't received your copy by the end of August, however it can also be viewed on our website.

VOLUNTEERS FOR TREE WARDEN ROLES AND THANK YOU - The village currently has two volunteer tree wardens who will be leaving their roles in the Autumn. We thank them for all they have done for the Parish and wish them well. Therefore we are now hoping that new volunteers will come forward and offer support for this scheme. The Tree Wardens scheme was set up by the Tree Council in association with local councils who appoint voluntary tree wardens to gather information, give advice, and encourage practical projects relating to trees in the community. No experience is necessary - just enthusiasm for trees and the local environment. Tree Warden tasks include being eyes and ears for the Parish Council on anything tree related, checking applications for work on trees with Tree Protection Orders (TPOs) or in conservation areas, doing surveys of trees and hedges, tree planting schemes and really anything else that the Tree Warden feels might be useful to the parish. If you would be interested in becoming a Tree Warden, please contact the Parish Council.

WORKING GROUP / SUB COMMITTEE HELP - We are always looking for people to support council activities such as the newly formed Neighbourhood Plan Review Group, and we have other improvement work such as the Malthouse Open Space, the Recreation Ground and on the Holding Field. Please get in touch with a Councillor or the office if you can help or would like to find out more.

GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING – The collections dates are Wednesday 10th and 24th August, and 7th September 2022.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – The Parish Council do not meet in August but can be contacted on the details above. Therefore the next Full Council Meeting will be at 7:30 pm on Monday 26th September 2022, 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.

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



@kingsclerepc



facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil

Kingsclere Neighbourhood Plan



The Neighbourhood Planning Group is due to meet again on 1st August. We are currently looking at possible potential sites, data supporting environmental policies, and the implications for Kingsclere of Basingstoke & Deane's Water Cycle Study. Notes of meetings are published as appendices to the Parish Council minutes which can be viewed on the Parish Council website.

Basingstoke & Deane's Economic, Planning & Housing Committee met on 9th June. The Spatial Strategy paper (which allocates additional housing throughout the Borough) was rejected as premature before further debate can take place on the case for lowering the overall housing number. The recently published Water Cycle Study and Transport Assessment also need to be considered. The Strategy allocated 18,000 houses up to 2039 in the Borough.

By the time you read this, the drop-in consultation for the proposed Porch Farm development would have taken place and the closing date for comments on proposals passed. If you wish to see all responses and documentation relating to this proposed development please log onto Basingstoke & Deane's planning portal and enter the application number 22/01856/FUL.

We will continue to keep residents updated on developments as they happen so please keep checking the Parish Council web site and Facebook for further updates and the Local Plan review.

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

Watership Down Health



As we come through the pandemic and adapt our services to meet the growing needs we want to remain resilient. It has felt pretty tough recently for everyone. Our vision and values are unchanged:

Our Vision: To work in partnership with our patients and communities to improve health and well-being.

Our Core Values:

Respect – our patients and our colleagues: Please always be considerate to our reception team – they are on your side and trying to help you.

Encourage – our patients to take responsibility for their own health: Have you considered other ways of accessing advice and help through our website <https://watershipdownhealth.com> or the Healthier Together app for children? Do you have online access to review your results and order your medication? Have you given us 5 days notice for your prescription?

Support – our patients and colleagues to achieve the best health outcomes possible: We are offering face to face, video and telephone appointments. We will have a reduced capacity over the summer due to the departure of Dr Bartlett and Dr Rial, and holidays. We are trying to recruit, but so are many surrounding practices. Dr Gemma Lahiff is returning from maternity leave in August and Dr Rebecca Maynard in September.

When you contact the surgery, you may be offered an appointment with a member of our **Primary Care Network team**, working across both Watership Down Health and Tadley:

Clinical Pharmacists (Maddie Teo, Hafeeza Ayuoob, and Zara Khan) can help with medication questions and reviews.

Pharmacy Technicians (Alison Cuthill and Beatrice Hodges) support us with medication reconciliation after out-patient appointments or admissions.

Social prescribers (Tracey Powell and Stephanie Nelson) can help you with accessing support from other agencies.

Health & Well-being Coach (Jo Potz-Rayner) can help with support on diet and exercise.

Mental Health Team includes Paul Johnson (Mental Health nurse) who has daily appointments for those in need of mental health advice. Lisa Holley (Health & Well-being Coach) and Eva Alvarez-Ruis (Mental Health Support Worker) for adults and Hannah Barrow (Youth Mentor) are in once a week for advice.

Musculoskeletal First Contact Practitioners/Physiotherapists

Russell Burwood and Jessica Harrison-Crowley are in weekly to see any patient over 18 with joint problems.



The Fieldgate Centre
Kingsclere Community Association
Your community, your place

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

Summer Holiday Fun & National Playday

10 am - 2 pm on Wednesdays

Starts 27th July

FREE play activities for children **age 4 - 10 yrs.**

Inflatable Fun & Games Shed of Stories Bubble Play
Craft Nature Trail and more!

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Grants from Greenham Trust, Arnold Clark Foundation and Hampshire County Council have enabled us to run the playdays.

Monthly Meet-Up

We will take a break in August and start again on **Tuesday 20th September 2.30 - 4.30pm** with a tea party in aid of the Macmillan cancer support charity. Need transport? Call and we'll try to help.

Jan Jack's Comedy Club Premiers at The Fieldgate Centre Saturday 24th September

Have you bought your ticket yet? An entire evening of live/stand-up comedy brought to you by compere Jan Jack. Hurry! Tickets £15 available now from www.ticketsource.co.uk Over 18s. Bar Open. Interval.

Details of venue hire, classes and social events, are on all our website.

email: fieldgatecentre@outlook.com

telephone 01635 298497

www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk

Kingsclere Gardening Association

Our next event is
58th Annual Show, Sunday 21st August 2022
at The Fieldgate Centre, Kingsclere 2 - 4.30pm

I wrote quite a long article last month with lots of details on how to enter the Show. We would love as many of the good people of Kingsclere and surrounding areas to “have a go” and enter an exhibit or three into the show. The last day for entries is Thursday 18th August 22, unless the class is an “Entry on the day”.



We will have trade stalls with handcrafted items and gifts at the Show and plant sales. More information will be published on Facebook. If you would like a stall at the Show, please get in touch.

If you would like to enter, please contact:
Laura Butler on **07770 614971** or email **laura@ro-jen.co.uk**

We look forward to seeing you there.

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.



We continue to work hard to find ways to Reduce, Refill and Re-use.

We are hoping to have our Repair Café up and running very soon and we continue to have more and more stall holders who are keen to be part of our markets.

Our next market is on **Sunday September 4th** and in addition to the many varied stalls, we will again have our sharing stall for plants and vegetables and will also be collecting bras, blister (pill) packs, batteries, printer cartridges (originals not compatibles) and milk bottle tops for recycling. We look forward to seeing you there!



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

Kin^{clere} Sin^{gers}

Summer Event Cancellation

Unfortunately we had to cancel 'Tribute to Broadway' in July due to an outbreak of COVID in the choir. We are looking to reschedule in October. Please look out for more information on:
www.kingsclere-singers.co.uk and our Facebook page.

Kingsclere Twinning Association

Thank you to all who supported us and came to cheer on their ducks in our Platinum Jubilee Duck Race. Over 400 ducks competed to win cash prizes, including the top prize of £50; we look forward to seeing the ducks back in racing form in 2023!

All are welcome to our **AGM at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 14th September** at the **Holding Room** in the **Village Club**. Join us for a glass of wine and nibbles to hear about this year's activities, and share any ideas you may have for future social events.

We always welcome new members. Why not consider joining in 2022-2023? Annual membership is £5 per adult and includes reduced admission prices to most of our events, free monthly French conversation/class (from beginner to conversational level), and the opportunity to visit Cormicy in the beautiful Champagne region of France. For details please contact:

kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk or tel **Sue Watson on 01635 298940**

Kingsclere Twinning Association



Kingsclere Film Club

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

The Big Sleep (1946 - A - 114 minutes)

Private detective Philip Marlowe is hired by a wealthy family. Before the complex case is over, he's seen murder, blackmail, and what might be love.
Stars Humphrey Bogart & Lauren Bacall.

Next Month: **Saturday, 10th September 2022 - Film stars don't die in Liverpool (2017)**

Kingsclere Film Club welcomes guests at £7.50, subject to space. New members welcome at any time.

For further information call:

John Sawyer (Chairman) 297221 or **Diana Tait (Membership Sec.) 298494**

Kingsclere Community Library



Summer Reading FUN Begins **Saturday 23rd July!**

All children are invited to join our **FREE** Summer Reading Programme. Sign up and get a free Summer Reading **FUN** T-Shirt, read six books over the summer and win a medal, certificate and a prize.

We are also still offering a free Jubilee Library bag to any child who signs up as a member of the library, but it is first come - first served and they are going fast!!

Remember your library is **FREE** to join and use! We have a public computer with internet access available to you, plus of course books on all subjects to borrow.

Our **AGM** will be held at **7.30 pm on Tuesday 6th September** in the Library.

HOURS

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

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

Kingsclere Players

Monthly Social Meet Ups



We would like to invite anyone interested in joining our social evenings for a chance to meet new people and look at ways to get involved in the most entertaining group in the village. Anyone interested in learning new skills (production, direction, acting, scene painting, costume making, lighting and music) or participating in a community group are welcome to join. Our next social meet up is on the **14th September, 7:30 pm** at The Crown.

The Malthouse Open Ground

“A THING OF BEAUTY IS A JOY FOR EVER”

We tolerate a scruffy thicket of nettles and a pond which is little more than a muddy puddle on the edge of our cherished, envied village centre. We could easily(?) do better. I continue to promote the vision of the neighbour who so warmly welcomed me to Kingsclere, Barry Side, who lived here for some 30 years and left his stamp with Phoenix Court and other village assets. He wished “The Malthouse Open Ground” to become a “jewel in the crown” for Kingsclere. The general look of this area has already been improved in line with this vision. The hedge bordering the churchyard has gone, trees manicured and the steep slope is grassed and mown.



Up-to-date professional recommendations exist to make further improvements to the ecology of the bank of the Gailey Brook. These include planting wildflowers and construction of a small weir to raise the water level in the pond by a foot or so to reduce weed growth. There is scope to refine these suggestions. £3,000 has been promised towards costs.

The CEO of The Greenham Trust has said that a project of this sort could expect at least 50-50 match funding and perhaps free expert technical advice. Seemingly, we can count on £6,000 already.

Next Step: Please will a few people volunteer to take this forward? (not me). I am pleased to read, in the July Tower, the Chairman of the Parish Council asking residents to form Working Groups to help with projects including the one described above. I am also pleased that he has taken on the only role I had seen for myself; that of gathering names for what we should perhaps call “The Gailey Brook Project”. Barry Side’s vision is a vision for us all. Passive backing is not enough. I hope that anyone taking this invitation up will let me know. Proof that action is in hand.

Tom Sneyd email: tom.sneyd.kingsclere@gmail.com tel: 07340 613419

The Church Pages



A Sporting Summer

I think that by the end of this summer even the most committed sports fan will have had enough. As I write the tennis is in full flow at Wimbledon, and England’s cricketers have completed another record breaking run chase to win a Test Match against India. When you read this the Women’s Euros football championships will be drawing to a close as will the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, by which time the new football season will have begun - and so it goes on.

Of course, the great thing about being a sports fan is that it makes few demands. Sitting in the comfort of an armchair or even watching in the stadium does not require too much effort. Now if I were to take part that would be different. The footballers, tennis players and Commonwealth athletes will have trained hard, sweated and strained to reach the peak of performance at just the right time. Producing their best on the big stages requires practice, training and determination. Natural, God-given talent has to be developed, trained and applied.

The sporting life has sometimes been used to paint a picture of the Christian life. For example, the Bible urges us ‘to run with perseverance the course marked out for us’, to train, and to rid ourselves of things that hinder us. Following Christ is not a spectator sport, it is not an individual sport and neither is it competitive. It involves training, dedication and discipline but it cannot be done alone – it requires the help, support and encouragement of others and there are rewards for all who take part. We run the race together and as we run we learn from one another, we take encouragement from those who have run the race before us and we have the assurance of Christ’s presence with us as we run.

Peter Bennett (Methodist Minister)

St Mary's Church

Worship in our Churches

August

Services in our churches will be as follows:



	9.30am St Peter's, Headley	10.30am St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thur 4th		Morning Worship
Sun 7th	Holy Communion	Holy Communion with Junior Church
Thur 11th		Morning Worship
Sun 14th	Morning Worship	All-Age Worship
Thur 18th		Morning Worship
Sun 21st	Morning Worship	Morning Worship with Junior Church
Thur 25th		Morning Worship
Sun 28th	Holy Communion	Morning Worship with Junior Church



St Mary's Church - Saturday Coffee

In the Kingsmill Room, St Mary's Church. Freshly brewed coffee, tea and delicious homemade cakes. All welcome – please do pop in!

August 6th, 13th and 20th

10.00-12.00

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

Lighting up St Mary's

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

To book, contact Emma, our Church Administrator on **07422 687125** or email: **administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk**



July

21st To celebrate the marriage of Andrew and Nicky Freeman as well as the 60th wedding anniversary of Don and Jane Freeman

August

5th My darling Mark Bassett who died 7 years ago today. And our darling patterjack Rocket who died recently. Rocket was a short walk through our lives and we were a long walk through his. Love and miss you Mark and Rocket. Amanda

5th In memory of David, much loved husband, dad and grandad on his birthday, from all the Sanders family.

31st In memory of Janet Lavina Cox on your birthday. Always in our hearts and minds. Love from all the family

Kingsclere Methodist Church

Services for: August

Sunday 7 th August	Rev Peter Bennett
Sunday 14 th August	Malcolm Stone
Sunday 21 st August	Rev Canon Jill Bentall
Sunday 28 th August	Rev Roger Larkinson

Services start at 10am and all are welcome

We also have a coffee morning every Thursday 10.30 - 12 am.

Our Hall is also available for hire. Please see back cover for hall hire details.

Christine Westcombe email **c_westcombe@hotmail.com**

Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Ltd

Planning for our special visit to **Headley Flower Garden** on **Saturday 10th September** is now well advanced, and full details will have been circulated to all Friends by the end of July. Should there be any untaken tickets for the twenty places allocated for each of the two sessions on the day they will then be made more widely available, with full details of the programme and how to apply for tickets appearing in next month's Tower.

For membership enquiries and further information on this event in the meantime please email us at fosmkingsclere@gmail.com.

We look forward also to the **Swedish Staycation with ABBA Tribute Band** (see below) and to the several times deferred '**Biennial**' Art Exhibition; two very different events, both likely to be popular!

Peter Turner, Chairman

Swedish Staycation

THURSDAY 27th OCTOBER

Fasten your seatbelts – we are off to Sweden!

Friends of St. Mary's are in the process of organising another STAYCATION. This time we are off to SWEDEN. The 'Flight' leaves at 12 noon from the Village Club. Check-in from 11.45 am. A two-course meal and drinks will be served (special diets can be catered for if notified in advance). There will be after lunch entertainment in the form of an ABBA tribute duo. Feel free to wear your Abba costumes!

Places are limited, so be sure to book early to avoid disappointment.

Tickets £15.00 each.

Andrew or Pam Kitch 01635 299743 pamkitch16@gmail.com



FOSM 200 Club

The July Draw winner was Freda Savin – No. 68

Congratulations, Freda.

The August Draw will take place at The Crown at approximately 7 pm on
Tuesday 2nd August.

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

Kingsclere Cancer Research Fundraiser: Update

The pace is really picking up now!

The event itself, a black tie dinner and disco at Sandford Springs on Friday 2nd September, is sold out. However, we are delighted to invite you to join in with our Silent Auction, which will run online and at the event simultaneously.

At the time of writing we have a huge range of 50+ prizes available thanks to the generosity of local, national and international businesses. You can also purchase CRUK branded T-shirts and other items via the auction site – these are exclusive items not generally available to the public, but anyone with our link can buy them whilst stocks last.

Bidding and purchasing is open to absolutely anyone via the link or QR code provided here - you do not have to be at the event to join in. The auction site will be live at 9pm on Friday 19th August and bidding will end at 9pm on 2nd September. Auction website:

<https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/kingsclerecancerresearchfundraiser>



So many lovely people are still asking us how they can support – the auction is how. Every penny raised goes to Cancer Research UK. Cancer affects 1 in 2 of us and the importance of the work of CRUK cannot be overstated.

Thank you, Kingsclere, for your phenomenal support. We'll be back with a fundraising total in October's Tower.

Amanda, Beccy, Claire and Sean <http://kingsclerecrf.org.uk>

Poppy Appeal 2022



It is with great pleasure that I'm taking up the responsibility of District Poppy Appeal Organizer, and I would like to extend a big thank you to Tracy Holden for her hard work over the last two years.

It has been a hard passage these last three years, and for those of us who have suffered or lost close friends or family, I send my deepest sympathies. If there is any information or anything else you need for the Remembrance time please get in touch, the sooner the better as it makes for easy planning and ordering.

Mike Carrington 01635 299699 sf49ers1947@btinternet.com

The Ship Inn Arts Centre

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

Music of the Celtic Nations Saturday 17th September 2022 7pm – 9pm

Paul Hancock and Mark Turauskis play instrumental music from the Celtic nations (Ireland, Scotland & Wales). They first started playing together in 1980, and became resident performers at The Cap and Gown folk club in Reading and The Nettlebed folk club in Oxfordshire. In 1981 they had their first major exposure when they became South of England busking champions. This led to radio and TV appearances and write ups in all the major music and entertainment magazines of the time. They will be joined by singer, songwriter and concertina player Sarah Daniels, mother of the internationally famous melodeon player Luke Daniels.

Paul Hancock - Uilleann pipes, tin whistles, low whistle.
Mark Turauskis - Bouzouki, bodhran and vocals
Sara Daniels - Concertina, guitar and vocals

Tickets £12 direct from **The Ship on 0118 981 4504**, or from Eventbrite. Visit <https://shipinnarts.org/> for up to date information on concerts.

Kingsclere & Headley Woodlands W.I.

Kingsclere Village Club, 35 George Street



What weather we are having in July, it's hot! Our speaker in July was certainly all we would wish for. It was her first WI speaking event and we hope that she enjoyed visiting us as much as we enjoyed her visit and talk.

August is the one month of the year when we don't have a monthly meeting (we must hold 11 meetings a year), so this month we are doing what all our ladies enjoy and that is going out for lunch. Some might think that is all we do and why not, if it is an enjoyable occasion, as it always is! So, on the 10th August we will be donning our glad rags and meeting up for lunch.

September, when it comes, will be a chance to say what other activities members have done during the summer.

Enjoy the sunshine, everyone.

Margaret Geary, President tel 01635 297197



KINGSCLERE VILLAGE CLUB Est. 1921 100 years and counting...

Charity 1189234

A Midsummer Night's Dream

As in the Bard's day, Festival Players International will be performing with an all-male company of skilled professional actors, and invite you to share in the colour, poetry, and magical mayhem of this unique and amazing play.

Saturday August 27th, performance starts 7:30 pm

£15 performance only or £22.50 with picnic beforehand. Tickets from Helen (below) or www.wegotickets.com/event/551158



Brian Sopp

Secret Spitfires

The incredible story of how Spitfires were made after the factory was flattened by the Luftwaffe in September 1940. Alan Matlock from the **Spitfire Makers Charitable Trust** tells the human story of the attacks on the factory.

After an interval for food and a trip to the bar, the **Secret Spitfires** film continues the saga with first-hand accounts of how the manufacture was continued in secret locations. **Friday 9th September 7pm.** Tickets £19, including 2-course meal, from Helen (below) or www.wegotickets.com/event/551155

GrEENAppeal

Reducing our carbon footprint and improving the heating. Our JustGiving page has gone live: <https://checkout.justgiving.com/c/3308045>. Every little helps!

An Invitation

Please join us on **Saturday 3rd September, 10am** for an informal meeting to find out what your Village Club has been doing this past year and our plans for the future. Find out more about our work to preserve this historic part of Kingsclere.

Community Café: Please note, there will be no café this month.

Helen 297390 or events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk
<http://www.kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk> or www.facebook.com/kingsclerevillageclub

August In The Garden

With the changeable weather this year the gardens have been amazing. As I write this article the sun is so hot, but I hope we will have enough rain soon to salvage the autumn flowering plants.

My main concern is the lack of insects in our garden to pollinate, hopefully they are in the hedgerows that have not been cut down this year. The only insect I've seen is the cabbage white butterfly, which is such a nuisance as the caterpillars can be devastating to the brassicas. These need to be removed by hand and can be difficult to be locate.

The only good thing about dry weather is that the slugs go further down in the soil to find moisture, so most of the damage to plants is from snails, and hopefully the birds will feast on some of those.

This is a good time to start looking forward to next year, as now seeds can be collected, dried and stored. Pelargonium cuttings can be taken now. If you have a favorite plant, have a go at taking a cutting; remove any buds, take off the bottom leaves, and pop into horticultural sand. This medium is perfect for cuttings, as they do not need to be fed until the roots have been established, then the cuttings will need soil. The sand can be reused when sterilized.

Keep harvesting crops, if you have the room. Courgettes will give you endless supply. French and Runner beans need to be picked regularly, onions should be ready, also apples and pears. This is when a freezer is useful; fruit and vegetables can be frozen to be enjoyed in the winter months.



Courgette

With the increased cost of fertilizers, the Comfrey plant can be used. Pick the leaves in the morning, place in a bucket with 14 pints of water, cover with a lid, and put a weight on the top. Leave for three or four weeks, strain, and dilute to use; two tablespoons per one and a quarter pints of water. Comfrey can be invasive, but if you have space it could be cost effective.

The flower garden should be looking good. Time for the hydrangeas to flower, and other plants that flower in August are fuchsias, scabious, salvias, dahlias, chrysanthemums, and sweet peas.

Denise Allen

Nature Notes

Mid-July, the makings of a heatwave, deep apple tree shade, no bustle, few birds, they are resting and lying low: the majority are that is. These are those that are coming into moult or renewal of their feathers after the wear and tear of raising a brood. It is a gradual affair which is good otherwise we would be swamped with feathers, and they would be at great risk but as it is they are more vulnerable. Waterfowl seek the shelter of reedbeds and islands. It is said that birdwatchers go on holiday at this time as there little to see. August is a good month for insects and particularly butterflies and bees, flying ants and wasps to keep us amused.



Butterflies on buddleia - left Red Admiral, right Brimstone

A cuckoo was heard at last on July 1st this year. Surely this was very late in the year for this spring migrant. The bird was calling from Monty Don's Garden on Gardener's World programme. This sound was the herald of spring in our childhood and was unheard for the first time. The high-pitched scream of swifts over the village are absent also - the times they are a-changing! On a cheerier note: Blue and great tits have produced numerous chicks and once declining starlings seem to be doing well locally. A local ash tree has been systematically stripped of young foliage by woodpigeons. Four or five birds at a time consume the fresh green growth leaving a very sparse canopy. Oak, sycamore and maple leaves are ignored.

While watching hedgehogs feeding on food provided nightly it was noted that it was followed by a prolonged visit to the water bowl and made one aware of how important a water supply is for them in this very dry period.

Diana Tait and Rod Eldred

Parish Paths Group

It's been a while since our last update. Despite a short break at the beginning of the Covid pandemic the Parish Paths Group have been out most months helping to clear vegetation and to keep our local paths clear and accessible. We are sure that a lot of you will have appreciated this work as our local footpath network formed a vital part of our "entertainment" during the Covid restrictions.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Heath and Alan Denness, who ran the paths group for many years, and also Diana and Rod who have been long-term stalwarts of the group but have now 'retired'. All four of these people were both enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers.



Cottington's Hill

We now meet up approximately monthly on either Sunday mornings or weekday evenings and would certainly appreciate some extra pairs of hands, even if you can only make it occasionally. Please contact us on the e-mail address below to show your interest, and be notified of the next meet dates and times.

Having held the coordination post for several years, we would like to hand over the reins to new blood. So if you are interested in volunteering to support our local community by coordinating the Parish Paths Group then please let us or the Parish Council clerk know.

Ian and Pam Norris kingclereparishpaths@btinternet.com

Kingsclere CE Primary School



We were delighted with our Year 6 children's end of Key Stage 2 SATS results in reading, maths, spelling, punctuation and grammar which the school received at the end of the academic year. The results are significantly above the national average and put the children at higher than our pre-Covid levels, which is a superb achievement for all involved. Writing was internally moderated and assessed and children again achieved higher than national expectations – well done Year 6!



Our Year 2 pupils also took SAT tests and we are incredibly proud of the progress of each and every child – again, many of the results attained were above national averages.

We look forward to inviting the children back to Kingsclere CE Primary School on Monday 5th September. We have lots of exciting events and school improvements already planned for the year ahead, including the ever-popular grounds day activities, Friends of Kingsclere PTA events, developing children's long term memory learning strategies, and further developments to our library area to name a few!

If you are a member of the community who has a few spare hours in the week and would like to volunteer in our school library, we would love for you to contact the school admin. office on admin@kingsclere.hants.sch.uk We will forward you the relevant Disclosing and Barring Service (DBS) paperwork to complete so you are able to support in school.

Mrs Jo Messenger
Acting Headteacher

Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby & Toddler Group

Where: The Village Club, George Street

When: Tuesday, 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



Bunnies have kicked off the summer in style this year with some wonderful events including a cake sale, toy sale and a summer party with bouncy castle!

We now have a wonderful selection of mums, dads, grandparents and child minders with children from tiny babies to energetic toddlers.

We will be closed for the first week in August but look forward to seeing everyone back on the 9th. Older siblings off school are welcome to come and join the fun. Make sure you bring sun lotion and hats for hot weather days as we love playing outside.

Thank you as always to Swan Street Stores for their weekly donation of fresh fruit snack for the bunnies. There is always much excitement when the plates come out!

Keep an eye on our Bunnies Facebook page for information on coming events.

Annette Glauser tel 07749 241415

Wolverton Village Market

The next Market in the Village Hall will be held on **Saturday 6th August between 9.30am and 11am**. Parking is available outside the Village Hall. There will be various Stalls for you to browse including; Crafts, Bric-a-Brac, Handmade Greeting Cards and Candles, Locally produced Honey, Plants, Antiques and Collectables, and Locally made Garden Ornaments. Do come along and maybe find that elusive item you have been looking for!

For further details please contact **Tony or Julia Drake on 01488 608594**



Weaving into the Future

Our weavers weave on historically important looms dating from the late 19th century. Our team of weavers has grown to three: Marie, the Senior Weaver, learned her trade from colleagues who had been employed since the 1920s, and she has now passed on all the tips and tricks of her art to Shannon and Olivia, both textile graduates. Each year, if funding allows, we offer summer-break student internships and this year we're delighted to be able to welcome Polly, Amy and Emma, who are all studying textiles at university.

Summer Holiday Drop-in Crafting for Children

Drop in to our children's Make and Take sessions on 10th and 23rd August, free with Mill admission tickets or valid annual pass. We'll have a selection of craft activities on offer between 10:30am and 12:30pm on both days.

Food Festival, 9th September 2022

Last year's Food Festival set in the grounds of the Mill was hugely successful and so we're bringing it back for a second year. Not only will there be a wide range of stalls packed with delicious food and drink from local suppliers (including The Hampshire Deli, Pizza Polizia, Thai Bites, Crepe Britain, 3parts and Hornet chilli sauce) but there will also be weaving demonstrations, children's craft activities, face painting from Ashley Archer (11am–3pm), and cooking demonstrations and workshops from The Natural Cook Company. The Festival will run from 10:30am–4pm, with free entry.

'Dancing in the Womb' Exhibition, 16th July–4th September

Our current exhibition features the work of Rezia Wahid MBE, a Bangladeshi-born British textile artist and designer whose creations have been exhibited internationally. Rezia produces gossamer-light cloths, taking her inspiration from sources as diverse as Islamic spirituality, Indonesian ikat, Japanese kasuri and the Arts & Crafts movement. She says 'The textiles I weave are more than mere pieces of cloth: they are my journeys, story and feelings. They represent the sanctity, beauty and serenity of nature and light, and are the revival of cultural form and technique with a contemporary approach.'

On 18 August Rezia will be hosting two workshops: one for families and one for adults. See our website for further details. And on 20th August between 2pm & 4pm Rezia will give an outdoor performance including dance, music and poetry readings. Free admission.

www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk

THE KINGSCLERE TOWER DIRECTORY

POLICE, FIRE or AMBULANCE

Police Enquiries/Information

Emergency 999

non Emergency 101

Kingsclere Health Centre:

01635 296000

North Hampshire Hospital, Basingstoke

01256 473202

Parish Council: 37 George Street (see page 2)

01635 298634

Kingsclere Charities Clerk: Jan Pearce

01635 269184

kingsclerecharities@iname.com

Dial-a-Ride

01256 462101

CHURCH CONTACTS

St. MARY'S CHURCH:

Vicar TBA

Church Warden:

Administrator:

Emma Rivers

01635 299528

administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk

07422 687125

METHODIST CHURCH:

07889 905753

Minister: Rev Rachel Borgars

Rachel.Borgars@methodist.org.uk

01256 895878

Secretary & Hire of Hall Jeanette Billington

01635 297585

ROMAN CATHOLIC:

Rev Patrick Tansey

0118 9814572

tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Bas & Deane

01256 844844

Swan Street P O

01635 297035

Buses

0345 8101000

Vet

01635 297557 or 40565

Trains

0845 748 4950

Dentist

01635 299981

Gas Emerg.

0800 111999

Age Concern Local Agent 0800 3287154

Chemist

01635 298419

Watership Down Health 01635 296000

Kingsclere Library

01635 297464

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Ken Rhatigan 07850 530319

cllr.ken.rhatigan@basingstoke.gov.uk

Stuart Frost 07961 265719

cllr.Stuart.Frost@basingstoke.gov.uk

Kerry Morrow 07422 651172

cllr.Kerry.Morrow@basingstoke@gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Tom Thacker 01264 738464

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