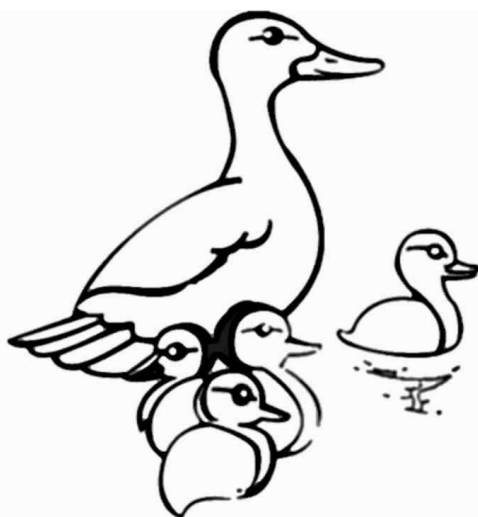


# The Kingsclere Tower



**March 2015**

Your Village Magazine



# T The Kingsclere Tower

Editors	Nicki Lee and Sarah Hewitt	
Distribution	Brian Elborne	☎ 298704
Advertising	Les Wallace, Jada, Union Lane	☎ 298794
Assembly	Janet Sturgess	
Printer	Ted Dunn, Jenny Juniper and Maggie Hiller	
Layout/Cover	James Cruickshank	

Would you like to be part of the dedicated Tower team who collectively get this free magazine out to every household in the village? We are looking for volunteers in a number of areas:

Printing of yellow pages advertisements section: Ted Dunn needs a new assistant to help with this task which typically takes place on 1st or 2nd Thursday of each month. Please contact the editors if interested.

Magazine assembly: although Janet Sturgess currently has enough regular helpers with this task, it would be useful to have some “back-up” volunteers who may be able to help at short notice if the team find they’re short on numbers. Assembling generally takes place on the last Friday morning of each month - and is a very social affair! Why not pop into the Kingsmill room between 10-11am on Friday 27th February to see it all taking shape, or contact Janet on 298079.

Delivery: we need someone to deliver just 8 Tower magazines in the Bear Hill, Winchester Road, Gailey Mill area. If you could help please contact Brian Elborn on 298704 or email [b.elborn345@btinternet.com](mailto:b.elborn345@btinternet.com). Delivery would need to take place on the last Friday of each month, or over the following weekend.

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 April** to the editors at 3 Blue Meadow, Garrett Close  
**[kingscleretower@gmail.com](mailto:kingscleretower@gmail.com) by March 12th**  
*Copy MUST include name, address/phone number*

# Kingsclere Parish Council

**KINGSCLERE PARISH COUNCIL (KPC)**

**Chairman:** Alan Denness (298376)

**Clerk:** Sheila Thompson (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



## PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

If you are thinking of standing as a Parish Councillor in the forthcoming elections, please get in touch with one of the existing Councillors or the Parish Office. There is plenty of information we can provide and lots more on the Internet. Being a Councillor can be very rewarding work and doesn't mean you have to have a great deal of specialist knowledge, you just need the enthusiasm and desire to help. Thank you.

## KINGSCLERE LIBRARY

Good news about our village Library. IT WILL NOT BE CLOSING. Through the combined efforts of your Parish Council and the Village Club Trustees, over twenty volunteers supported with funding from the Parish Council and The Headley Trust will take over the Library on March 31st and start operating on April 7th.

Four volunteers have formed a Volunteer Coordinating Team and training for volunteers has already begun supported by Hampshire County Council Library Services. Initially, opening hours will remain unchanged but will be kept under review. Please support your Library volunteers, and turn their efforts into an example of what COMMUNITY BASED EFFORTS can achieve. More information from the group can be found in this edition of the Tower.

We would like to say a proper thank you to the Staff, particularly Rowena who has worked tirelessly for our Library for many years. There will be a collection for some of the staff and we would be happy to receive your contributions via The Clerk at the Parish Office which is open on Monday and Wednesday mornings between the hours of 9:30 & 11:30.

## OPEN GARDENS 2015

The British Red Cross are appealing for keen gardeners to consider opening their gardens to the public this year. The money earned goes towards helping those affected by crisis. Benefits include: Featuring your garden in their glossy brochure and on their website; a support pack containing everything you will need to help you take part and a season ticket for most Red Cross Open Gardens in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. For more information please contact Jan Treacher-Evans on 02392 894205 or email [jtreacherevans@redcross.org.uk](mailto:jtreacherevans@redcross.org.uk).

**GREEN WHEELY BINS – Collection days for March are: 4th and 18th**

## **KINGSCLERE PARISH PATHS WORKING GROUP**

On Sunday Jan. 25th we had our first meeting for 2015. Thank you to the seven volunteers who turned up. Some of us worked on Footpath 53 that is behind the bungalows on Ash Grove, leading from the end of North Street towards the by-pass. This path had become very muddy due to fallen leaves and also soil washed down from the banks bordering the path. In places this was quite deep, but we were able to clear most of it to reveal a good surface underneath. We have asked Hampshire County Council Rights of Way team to try and clear the path completely. The rest of us took an inventory of all the tools etc. that we use and then we all had a very useful "business/coffee" meeting to discuss future plans! Please, if anyone notices paths that need attention, contact myself or the Parish Clerk.

Resources available to the County Council are now more limited, and our voluntary work on the rights of way is even more important. In Kingsclere we are a small part of the 2,800 miles of the public rights of way network (footpaths, bridleways and byways) in Hampshire. It is vital that we work to keep these open and encourage people to use them; it has been proven that exercise contributes to good physical and mental health.

Next work day is Sunday March 29th at 9.45am at the Village Club, George Street, and more volunteers (especially younger ones!) are always welcome. Heath Denness (Tel 298376 )

### **PRIVATE APPEAL - UPDATE**

Many have asked so I am delighted to report that the appeal to find a long lost relative for a family formerly of the village has been 100% successful. The family who put out the appeal are delighted and wanted to thank everyone who has helped in providing information.

### **NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The next scheduled Ordinary Meeting will be held on Monday 23rd March 2015 at 7:30pm 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.

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

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

#### **How to contact your Councillors**

Borough Councillors: **CATHY OSSELTON** Tel 01635 298774

Mobile 07787 150457, email: [osselc@aol.com](mailto:osselc@aol.com)

**DONALD SHERLOCK** Tel 01256 782925

email: [cllr.donald.sherlock@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.donald.sherlock@basingstoke.gov.uk)

County Councillor: **KEITH CHAPMAN** Tel 0118 9700831

email: [keith.chapman@hants.gov.uk](mailto:keith.chapman@hants.gov.uk)

## KINGSLERE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

At our February meeting we met with representatives from Barton Willmore and landowners of the two sites between Strokens Road, Coppice Road and the A339. We discussed their proposals for 16 and 26 dwellings respectively. In addition we have received confirmation that land at Porch Farm may become available for development. We have engaged our consultants, AECOM (formally URS) to undertake further work on the viability of these three sites.

We will shortly be posting a paper on our website listing all the sites we have considered and the reasons for their exclusion/inclusion in our work to date. Along with the results of consultations over the past 18 months, we hope this will explain why many of the sites previously suggested by residents are unsuitable for development.

For further information see [www.kingsclere-np.org.uk](http://www.kingsclere-np.org.uk) or contact Sue Adams, 01635 299242, [sueadams@madasafish.com](mailto:sueadams@madasafish.com), our Parish Clerk, Sheila Thompson, 01635 298634, [clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk) or give us your questions & comments on Facebook.

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## STEALER at the Fieldgate Centre. FRIDAY 20th MARCH

Playing live in the bar will be Newbury's legendary Rock band playing rock classics uncompromisingly, as they should be played.

Ricky Hicks, lead singer, fifty years in the business, and still as good as ever, has been heading a number of local bands with his distinctive Joe Cocker bluesy voice, since the sixties: Ricky and the Gamblers, Blue Sunset, and Stealer to name a few.

If you enjoy traditional retro Rock n Roll\Blues they will playing free. Everyone welcome

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## Kingsclere Players present....

*Old Actors Never Die.... They Simply Lose The Plot* by Lynn Brittney.

The play is set in a retirement home for elderly theatricals, and revolves around three ex wives of a philandering actor, whose philandering has got him into trouble with the Russian Mafia in London. Will they get him to sign a will ensuring their comfortable lifestyle before the Russian Mafia do unspeakable things to him? A farce which we invite you to come and enjoy.

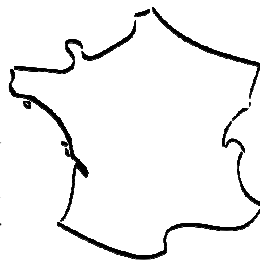
At the Fieldgate Centre at 7.45pm on March 26th, 27th, and 28th.

Tickets available from the Village Butcher, or telephone 07502776914 or email [kingsclere.players@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kingsclere.players@yahoo.co.uk).

## KINGSLERE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

### Dates for your diary

We are delighted to be holding another of our very popular wine tasting evenings on Saturday 7th March at 7:30pm at the Village Club. Tickets are £10 for members and £12 for non-members to include the tasting and 2 course supper, and are available by contacting [kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk) or Sue Watson on 01635 298940. Please let us know if you require the vegetarian option. There will also be a quiz and raffle. Bar available.



On 16 May, we are arranging a Bistro evening to be held at Kingsclere Primary School. This will include a 3 course meal and a free raffle ticket for a bottle of champagne. Tickets are £15 for members and £17 for non-members, available as above.

Membership of the Twinning Association is £5 per household per year and the benefits include reduced ticket prices to social events, free informal French conversation evenings with qualified French teachers, and exchange visits to our twin Cormicy, which is at the Northern end of the lovely champagne region in France.

Our next official visit to Cormicy is from Saturday 24th – Monday 26th October 2015. The proposed programme includes the choice of a visit to a champagne producer or to Reims with a tour of the famous cathedral, a visit to Verdun, and possibly a trip to Lille or Arras on the Monday.

The cost is approximately £95 however we are exploring ways of making this cheaper. Do please let us know by telephone or email if you are interested in going on this visit – this is not a firm commitment at this stage, but does help us with costings.

We look forward to seeing you at the above events.

Email address: [kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk)

Website: [www.sites.google.com/site/kingscleretwinning](http://www.sites.google.com/site/kingscleretwinning)

Telephone Sue Watson 01635 298940

## March 2015 at The Fieldgate

NEW – BOOT CAMP Tuesday 6.30 – 8.00 pm. Open to all from age 16 years. Suitable for men and women.

NEW - NETBALL – Now playing every Monday 7.30pm – 8.30pm on the all weather pitch. Exercise and socialise with an enthusiastic group of local women – contact the centre for details.

NEW – Extended hours for Slimming World meeting from 1st April 5.30-8.30pm

## Some Events in March

- 2nd Meeting of The Royal British Legion. New members welcome. 8.00-9.00pm. Contact: Maureen Martin 299003
- 7th March – Kingsclere Football Club social event in the social area. 7.00-11.00pm
- 14th March Conservative Association Meeting- Meet the local prospective candidate. 9.00am- 12.30pm
- 20th March Back by popular demand the band Stealer FREE entertainment in the social area. 8.00pm
- 26th – 28th March Kingsclere Players production: “Old actors never die... they simply lose the plot”.

## Rugby

21st March – Home to Southampton.

28th March – Away Aldershot

Enquiries: 01635 298497 e-mail: [fieldgatecentre@btconnect.com](mailto:fieldgatecentre@btconnect.com) Follow us on Facebook or see [www.TheFieldgateCentre.co.uk](http://www.TheFieldgateCentre.co.uk) The office is open 10am – 2.00pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please leave a message on the answer phone when the office is closed and we will get back to you.

## Kingsclere Youth Club

We meet on Tuesdays 6:30pm to 8:30pm at the Fieldgate Centre.

Upcoming sessions:

3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Build the food tower/youth club
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Quiz night/youth club
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Bike maintenance session/youth club
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Pizza making/youth club
31 <sup>st</sup> March	Easter themed session/youth club
07 <sup>th</sup> April	Smoothie making/youth club
14 <sup>th</sup> April	Football/sports session/youth club
21 <sup>st</sup> April	Mini Talent show/youth club



The Fieldgate Centre

For more information contact Jason Whiting or Sara McNamara on 07473 897231



## Kingsclere Library

**Author of the Month:** Jojo Moyes was born on 4th August 1969 in London. She studied at Royal Holloway, University of London and Bedford New College, London University. Moyes became a full-time novelist in 2002 when her first book “Sheltering Rain” was published. She continues to write articles for the Daily Telegraph. She is one of only a few authors to have won the Romantic Novelist’s Association’s Romantic Novel of the Year twice: for “Foreign Fruit” in 2004 and “Last letter from your lover” in 2011. She has written 12 romantic novels and 2 novellas.



**Display:** Have you ever wondered who your great grandmother was? Do you enjoy “who do you think you are?” Our display will help you start tracing your own family tree.

The library is situated within the Village Club on George Street Kingsclere and is open:

Tuesday	1 – 5.30pm
Thursday	1 - 5.30pm
Saturday	10.30 – 3pm

**Rowena Hensman, Kingsclere Library Assistant, 0300 603 5631**

## The future of our Library

Great news! Kingsclere will keep its library open which will be run by volunteers. This will be done in partnership with the Village Club, Parish Council, County Library Service and with thanks to Sir Tim Sainsbury at the Headley Trust who has donated funding for premises costs for the first three years! Everyone has really worked together to make sure we keep this valuable service. The volunteers are due to take over from April. While we will all miss the staff’s invaluable help and assistance given over the years – especially Rowena’s dedication – we will do our best to offer you as much as we can. Initially it’s planned to keep to the same hours. Watch the Tower for more information on how we are going forward – it’s early days yet.

There is a committee of Volunteer Coordinators comprised of Jo Baker, Sarah Davis, Susan Earl and Nicki Lee. We plan to start training volunteers during the first two weeks of March. We have the names of some people who have stepped forward but may not have a complete list. Please – if you have previously put your name forward or not – if you are able to volunteer a few shifts per month will you help us out? Please contact [kingsclere-library@gmail.com](mailto:kingsclere-library@gmail.com) or Sarah Davis on 01635 299546.

## **The Basingstoke Canal – Heroes and Villains**

Roger Cansdale has been a leading light of the Basingstoke Canal Society for some fifty years and has been involved in its restoration from the beginning. In his recent talk to the Kingsclere Heritage Association he described the history of the waterway from its inception in the 1770s to its present slightly truncated form. Built to develop trading links between the market town of Basingstoke and London the canal enjoyed mixed success. Opening in 1810 its only really profitable period was fifteen years later when it carried all the materials to build the London and Southampton Railway to Basingstoke, which promptly removed most of the waterway's profitable traffic.

The canal ran through the Aldershot area to the Wey Navigation which linked it with the Thames. In Surrey it climbs through 29 locks from the River Wey to the summit at Frimley. From there it winds round the countryside till it reaches the Greywell tunnel, leading finally to its basin at the foot of Wote Street where Festival Place now stands. Interesting to note that it always suffered from an insufficient water supply, frequently closing in summer.

The 'villains' transpired to be a string of financiers who purchased the canal in the 1800s as a pawn in various fraudulent deals. With their involvement the canal slowly dwindled despite the efforts of the Harmsworth family who were boat builders and barge operators associated with the canal for two hundred years. After the lock gates at Aldershot were blown up by soldiers in the 1940s the canal rapidly deteriorated and was subsequently not included in the nationalisation which formed British Waterways.

The canal's revival came about during the 1960s when a small team set up a society to effect a 'rescue', and began recruiting volunteers and raising large sums of money. Over the next twenty years thousands of people contributed their labour and money and in 1994 the canal was officially reopened as far as the Greywell tunnel. The section onwards to Basingstoke has had to be abandoned because the construction of the M3 and the Ring Road made it impassable. Although now well used, the canal still needs lots of enthusiastic support.

Roger is a confident speaker and he brought the restoration project to life with his intimate knowledge of its history.

**Kingsclere Heritage Association, Peter Woodman**

## Nature Notes

Clearance of scrub, mainly hawthorn and blackthorn has been taking place on local Downs recently so that the area can be grazed by sheep which will ensure that re-growth does not take place. In addition to controlling the spread of these invasive species it will also benefit butterflies and a survey last Summer found Duke of Burgundy fritillaries present in some places. The fire, after several hours of being fed a large number of bushes, grew fierce and it was no surprise to hear and see steam pouring from an adjacent trunk, the sap was actually boiling.

We often walk alongside the Kennet and Avon canal and in late January we had the opportunity to study a lock in depth literally! Restoration work on the Aldermaston Wharf lock required the entire lock to be drained and two gates were removed for repair. Standing on the lockbed is quite an experience and reveals the whole design and working parts from a very different angle. Nearby we discovered a small pond with a group or 'spring' of teal, easily recognised by their gentle whistles and small size. Spring refers to their ability to take off almost vertically from the water. Teal like shallow water and mud to feed in but this little group were performing what we took to be courting rituals.

**Diana Tait & Rod Eldred**



## Village Club Market

The Market continues to flourish. We now have a wool and silk stall, so come and visit us you crafters in the village. We may be able to offer demonstrations in the future.

We have a vacancy for a single Charity stall each month, if interested please contact us.

Many people enjoy the market as a social occasion with teas, coffee and sumptuous cakes. Come and visit us soon, you do not know what you are missing. Lots of stalls. Next Market 28th March 10 am to 12 midday.

**Alan Gore 01635 299118**

## Hook Choral Society Spring Concert

The Spring Concert is entitled 'Serenity' after a work by Ola Gjeilo who is one of the most exciting composers of the 21st century. The programme also includes other beautiful and moving music from Fauré's 'Cantique de Jean Racine' and Parry's 'I Was Glad' to more contemporary pieces by Arvo Pärt, arguably the greatest living composer, as well as works by Harris, Purcell, Rachmaninoff, Rheinberger and Rameau.

The concert will take place at 7.30 pm on Saturday 18th April 2015 at St John's Church, London Road, Hook.

Tickets are £12.00 (concessions £10.00 and accompanied children under 11 free) and will be available from Trees Newsagent, Hook or by calling 01256 882067.

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## St Mary's 200 Club Winners:

January 2015 No 42 Chryssie Green

February 2015 No 27 Sue Adams

Well done Chryssie and Sue

Entries drawn first week of each month, various venues.



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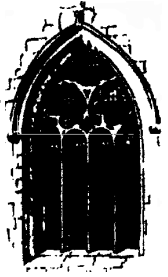


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Contact: 01635 600836 or 07830 742006

email: [info@selectconstruction.co.uk](mailto:info@selectconstruction.co.uk)

# The Church Pages



## Reflections

### In Sadness and Thanksgiving

The Catholic Chapel of Saints Peter and Paul in Swan Street closed on Saturday 31st January, and will now be sold by our Diocesan authorities. Reluctantly, Bishop Philip Egan of Portsmouth accepted the advice that a dwindling attendance and the considerable expense required to establish proper disability access made the closure inevitable.

Kingsclere remains part of Saint Michael's Catholic Parish, centred in Tadley, and the Bishop wishes the good Ecumenical links to continue. Our local Anglican and Methodist friends have been very supportive during this difficult time, and the last non-Eucharistic Service in the chapel was the Kingsclere Unity Service at 4pm on Sunday 25th January. Thus, over 40 years of Catholic presence in the chapel ended in fellowship with our local Christians.

However, in spite of the sadness, there was also a real sense of gratitude to God for these many years – for the many graces received in the building and for the witness given by former parishioners now deceased.

On Saturday 24th January, on behalf of the Bishop, Father Christopher Rutledge, the Dean of the Pastoral Areas of North-West and North-East Hampshire, celebrated a moving Mass of Thanksgiving. This was followed by a fine reception which lasted well into the afternoon!

On Sunday 25th January, the chapel was almost full for the last Mass, with a large number of people from Saint Michael's Church joining the Kingsclere community in a full Sung Mass. All was done well!

Father Patrick Tansey

## Services in March 2015

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	8am	Holy Communion – St Paul’s, Ashford Hill
Lent 2	10.30am	Parish Communion with Junior Church – St Mary’s, Kingsclere
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	8am	Holy Communion - St Mary’s, Kingsclere
Lent 3	10.30am	Second Sunday Service - St Marys, Kingsclere
	10.30am	Holy Communion – St Peter’s, Headley
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	8am	Holy Communion - St Peter's, Headley
Lent 4/Mothering	10.30am	All-Age Worship for Mothering Sunday, St Mary’s
	11.30am	Liturgy of the Eucharist – St Mary’s Kingsclere
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	8am	Holy Communion – St Mary’s, Kingsclere
Lent 5	10.30am	All-Age Worship - St Paul’s, Ashford Hill
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30	Benefice Communion for Palm Sunday with Procession – St Mary’s, Kingsclere
Palm Sunday	6pm	Entering Holy Week, Readings & Music – St Peter’s, Headley
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Eucharist & Vigil – St Mary’s, Kingsclere
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	10am	Ecumenical Walk of Witness & Worship – Kingsclere
Good Friday	2pm	Solemn Worship for Good Friday – St Peter’s, Headley
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	8am	Holy Communion – St Peter’s Headley
Easter Day	9.30am	Easter Day Communion – St Paul’s, Ashford Hill
	11am	Easter Day Communion – St Mary’s, Kingsclere

### ABC services Monday 16th and 30th March, 9.30 am – St Mary’s

#### St. Mary’s Church

(See also back cover)

#### Vicar

Rev. Lucy Thirtle,  
lucythirtle@btinternet.com

**☎ 299489**

#### Churchwarden

Janet Sturgess

**☎ 298079**

#### Churchwarden

Eileen Selsey

**☎ 42962**

#### Methodist Chapel

(See also back cover)

#### Steward

Christine Westcombe

**☎ 298518**

#### Secretary and Hire of Hall

Jeanette Billington

**☎ 297585**

## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting and Revision of Electoral Roll for St Mary's Kingsclere**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is to be held on 22th April 2015. This is the occasion when elections to the posts of churchwardens and the Church Council take place.

In preparation for this the revision of St. Mary's Church, Parish Electoral Roll is due to be completed. The deadline for this year is 29th March 2015.

If you would like to be added to the roll, please visit the Benefice website: [www.clerewoodlands.org.uk](http://www.clerewoodlands.org.uk) and click on Electoral Roll.

Forms can also be found at the back of St Mary's Church. Please complete and return to the Church Electoral Roll Officer, a churchwarden or the Vicar before the deadline.

The requirements for joining the roll are:

- Being baptized and over the age of 16, willing to declare yourself a member of the Church of England AND
- Either resident in the parish
- Or have habitually attended worship in the parish for six months prior to enrolment.

Being on your parish church's electoral roll is a way of demonstrating your willingness to be counted as a member of the church community and committed to its survival and flourishing.

**Chryssie Green – Church Electoral Roll Officer**

### **From the Registers of St Mary's**

**Baptisms**    *We welcome you into the Lord's family*

18 Jan        Jack John Turnbull

1 Feb         Evelyn Rose J Barker

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

16 Jan        Marlene Newport aged 61

### **EMPOWER**

Enjoy God's presence with other members of his family. Experience healing, prophecy and teaching. Led by Rob Gardner of the Vineyard Church, it's at Shoemakers in Newbury at 8:00 pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. Refreshments are provided from 7:30 and all are welcome.

Please join us for a quiz evening with desserts on Thursday 23 April.

Call Kate Pink for more information on 01635 268755 (evenings and weekends).

## **St Mary's – What we do ...Part 2**

Last month I wrote about the church's ministry of prayer in the parish. This month my focus is Pastoral Care. In the course of daily life in the parishes, we all become aware of villagers who are lonely, depressed, bereaved, sick or housebound – or struggling to cope for one reason or another. The church has always sought to minister in such situations by offering one or more home visits with a sympathetic listening ear – and prayer if requested.

These days with the size of the parishes I'm responsible for, it's impossible for this to be done by the Vicar only – and the skills for this ministry are certainly not limited to the ordained. St Mary's has a team of nine Lay Pastoral Visitors who have undergone training and been authorised by the congregation to carry out this ministry on their behalf. This means we are able to respond to requests that come from various sources (Social services; caring agencies, the local grapevine) as well as visit people in hospital.

We are also able to visit those who were once church members who become housebound or even move into residential care if not too far away – Home Communion is also offered and currently 4 people in Kingsclere receive Communion roughly once a month in their homes. Additionally, in a few cases, we are able to offer follow up visits to those who have been bereaved and whose funerals have taken place at St Mary's.

We are hoping to train more visitors later this year so that we can spread more widely. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a visitor from the church on a one off or occasional basis, please do contact me in the first instance.

**Rev Lucy**

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## **St Mary's Guild**

Following the AGM and a very successful Beetle Drive in January, the February event was an enjoyable meal at Sasso's.

Please note a programme and date change: the March meeting is on Tuesday 24 March – a day earlier than usual. Speakers Maggy and Les Wallace on 'The Arctic Circle'.

April meeting Wed. 22 April: 'Pets as Therapy'.

All welcome. Guests £2 per meeting. Meetings start at 2.15 in the King-smill Room, St Mary's Church and always finish with tea and cake.

**Maggy Wallace 298794.**



## Messy Church

We are delighted to announce the return of Messy Church for 2015!

Our first Messy Church for 2015 will be on Tuesday, March 17th from 3:20-5:30pm at Kingsclere Primary School. The theme is "I am the vine" which continues on from our October and December Messy Churches which covered "I am the good shepherd" and "I am the light."

Come and enjoy various activities, hear more about the bible story and then tuck into a home cooked hot meal. All are invited...adults, teenagers, children, carers, families, partners, grandparents.....Everyone is welcome!

You do not have to be a pupil at Kingsclere Primary School to attend, all children are welcome.

Future Messy Church dates for 2015 are:

June 16th

September 22nd

November 24th

If you have any queries or would like to know more please contact Sarah Mussett on 291900 or [sarah.mussett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sarah.mussett@hotmail.co.uk)

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## Lighting up St Mary's

### February

**5th** For Dave Wesson. Remembering a dear friend.

**14th** February Remembering Lillums on her birthday.

### March

**7th** Treasured memories of Karl Anthony Jones on his birthday. Forever in our thoughts Mum, Dad, Beverley and Julian.

**15th** For Sheila and Debbie Swaine. We don't need a special day to remember a wonderful mum and a very special sister, you're in our hearts and thoughts everyday. Mothers Day just make those thoughts more poignant and missing you harder to bear. With all our love today and always Tiggy and Jim xxxx

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). Hand deliveries please use the black post box next to the front door. £12 per evening, discounts available for block bookings and business sponsorship. Cheques payable to St Mary's Kingsclere PCC, gift aid welcome. Deadline for April Tower is March 10th.

**Methodist Notes**

Sunday Services 9:30

**Preachers for March**

- 1 Rev John Beadle (Holy Communion)
- 8 Mrs Christine Thomas
- 15 Rev Carmel Leraci – All age worship
- 22 Mr John Waterer
- 29 Local arrangement

Coffee Mornings every Thursday 10:30 to mid-day. Everyone welcome.

Mid-week Holy Communion March 12 Rev John Beadle

Watch this space next month for Good Friday and Easter Sunday April 3 and 5.

**Ecumenical**

We were so sorry to learn that the Catholic Church in Swan Street closed on January 25. That afternoon we had an ecumenical service for the Prayer for Christian Unity week at St Peter and Paul's Church.

The Well is Deep was based on material provided by the Council for promoting Christian Unity and The Commission on faith and Order of the World Council of Churches. With a dramatisation of St John's gospel, chapter 4 1-42, where Jesus was at the well in Samaria and asked a woman for a drink.

Mass was said for Belgian refugees in the billiard room at The Crown Hotel in 1914.

During the 1939-45 war when the Black Watch were stationed in the area they met in Mrs Coffey's house at 52 Swan Street. When more space was needed for them they went to the Racing Stables. In the early 1960s they purchased the Albert Hall in Swan Street.

**Margaret Ingram**

**KINGSCLERE HERITAGE ASSOCIATION**

Our next meeting, the last of this Winter season, will be on THURSDAY 19th MARCH when Mrs Pat Brockway will give us a presentation entitled " Sir Edward Grey- More than a Politician ".

Pat has written a book of the same title and will give us a sensitive and accurate insight into the character of this interesting man who was Foreign Secretary at the outbreak of the First World War.

At this time of commemoration of the Great War, an opportunity to learn more of pressures of Government at that time.

We meet at the Village Club at 7.30pm and non-members are always very welcome.

**Michael Leah, Hon Chairman 297403**

## **Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Ltd**

As well as the £11,000 already paid or pledged for the stone works recently completed at St Mary's, FOSM have now also agreed to contribute a further sum of nearly £7,000 for additional, urgent, stone & roof repairs, the need for which emerged only during the recent work.

As noted in last month's Tower, the next major phase of works at the Church will entail the complete overhaul of the electrical and lighting systems, the cost estimate for which is very substantial. We have agreed to be responsible for up to 50%, dependent on the availability of other grants and contributions. This will considerably reduce our funds, and we will be working hard to build these up again to help with fabric repairs in future years.

We have yet to finalise this year's fund-raising programme, but the next event is the Plant Sale, in St Mary's Churchyard on Saturday 16th May, from 10 a.m., offering the usual range of flowering perennials, some annuals, salad and other vegetables, and herbs. We welcome any contributions of plants, and of plastic pots: please contact Jane Royle, on 297430.

We are delighted to learn that there is to be another Biennial Art Exhibition in the Church in October. The organisers have in the past generously donated profits to FOSM, and have again kindly offered to hold a special Friends' Preview Evening, with nibbles and a glass of wine, on Thursday 15th October. If this Friends' privilege appeals, and you'd like to join for the modest annual fee of £10, please 'phone Alan Denness on 298376.

**Peter Turner, Chairman**

**Kin<sup>g</sup>sc<sup>l</sup>ere Sin<sup>g</sup>ers** Have a bit of spring fever? Get out this spring and join the Kingsclere Singers for a Feast of Favourites from the Beatles, Beach

Boys and Queen plus some great classics - bringing you two evenings of sensational music.

Friday, 27th March at Tadley St Pauls with Tadley School choir

Saturday, 27th March at Ashford Hill with Park House School and Ashford Hill primary school

Each evening of music starts at 7pm. Fun for the entire family.

Visit [www.kingsclere-singers.co.uk](http://www.kingsclere-singers.co.uk) for more information.

## GARDEN CLUB



Our next meeting is on Thursday March 12th in the Village Club. Meeting starts at 7.30pm.

The speaker for this evening is Mr. Tim Woodland, from Direct Bulbs. His subject Planting and Growing Summer Flowering Bulbs.

Mr Woodland has spoken to us before on autumn bulbs. He brought with him a quantity of bulbs for sale which I anticipate he will do so again this visit, so why not take the opportunity to buy bulbs for this year, there is likely to be a wide variety on offer.

**Competition** Vase/bowl of flowers, container of flowering bulbs, a single stem from the garden, a vegetable, a pot plant other than bulbs.

Sunday April 12th. Spring Show at the Village Club.

**Reminder** Our trip to Bristol University Botanic Gardens. and or the Zoo or just Bristol. Saturday May 9th. Details and booking contact Sylvia Pennington. 01635 298880, we need names by mid April for this to go ahead.

**John Eckton 01256 850017, also the contact for table hire.**

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

We are pleased to announce that the Poppy Appeal in November 2014 raised a grand total of £3,541.45.

A huge thank you to anyone who contributed in any way.

This was up on last year by £250 and makes all the hard work worthwhile to know that our Service families are being supported.

**Maureen Martin, Secretary**

### Artex 15

Art Exhibition

St Martin's School Association is pleased to present  
our 23rd sale featuring the work of over

40 well known and award-winning local artists

Saturday 28th February 2015, 10am to 6pm

& Sunday 1st March 2015, 11am to 3pm

East Woodhay Village Hall, Heath End, Newbury, RG20 0AP

Entrance £2 inc exhibition brochure (children free). Refreshments available. Sale proceeds go to St Martin's School and St Martin's Church

For more information call 01635 253489

[www.artexart.uk](http://www.artexart.uk)

[www.facebook.com/artexart](http://www.facebook.com/artexart)



## THE PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF KINGSCLERE PRIMARY SCHOOL

This month, to coincide with Mothers Day, we will be running an activity in school where pupils can buy a gift for a special person.

The Easter egg hunt will be returning on Easter Saturday (4th April) from 2-4pm. It's a great family event for all the community to participate in, following a map around the village, collecting answers and winning an egg at the end - we hope you can come and join in the fun! See next month's Tower, posters or contact fkscommunity@yahoo.com for more info.

Please visit [www.givingabit.com](http://www.givingabit.com) and by choosing Friends of Kingsclere C of E School (FKS) as your charity, each time you make a purchase from 100s of shops the shop donates money to FKS.

All money raised from FKS events and activities goes towards enhancing our pupils' time at school. Currently we are working on improving the playground equipment as well as funding in school visits related to class topics, a maths day, school trips, sports equipment and much more so please support FKS.

### **Dates for your diary**

Sat 4th April - Easter Egg hunt around the village - all welcome

Sat 27th June - School Summer Fair

**Rachael Knight FKS - Tel: 268160 - e:knightrachael@hotmail.co.uk**

### **Citizens Advice Bureau—Tadley Bureau Opening Hours**

The CAB is open to the public as a drop in service during the following hours.

Monday	10.00 -- 3.30
Tuesday	10.00 -- 1.00
Wednesday	10.00 -- 1.00
Thursday	10.00 -- 3.30
Friday	10.00 -- 1.00

We are also open for appointments only on a Thursday evening at 6pm.

We can provide advice by email – please visit our website [www.basingstokeandtadleycab.org.uk](http://www.basingstokeandtadleycab.org.uk) and fill in one of the enquiry forms.

For an appointment or telephone advice ring our adviceline on 03444 111 306



# Kingsclere Film Club

Saturday, 14 March at 7.30pm in the Village Club, George Street

**TOMMY LEE JONES      JAVIER BARDEM      JOSH BROLIN**

## **NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN**

**A COEN BROTHERS FILM**

(2007 – 15 – 122 minutes)

Won 4 Oscars 2008

Acclaimed filmmakers, Joel and Ethan Coen, deliver their most gripping and ambitious film in this sizzling and supercharged action-thriller.

Next month: Saturday, 11 April – Theatre of Blood

Kingsclere Film Club membership gives access to all films shown each month on the big screen (averaging out at £4.16 per month). Guests are always welcome at £7.50, subject to space.

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

### **ELECTRONIC ENGINEER WANTED**

We have sadly lost the exceptional expertise of Paul Read, a founder member of Kingsclere Film Club, who was able to iron out any gremlins in our equipment and was for years our projectionist. We are able to do the latter, but know we will be very challenged if anything goes wrong with our kit in the Village Club. We would be very pleased to hear from anyone with experience of audio-visual equipment, who would be prepared to assist us in the event of problems with our system.

**John Sawyer – Chairman – Kingsclere Film Club – 297221**

## Fund Raising for St Michael's Hospice, Basingstoke



On behalf of St Michael's Hospice I wish to say a very big Thank You to everyone who has helped raise the following amounts through fund-raising. I collect the loose change boxes every six months and the total amount is about £350 each time. The boxes I collected at the beginning of January raised the brilliant amount of £555, an increase of £200.

The goods you have donated to be sold in the Hospice Shops raised over £600, and the bags of rags, which a firm pays the Hospice £7.50 each for, raised over £700. I am waiting to be told how much the sale of furniture, which many of you donated, has raised. These are all ongoing fund raising ideas to help the Hospice keep open. If you would like to help, please give me a ring.

**Josie Norton 298059**



Enquiries 01256-892019 or [www.andovercats.org.uk](http://www.andovercats.org.uk)  
 Stories of rescued cats: [adrienne.major@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:adrienne.major@hotmail.co.uk)  
 Fund-raising/volunteers [adrienne.major@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:adrienne.major@hotmail.co.uk)  
 Items for resale 01256-892773

If you are a Facebook user be sure to join our group Andover and District Cats Protection, where you will see that our Regional Development Manager, Becky Venning, is doing a skydive to raise money for us. We shall be grateful for any sponsorship, however small. Alternatively, donate by contacting us on our Enquiries number.

In 2014 we found homes for 130 cats, 20 more than the previous year. There are many cats on our waiting list and if we could find more fosterers we could increase this number. We also helped financially with the neutering of almost 300 cats.

Barnaby, last month's cat has found a new home. Our March cat, Obi, is an adorable lad, very friendly and loves a cuddle. He would make an excellent companion for a retired person. He was in very poor condition when he came in but after receiving treatment is much better and Cats Protection would be happy to help with any future veterinary bills.

## Kingsclere PHOTO Club

Presents

Matt Doggett

Wildlife photographer and marine biologist

Weds 4th March

At Sandford Springs Golf Club, A339, Kingsclere, RG26 5RT.

Doors open 7.30pm for 8pm start:-

Dr Matt Doggett returns for another very special evening, he is a national award winning photographer, founder member of Earth in Focus and passionate conservationist.

If you are interested in wildlife photography do join us for this opportunity to see Matt Doggett

and experience some of his superb photography. You can check his work and stories out [www.mattdoggett.co.uk](http://www.mattdoggett.co.uk) and [www.earthinfofocus.com](http://www.earthinfofocus.com). Entry by ticket only at £6 per person, booked in advance, from our website [www.kingsclerephoto.org](http://www.kingsclerephoto.org). Alternatively email our chairman Ray at [rayfidler3560@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rayfidler3560@hotmail.co.uk) or phone our treasurer Gareth on 01635-299227 (answerphone).



### KINGSCLERE & HEADLEY WOODLANDS WI

Our Meetings take place at The Village Club, Kingsclere on the second Wednesday of each month @ 1-45 pm. Our Speaker for our next meeting on March 11th will be a representative of Naomi House and Jacks Place, a Children's hospice at Sutton Scotney

If you would like to join us for a cup of tea and a chat, please ring Betty Eckton on 01256 850017 for more details.



### BODEN SALE

20% off the New Summer Range  
plus free P&P & Returns

Cafe serving tea, coffee and homemade cakes, plus a raffle

11 – 5 pm Sunday 22nd March

Gill Nethercott Centre, Whitchurch

In Aid of Friends Of St Mary Bourne School



## Kingsclere Village Bunnies Playgroup

Kingsclere village bunnies playgroup meets every Tuesday (including school holidays) from 9.10 am to 11.00 am at the Village Club, George Street, Kingsclere.

We have a new timetable:

9:10 – 10.25 Free play

10.25 – Tidy up

10.30 – Snack time followed by singing, reading or parachute games

Parents, carers, nannies and childminders as well as mums to be are welcome to join our friendly group. We have indoor and outdoor play areas and weekly activities including arts and crafts and singing.

£2 per preschool child and 50p for siblings and babies which includes a healthy snack for children and tea or coffee for adults. £1 for mums to be. Thank you to Swan Street Stores for providing Bunnies with fruit every week.



**Sue Elliot 298047**



## 1st Kingsclere Guides

All five members of Pelican patrol have completed their Baden Powell Award. Sophie Oram, Juliette Ashman, Meghan McCue, Tara Smith and Carys Cleghorn will all receive their awards on 13th March at the Scout Hut where we will be holding a celebration evening. To gain their awards – the highest achievement in the Guide section – the girls completed 10 challenges and attended a BP murder mystery weekend before discussing their work with our Division Commissioner. We've now had nine girls gain their BP Award since Kingsclere Guides re-opened five years ago. Well done Pelican patrol!

If any girls age 10 – 14 are interested in joining Guides contact Sue Adams [sueadams@madasafish.com](mailto:sueadams@madasafish.com) 01635 299242

## Coach Outing from Kingsclere

On Wednesday 22nd April I have arranged a coach outing to Penshurst Place and Garden in Kent.

This is a house with a great deal of history, going back six centuries. The coach will leave Kingsclere at 9:00am and leave Penshurst at 4:00pm. Admission £8.50. Price of coach £17 per person.



**Josie Norton 298059**

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## The Kingsclere Tower Directory

Editor 3 Blue Meadow, Garrett Close  
kingscleretower@gmail.com

Advertising Jada, Union Lane, Kingsclere ☎298794  
leswatershipdown@hotmail.com

Churches: For further details and services see inside

**St. Mary's C of E** The Vicarage, Foxs Lane ☎299489  
**Methodist** Rev Valerie ☎0118 983 4793  
**Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic** Parish Priest ☎0118 981 4572

**Police, Fire or Ambulance Emergency** ☎999  
 Police Enquiries/Information non emergency ☎101  
 Kingsclere most Saturday mornings 10am - noon ☎299138  
 Hampshire Police ☎0845 045 4545

Kingsclere Health Centre ☎296000  
 North Hampshire Hospital, Basingstoke ☎01256 473202  
 Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley Care Group ☎01635 298794  
*Transport Only* ☎07880 658187  
 Parish Council, 37 George Street (See page 2) ☎298634  
 Dial-a-Ride ☎01256 462101

Bas & Deane	01256 844844	Gas Emerg.	0800 111999	Busy Bees	297576
Buses	0845 1210180	S. Electric	0845 7708090	Chemist	298419
Trains	08457 484950	S. Water	0845 2780845	Cub Scouts	298413
		Thames Water	0845 9200800	Girl Guides	299875
Fieldgate Centre: Hall, Social and Sports			298497	K'clere Library	297525
Village Club: Hall, Educational and Social			297913	Post Office	298211
Exchange is 01635 unless otherwise stated				Vet	297557 or 40565
www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk				Dentist	0844 5769339

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