

The

KINGSCLERE

Tower



December/January 2014/5

Your Village Magazine

The Kingsclere Tower

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☎298794

☎298704

☎298079

As Chair for the time being of the Tower Magazine Management Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has through this past year, enabled the magazine to continue to be such a welcome and integral organ of communication within the village. Thank you to its editors, layout team, printing, assembly and distribution teams who together number well over 60 individuals – but equally importantly, thank you to you its contributors, advertisers and readers.

June 2015 sees the 50th anniversary of the Tower's inception as a freely distributed magazine from the church to the whole village. We hope to produce a special 50th anniversary edition with facsimiles and articles from those early years. It will be interesting to see how much has changed!

A happy Christmas and New Year to you all.

Rev Lucy Thirtle

You can read the Tower online at www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk/tower.html

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 February 2015 issue

to the editors at 3, Blue Meadow, Garrett Close
or ***kingscleretower@gmail.com by January 12th 2015***
Copy MUST include name, address/phone number

Kingsclere Parish Council

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Chairman: | Alan Denness (298376) |
| Clerk: | Sheila Thompson (298634) |
| Email: | clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk |
| Office: | 37 George Street, Kingsclere RG20 5NH |
| Public Opening: | Mon & Wed 9:30-11:30am |



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The presentations are now to be held on Friday 12th December 2014 at the Village Club. Sir George Young will be presenting the certificates to the worthy winners, who will be named in the next edition of the Tower. We would like to congratulate all those who were nominated and thank you all for the work you do for making Kingsclere a better community. There is also to be a presentation to our recently retired local Bobby, Brian Dixon, in thanks for all he did for Kingsclere.

HEAVY GOODS VEHICLE SURVEY RESULTS FOR KINGSCLERE

Hampshire County Council has recently presented the results of a comprehensive survey of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV's) to the Parish Council. The full summary and map of the area surveyed can be viewed on our website at www.kingsclere-pc.org. Briefly, all HGVs were counted coming in and through Kingsclere over two days in October 2013 and their movements logged. The results show that only one vehicle on each of the days actually travelled straight through the village without stopping, indicating that they had no business stops in the area. All other HGVs recorded had deliveries and pick-ups to make and were therefore registered as being here on business. The results have clearly shown that formal HGV restrictions would not be appropriate as the majority require access to the village for legitimate business reasons. With this information now available, further investigations into what may be possible in order to limit the impact of HGV traffic through the village will be undertaken.

DEAD FLOWERS IN KINGSCLERE CEMETERY

We will be organising a working party to tidy up the Cemetery in time for Christmas. During this clean-up we will be removing dead flowers from the graves so if anyone has any concerns in this regard, could they please contact the Parish Clerk on 01635 298634. Thank you.

ALLOTMENTS GROUP

The new Allotments Management Group, which has been formed to help advise us on the general maintenance and requirements of the gardens is now fully functional. They have helped us in updating our Rules and Regulations and are already suggesting many improvements to the benefit of all allotment tenants. We are currently looking into repairs to the perimeter fencing with the addition of an access gate to the newly acquired land to the north boundary. We look forward to working with them and thank all the volunteers who are helping in this way.

SPEED WATCH

Hopefully by the time this edition of the Tower arrives through your letterboxes, the Speed Watch Team will have all the equipment they need and be operating to help keep speeds down on certain roads in Kingsclere, making them safer for everyone. The Police have completed their vetting process of the volunteers and approved the roads we will be monitoring. Whilst we have enough volunteers to be able to start up, we would ideally like more people to offer their services. So if you think you could spare a little time to help, please call Cllr Bond on 297610. We would like to say a big thank you to all the volunteers and especially to Janet Bond for initiating this valuable service for Kingsclere.

CROWN GREEN FLOWER BEDS

You may have noticed that a lot of work has been done in tidying the flower bed at Crown Green, by the telephone box. The managers of The Crown arranged a working party and paid for all the plants that have completely transformed this once overgrown area. Thank you for the work you and your party have done.

KINGSCLERE PARISH PATHS WORKING GROUP

On 26th October we had a successful day with a good group of us working on the bridleway at Frobury and the footpath behind the old chicken farm. Many thanks to Paul Oldring who agreed to let us use some of his brick rubble on the bridleway. As many of you will know this is a very wet path and we have worked on it for many years. Hopefully by using the brick rubble, improving the drain and clearing the ditch, we will have made some progress. A smaller group worked on the footpath where a lot of blackthorn suckers were threatening to take over the path and these have now been cleared. No meeting in December, so the next work day is Sunday Jan.25th 2015, 9.45am at the Village Club. Heath Denness (298376)

GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING – There will be a collection on 10th December but the Christmas collections dates and the start of the new programme for 2015 are not yet available. Please keep an eye on the notice boards for this information.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS – there will be no Council Meeting in December, the next scheduled Ordinary Meeting will be held on Monday 26th January 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.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR
FROM ALL AT KINGSCLERE PARISH COUNCIL**



How to contact your Councillors

Borough Councillors:

CATHY OSSELTON Tel 01635 298774
Mobile 07787-150-457 E-mail:- osselfc@aol.com
DONALD SHERLOCK Tel 01256 782925
E-mail:- cllr.donald.sherlock@basingstoke.gov.uk

County Councillor:

KEITH CHAPMAN Tel 0118 970 0831
E-mail:- keith.chapman@hants.gov.uk

BUS UPDATE

following HCC Consultation Period on Bus Subsidised Services

At the October meeting of the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment at HCC, despite my opposition to the proposed service reductions to Basingstoke Dial a Ride (BDaR), the decision was taken to re-tender and reduce funding. HCC are working towards a target date for the implementation of new contracts for BDaR and the Basingstoke Minibus Group Hire Scheme starting 1 June 2015.

Approval was granted for a draft Hampshire Concessionary Travel Scheme to be published in December 2014 for implementation from April 2015. This will see the start time for holders of older person's passes come in to line with the statutory scheme and move from a 9am start to 9:30am. This will not affect holders of a disabled person's pass who will continue to be able to travel for free at all times.

BDBC Officers and I will be in dialogue with Stagecoach to see if they are able to offer a Senior Citizens reduction for pass holders that wish/need to travel prior to 9:30am.

Evening and Sunday services for Basingstoke town will be unaffected as borough funding already fully supports these services, protecting them from the HCC review.

I will update residents as and when I have further information.

Councillor Mrs C Osselton

200 Club 200 Club 200 Club 200 Club 200 Club

Do you want to win £50? St Mary's 200 Club offers you that chance – every month!

A one-off contribution of £12 means that your number will be entered into the monthly draw held on the first week of each month.

Personal notification of winning results posted in Tower.

Contact Maggy or Les Wallace on mjwwatershipdown@msn.com or 01635 298794 to renew existing membership or join.

Deadline: 8 January 2015.

Winner November 2014

No 76: Janet Dunn

Well done Janet

Entries drawn first week of each month, various venues.

For all constituents in NW Hampshire

How to contact your Member of Parliament

SIR GEORGE YOUNG Tel: 01264 401401 Fax: 01264 391155

E-mail: sirgeorge@sirgeorgeyoung.org.uk Web: www.sirgeorgeyoung.org.uk

KINGSCLERE HERITAGE ASSOCIATION



Our Christmas meeting will be on **Thursday 11th December** when our speaker will be Jill Daniels who will give us a presentation entitled "**Famous Hampshire Connections**". Jill is a retired teacher and very much interested in all areas of the history of our County. Her presentation will be illustrated by her husband Tom's expert photography.

On **Thursday 22nd January** Roger Cansdale will present "**Basingstoke Canal - Heroes and Villains**". Roger is the Press Officer for the Basingstoke Canal Society and Editor of the Basingstoke Canal News. We are promised a very interesting and well illustrated account drawn from Roger's lifelong interest.

Our meetings are held at the Village Club at 7.30 pm and non-members are very welcome.

Michael Leah, Chairman tel 297403

Kingsclere Rugby Club



Please, NO dogs at the Fieldgate.....

Please can we remind everyone that there are signs stating there are to be NO dogs on the grass area at the Fieldgate. There is an increasing issue with dog fouling on and around the pitches with children and adults use. As many can appreciate, this is not only extremely unpleasant, but also a potential health risk to all that use the area.

We are very lucky to have access to some beautiful dog walking areas, so please use those, and not an area clearly signed for no dogs. We thank you for your help in this matter.

How do you fancy a run around with great friends on a Sunday....

Kingsclere Rugby Club has a growing **Tag Rugby** group who meet on a Sunday between **10.30-11.30 every Sunday**. This is a great opportunity to make new friends and have FUN! We always end the session with a bacon buttie to!

The sessions currently run for school years 1, 2, 3 and 4. We are always looking to expand these age groups, so if you are interested, please call Geoff on 07919 308671 or Geoffrey.curtis@vodafone.com, or on our website www.kingsclererfc.co.uk.

Kingsclere Rugby Club Seniors Match Report

On Saturday 1 November, Kingsclere travelled to **Southsea Nomads** and played a hard-fought 80 minutes, resulting in a **win to Kingsclere 33-17**.

It was an awesome team performance, which resulted in tries for Alex Hiscock, Hamish Glynn, Jeff Douglas and Keith Williams, and also a penalty try. Kingsclere's travelling supporters were rewarded with a great match to watch! Well done boys!

Kate Dinmore

St Michael's Hospice Coffee Morning

Saturday 4th October



Despite being a very wet Saturday morning in October (the only one I think!) we had another very successful fund raising coffee morning for St Michael's Hospice. Many thanks to our band of loyal supporters (the numbers attending were disappointingly low). However, we were fortunate to have some generous donations and managed to raise a healthy **£400.14** for this very worthwhile cause.

Special thanks go to helpers and stall holders. Joan Ferness, Pippa Ashton, Amanda Hatcher, Lorna Woolley, Anita Stafford Price, Annette Taylor, Jackie Austen, Emma Wells, Louise Porton and Irene Powers. Also not forgetting the group of guides on their cake stall.

We host this event every June and October in the Village Club and would be extremely grateful for your support. It is so much more than a coffee morning with some fabulous stalls – hope to see you there in 2015!

Sarah Melling

Kingsclere Village Bunnies

Toddler Group



We meet every **Tuesday (including school holidays)** from 9.15am to 11.15am at the Village Club, George Street, Kingsclere.

Join our friendly group of parents and carers with their babies and toddlers. We have indoor and outdoor play areas and weekly activities including arts and crafts and singing.

£2 per family which includes a healthy snack for children and tea or coffee for adults.

Thank you to **Swan Street Stores** for providing Bunnies with fruit every week.

Christmas at Bunnies

We will be having a **Christmas Party** for the children on **December 16th** from 9.30 - 11 in the Village Club. There will be a bouncy castle and games. Please could parents/carers bring a plate of food. There will be a sign up sheet for this in the group the week before.

Parents and carers **Christmas drinks at The Crown on December 18th** from 8pm.

Chance to meet up, have a chat and a festive drink.

Clare Gilbert 299487

Dear Editor,

I would very much like to pass on my gratitude and heartfelt thanks to **Peter and Sue Woodman** for all they have done over the last 20 years for the Village and the Village Club. After 20 years they have decided to leave the Village Club and spend some time together. It has been a pleasure to have worked with them since I joined the Village Club committee and I wish them all the best for their “retirement”. Thank you.

Emma Hartley and all those who have ever been part of the Village club.

Nature Notes

As we parked by the Canal at Kintbury we noticed a stack of what looked like very large sausages, only straw-coloured and possibly 2m in length. Further along the path to Hungerford we came across a team who were working in an area where the canal bank had collapsed and was threatening the towpath. They were lowering a 'sausage' into the water at the place where the bank had been and securing it with wooden stakes driven into the canal bed, the space behind was then filled with spoil. The tube was actually made of coir which had been pre-drilled and into which the same species of plants which occur naturally along the canal were to be introduced. The plants will root, the coir will rot and the bank will have been secured by natural means.

Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed and rhododendron are plants well known for their rampant and aggressive habits, presenting a threat to our native plants if not controlled. Little was known of these "thugs" when they were introduced as "must have" plants by the Victorians.

On a recent holiday to the Azores -a lovely archipelago of nine volcanic islands- we were shown three introduced and very invasive plants now established on all of the islands. A shrub, Pittosporum was originally used to provide shelter for the orange industry and hydrangea and ginger lily were valued for their flowers. The lily is astonishing in its "quatermass-like" spread but the hydrangea, although invasive, was found distasteful to cattle and became useful as a hedging plant. Dairying supports the islands economy so this invader at least has a use.



Diana Tait & Rod Eldred

The Children's Society

The **Christingle** service this year will be incorporated with '**Messy Church**' at Kingsclere Primary School on Tuesday 2nd December from 3.20pm (see more info. in November's issue). Please come and make your Christingle orange with us and share a meal together. You don't need to be a child to come!

If you would like to show your support by making a donation to **The Children's Society** you can do so

- by having a collection box at home
- by filling a candle tube and bringing it to Messy Church
- by texting the word ORANGE to 70800 to automatically donate £5
- by donating online through their website: www.childrenssociety.org.uk

Please visit the Society's website to find out about the work they do and how your donations are put to use. Merry Christmas and thanks to everyone for your support.

Sue Grove-White 297683

Village Club Trustee Committee



There once was a village committee,
Which dwindled to five, what a pity!
We need some new folk,
To help keep us afloat,
And that's why we wrote this wee ditty,

It was William and Mary and the rest of the clan,
Who donated the club back when it began,
They left it to us,
And so it was thus,
That the committee just ran and ran.

Time has moved on and yet the club is still here,
For us and our children year after year,
We could do with some chaps,
More ladies perhaps,
Go on, volunteer For Kingsclere!

Poetic leaning not essential...

Contact Emma Hartley tel: 297913 or emmahartley1012@hotmail.co.uk

St Mary's Guild

At our October meeting, Sue Watson, Chair of The Twinning Association, came to speak to us. Sue's presentation was very entertaining and informative and we learned a lot about Cormicy and its inhabitants. Sue also explained how and why the Twinning Association came into being. This was all very timely, as visitors from Cormicy came to Kingsclere the following week-end. Thank you, Sue.

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 17th December** – our Christmas Party - and I have it on good authority that we shall be having a special visit from a certain gentleman in a red outfit! Watch this space.

The **AGM** will be held on **Wednesday 28th January**. After the business meeting – there will be a traditional Beetle Drive. We have already set the Programme of Events for 2015 and this will be available at the AGM.

All meetings are held in the **Kingsmill Room of St. Mary's Church**, and commence at 2.15 pm. Refreshments are served at the end of the meeting. We welcome guests and new members to any meeting. Membership is £6.00 per annum. Meetings are free to members and £2.00 for Guests. We look forward to seeing you all in 2015.

Pam Kitch - Chairman - 01635 299743

The Friends of St Mary's

The scaffolding up on St Mary's at present involves repairs to the stair turret, now completed, and other works which FOSM has funded. Inevitably, the work undertaken has revealed other problems, and we have agreed to consider contributing to these too, once details and estimated costs are to hand. The PCC has recently drawn up a five-year plan for Fabric Maintenance and Development, which will be extremely helpful in determining where our funding would best be channeled. As noted earlier, we have already pledged a substantial contribution to the rewiring and electrical works which form the next major project.

At our AGM on 4th November it was highlighted that the overall membership has dropped over the last couple of years. Anyone wishing to help preserve St Mary's as a beautiful building at the heart of our village can do so by becoming a Friend, for only £10 a year. Please contact Alan Denness on 01635 298376.

Our next fundraising event will be another enjoyable **Quiz Night** at the **Fieldgate Centre** on **Friday 30th January**, with Ploughman's Supper and a glass of wine included, and a Raffle. Quiz Night tickets, at £12, and application forms, will be available from the Village Butcher from early January, and we look forward to the usual full house.

Peter Turner, Chairman

KINGSCLERE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

At the time of writing we are a few days away from our village meeting at the Fieldgate Centre. A report will follow in next month's Tower.

Our last meeting held on 15th October was a brainstorming session where the group put together some draft policies & projects which we hope people will comment on at the village meeting. The group meets again on 1st December to discuss the results of the village meeting, the URS report and next steps in developing our plan.

All information will be posted on the **Kingsclere Neighbourhood Plan** web site: **www.kingsclere-np.org.uk** The site is much easier to navigate and contains much more information about progress on our Neighbourhood Plan. Do log on and give us your views.

For further information contact Sue Adams, sueadams@madasafish.com, or our Parish Clerk, Sheila Thompson, 01635 298634, clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk or give us your questions & comments on Facebook.

Methodist Notes

Sunday services 9.30 am.



Preachers for December

| | |
|------|---|
| 7th | Mrs Dorothy Regan |
| 14th | Mrs Rosie Greenhalgh |
| 21st | Rev David Read (Holy Communion) |
| | 6pm Rev John Beadle. Carols by Candlelight |
| 28th | No Service |
| 18th | Mid-week Holy Communion |

Preachers for January

| | |
|------|--|
| 4th | Mr Tim Gardner |
| | 6:30pm Rev John Beadle. Epiphany Carols |
| 11th | Rev John Beadle. Covenant Service |
| 18th | Rev Jill Bentall |
| 25th | Mr Malcolm Watts |
| 15th | Mid-week Holy Communion |

Coffee Mornings every Thursday 10:30 until 12 o'clock.

May I take this opportunity of wishing everyone a blessed and happy Christmas with peace and goodwill in 2015.

Margaret Ingram 299152

Methodist Church (see also Back Cover)

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------|
| Steward | Christine Westcombe | ☎298518 |
| Secretary | Jeanette Billington | ☎297585 |
| Hire of Hall | Jeanette Billington | ☎297585 |

Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Church (see also back cover)

TIMES OF MASSES Swan St., Kingsclere

Sunday 11.15am. Confessions after Mass on request.

For details of Masses at St. Michael's, Tadley, contact Fr Patrick Tansey

Reflections



Peace at Christmas

Writing this shortly after Remembrance weekend with my mind still focused on the events of 100 years ago, thoughts of Christmas inevitably recall the Christmas truce which took place at various points on the Western Front on 24/25 December 1914.

Although the truce did not extend the whole length of the front (some soldiers write that fighting continued even on Christmas day in their stretch), there are nevertheless plenty of letters from men at the front providing first hand testimony that a truce did indeed take place in many places (although there is less certainty about the football match). For more detail see www.christmastruce.co.uk

The accounts of soldiers in opposing trenches (only yards apart) calling out to each other and then meeting in no man's land to exchange cigarettes and other small gifts, singing carols together are truly heart warming, and a reminder that war is primarily about international politics and not mutual hatred between individuals.

The Christmas truce shows that each side recognised the humanity of those against whom they were fighting and were able to allow that truth to trump other considerations for this short period. It reminds us too of the power that Christmas still has to bring out the best in people and to bring unlikely people together in recognition of something more important.

As we witness the continuing propensity of the human race to divide itself up along religious, sectarian and ethnic lines we need all the encouragement we can to find reason and ways to build bridges and put difference aside.

The Christmas story unites because it centres on something common to every human society – the wonder and the vulnerability of a newborn baby. In those days, nothing else could have provided common ground between shepherds and wise men. Christmas isn't easy these days with its materialist emphasis. But could we honour those who gave their lives by all making an effort to make peace with someone in our lives this Christmas time?

May you all know the peace of Christmas.

Rev Lucy

Services in the parishes of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley December 2014

Sunday 7th December (Advent 2)

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 8am | Holy Communion | Ashford Hill |
| 10.30am | Parish Communion with Junior Church | Kingsclere |

Sunday 14th December (Advent 3)

| | | |
|---------|-----------------------|------------|
| 8am | Holy Communion | Kingsclere |
| 10.30am | Parish Communion | Headley |
| 10.30am | Second Sunday Service | Kingsclere |

Sunday 21st December (Advent 4)

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 8am | Holy Communion | Headley |
| 10.30am | Parish Communion with Junior Church | Kingsclere |
| 6pm | Candlelit Carols and Lessons | Ashford Hill |

Wednesday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

| | | |
|---------|------------------------------|------------|
| 4pm | Blessing of the Crib Service | Kingsclere |
| 4pm | Blessing of the Crib Service | Headley |
| 11.30pm | Midnight Communion | Kingsclere |

Thursday 25th December (Christmas Day)

| | | |
|--------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 9.30am | Parish Communion for Christmas | Ashford Hill |
| 11am | Parish Communion for Christmas | Kingsclere |

Sunday 28th December (Christmas 1)

| | | |
|---------|--------------------|---------|
| 10.30am | Benefice Communion | Headley |
|---------|--------------------|---------|

Our ABC Services
for pre-school aged children and their carers
will be held at 9.30am in St Mary's, Kingsclere on:
15th December at 9.30am

Services in the parishes of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley January 2015

Sunday 4th January (Epiphany)

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 8am | Holy Communion | Ashford Hill |
| 10.30am | Parish Communion with Junior Church | Kingsclere |

Sunday 11th January (Baptism of Christ/ Epiphany 1)

| | | |
|---------|--|------------|
| 8am | Holy Communion | Kingsclere |
| 9.30am | Covenant Service at Kingsclere Methodist Church | |
| 10.30am | Holy Communion | Headley |

Sunday 18th January (Epiphany 2)

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| 8am | Holy Communion | Headley |
| 10.30am | Parish Communion with Junior Church | Kingsclere |

Sunday 25th January (Epiphany 3)

| | | |
|---------|---|--------------|
| 8am | Holy Communion | Kingsclere |
| 10.30am | All Age Worship | Ashford Hill |
| 4pm | Joint Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Kingsclere Roman Catholic Church | |

Sunday 1st February (Presentation of Christ)

| | | |
|---------|---|--------------|
| 8am | Holy Communion | Ashford Hill |
| 10.30am | Parish Communion with Junior Church & Baptism | Kingsclere |

Our ABC Services
for pre-school aged children and their carers
will be held at 9.30am in St Mary's, Kingsclere on:
19th January at 9.30am

From the Registers of St Mary's

Baptism *We welcome you into the Lord's family*
19 October Ella-Jude Rosier

Funeral *I am the resurrection and the life says the Lord*
12 November Muriel Storey aged 94

Christmas Services

in the benefice of Kingsclere and
Ashford Hill with Headley



Lessons and Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 21st Dec at 6pm - St Paul's, Ashford Hill

Blessing of the Crib

Wednesday 24th (Christmas Eve) at 4pm - St Peter's, Headley

Wednesday 24th (Christmas Eve) at 4pm - St Mary's, Kingsclere

Midnight Communion

Wednesday 24th at 11.30pm- St Mary's, Kingsclere

Christmas Day Communion

Thursday 25th (Christmas Day) 9.30am - St Paul's, Ashford Hill

Thursday 25th (Christmas Day) 11am - St Mary's, Kingsclere

Benefice Communion

Sunday 28th December - 10.30am - St Peter's, Headley

St. Mary's Church (see also back cover)

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|--|
| Vicar: | Rev. Lucy Thirtle | lucythirtle@btinternet.com |
| Churchwarden | Janet Sturgess | |
| Churchwarden | Eileen Selsey | |

☎299489
☎298079
☎42962

Lighting up St. Mary's



December

- 1st November In loving memory of Judy Smith (Rosier). A year has gone, but not a day goes by that we don't miss you. From all your family.
- 2nd Remembering Jack Pollard dearly loved husband and father.
- 5th Ron and Phyllis remembering Margaret Fowler.
- 10th Mrs Barbara Jones you are gone Mum but I still feel your presence around me when I am alone. Miss you, Tessa, John and Family.
- 19th For Marjorie.
- 22nd Congratulations Vicky and Chris on your wedding day lots of love Mum xxx
- 25th For Bob, Sheila and Debbie Swaine. Something is missing while I trim the tree .. My sister isn't helping me. Christmas is a time for joy and fun .. Just wish I could spend mine with you Mum. New year brings hope and cheer.. With you Dad I wish I could share a beer. These things can never be .. But in my heart you're here with me. With all our love this Christmastime and Always Tiggy and Jim.
- 25th Michael Hopkins (Mick) Christmas wishes. You are never out of my thoughts love and miss you forever Jac x
- 25th Merry Christmas Mick / Grandad. Forever in our memories Love Carla, Nick, Ellie and Lucy x
- 27th In memory of daughter, Kate Smith (Eldred).

January

- 3rd and 8th For Ron and Gladys Verney. Still sadly missed and always in our thoughts. Pat, Anita and Families
- 14th Dearest Eileen, on the 1st Anniversary of your death, Remembering you with Love, Anne x

To book please contact Andy and Sarah Bates, Brook House, Popes Hill, Kingsclere RG20 5SJ. 01635 299710. 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 February Tower is January 10th.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



We would find it difficult to fit in the Tower how much we as a Branch have enjoyed this year's Remembrance Commemorations. Everyone has entered into the spirit of it with such enthusiasm. There are so many that we would like to thank, but mostly to the general public for supporting again with your donations which will be put to good use in supporting those Service Men and Women who have fought in various conflicts and the families of those who have lost their lives whilst fighting for our Country.

Thank you to all who have had Poppies and collection boxes in shops, pubs etc eg Cheam School, Headley Community Shop, The Royal Oak at Ecchinswell, and Oscar Lawrence who took his box to the Bonfire night at the Fieldgate Centre. We will announce the total of monies raised this year in the first Tower in 2015.

Thanks to all the local groups who participated in the Parade, all credits to their Leaders; and to those at the Church Service where £465 was collected. On 11th November at 11am, there was a short service at the War Memorial, with children from the Primary School participating in this very moving experience. Thanks to Lucy (Vicar) for all her hard work in leading the Services.

Finally, thanks to those involved in cleaning the Churchyard Memorial Stone which is dedicated to the Barnes brothers who lost their lives during WW1. Also to the village Florist for laying flowers during the run up to Remembrance time, and to local children and adults who have placed placards and poems around it. Also to Dave and Dan and their helpers from the Crown who planted the corner garden.

To Everyone who supported us in any way whatsoever, THANK YOU ALL.

Maureen Martin (Secretary) 01635 299003

Remembrance Day Parade

Thank you to all who took part in the parade on 9th November. A special well done to Maggie Ward, our standard bearer; and also the younger generation who all did a sterling job.

It was heart-warming to see so many members of the general public who attended the service at the war memorial after the parade. 'Bless You All'.

After the church service, conducted by Rev. Lucy, the R.B.L. members enjoyed food and drink at The Crown Inn. A big thank you to Dave and Dan and staff for their kind hospitality.

We will always remember our service men and women who, in both World Wars and present conflicts, paid the ultimate sacrifice and gave their lives that we can be free and live in peace.

Kenneth F. Cox, Parade Marshal



Saturday, 6 December 2014 at
7.30pm in the Village Club,
George Street

Scrooge

(1951 – U–80 minutes)

Starring Alastair Sim, Jack Warner and Kathleen Harrison.

An old bitter miser is given a chance for redemption when he is haunted by three ghosts on Christmas Eve. Based on Dickens' A Christmas Carol.

Future plans: Saturday, 10 January – *Tom Jones*
 Saturday, 7 February - *Philomena*

Kingsclere Film Club shows a range of films on the first Saturday of the month. Membership gives access to all films at £4.16 per film shown on the big screen with improved acoustics. 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

THE GARDEN CLUB



NOTE that our December meeting is on the **first Thursday** this month, **December 4th**, in the Village Club starting at 7.30pm. Members free, visitors/guest welcome, cost £2.00.

Our speaker this month is Mr John Baker. His talk is, “**St Patrick and the Gardens of Ireland**”. This will be Mr Baker's third visit to us, he is a very good speaker with first class pictures, we look forward to a very good evening.

Table competition. A table decoration; a vase of flowers may include foliage and berries, 2 different vegetables, a single stem from the garden or a pot plant.

January 8th, 2nd Thursday this month, the **A.G.M.** in the Village Club, start 7.30pm. This will be followed by Cheese and Wine, Come along for a friendly get together.

Social Evening: on Saturday January 31st 2015 at Sandford Springs. 7.0pm for 7.30pm. Further details at meetings.

John Eckton sec. 01256 850017

Kingsclere Library



Christmas is nearly Kingsclere here! The Christmas books are out – what to cook, ideas of presents to make, Christmas decorations and novels with a Christmas theme. The children’s Christmas books are out and there is festive colouring and crafts to do!

Author of the Month

December: Simon Brett was born in 1945 and was educated at Dulwich College & Oxford with a degree in English. He then worked for the BBC writing several comedy series and other material for both radio and TV. He started writing detective novels and has 3 series of novels. They are “Charles Paris” an unwilling amateur sleuth; “Mrs Pargeter” a widow with a shadowy past and “Fethering” about the village which is the residence of two amateur detectives.

January: Ann Granger was born in 1939 and has a degree in modern languages and has travelled widely. She is a British comedy writer and has written several mystery series featuring “Mitchell & Markby”, “Fran Varady”, “Lizzie Martin” and “Campbell & Carter”

Internet & Wi-Fi: Have not got access to a computer? Having trouble getting the internet at home? Remember the library can provide 1 hour free internet access and also has free Wi-Fi.

Displays:

December: Winter Comforts: close the curtains, turn up the heating and curl up with a book! Hot tasty food to cook, warm scarves & hats to make and a good read!

January: Dementia Awareness

Library times over Christmas:

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 23rd December | 1 – 5.30pm |
| Thursday 25th December | CLOSED |
| Saturday 27th December | 10.30 -3pm |
| Tuesday 30th December | <u>1- 5pm</u> please note closing half an hour earlier |
| Thursday 1st January | CLOSED |
| Saturday 3rd January | 10.30 – 3pm |

Then back to normal:

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

The Library is situated in the Village Club in George Street Kingsclere

Rowena Hensman
Kingsclere Library Assistant
0845 603 5631



News from FKS -

Thank you to all who attended **Kingsclere Fireworks and Bonfire Display**. Despite the weather this fantastic community event was well attended and raised approx. £6,500 which will provide much needed support to your local school. A huge thank you to our main sponsor Finkley Down Farm Park plus sponsors Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber, Rivar Sand & Gravel, Jason Morley Thatchers, Pro Bike Fit, Colin Castelli Decorators Ltd, A Sewell Electrical Services, Stoveworld Uk Ltd, Graham Vine Plumbing, Castle Windows (Newbury) Ltd, John Lawrence, Protech Mercedes Benz Specialists, GC Randall Decorators, Phil Baker, Alan Abinger Joinery, The Crown Pub, The George and Horn, Feel the Beat, Jason Verney Property Services, Downers Estate Agents, Fencing and Landscape Services, Paul Harrap Decorators, Charles Lucas and Marshall, Voice on Data, Clere Identities, PKN Consulting, Kingsclere Design and Print, Stephen Clinch Motors, Dave and Mary Berry, Malcolm Bull, Knightsbridge Garage, Mike Barker, White Sands Aviation, RDS Appliance Repairs, Torch Plumbing and Heating, Rocon Plant Hire. Also Jewsons, Newbury Tools & Greenham Trading for supplying materials for the event, Clive and Gemma the djs and Steve Voke Catering as well as all helpers and everyone on the FKS Firework sub-committee!

Come and join us at our School Christmas Fair, Friday 5th December 2014 - Kingsclere Primary School Hall - 3.30pm - 5.30pm

Visit santa in his amazing **grotto**, many **stalls** (including tombola, cakes, cuddly toys), **games** with great prizes, **crafts** (including make your own decorations and make your own reindeer food), **face painting**, **seasonal refreshments**, **sealed bids** and there's a **fantastic raffle**, tickets can be purchased from the school office. FKS would like to thank you all for supporting our events in 2014. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We will have lots of exciting fundraising activity in 2015 plus news of our new projects so please continue to support us!

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

Charity Concert

Thank you so much for all your wonderful support coming along to our special charity concert on Saturday 15th November at St. Mary's Church Kingsclere. All funds will be equally split between Basingstoke Food Bank and St. Mary's Church.
The total: £700!!

We hope you all enjoyed yourselves and thank you to all those lovely people who made this event possible.

Warmest wishes Peter Murray and Vanessa Martin.

Kingsclere Youth Football Club...



...is celebrating its 25th anniversary this season. To celebrate the event the club is holding a dinner/dance at **Sandford Springs Golf Club on Friday 6 March 2015**. Players and their parents, past and present, are warmly invited to attend the event which will cost £30 per head to include a 3 course meal and disco. We hope it will be a really great evening with an opportunity to meet and catch up with their team mates.

Application details are available on our website
<http://www.clubwebsite.co.uk/kingsclereyouthfootballclub>

If anyone has photographs of teams or other information we would be really grateful to have copies. Please scan and send to richard.hanney53@btinternet.com

Richard Hanney 01635 298664

Kin~~g~~sc~~l~~ere Sin~~g~~ers

As a WWI commemoration, KINGSCLERE SINGERS will bring a twist to their Christmas Concert this season.

Join the Kingsclere Singers for an **Old Time Music Hall and Christmas Carol** concert in Kingsclere and Tadley.

Friday 12th December at 7:00pm, **Tadley St Paul's**
 Saturday 13th December at 7:00pm, **Kingsclere St Mary's**

Fun for the entire family!

Tickets £7.50, children FREE - with a portion of the ticket sales donated to SSAFA charity, which supports Forces and their families. Tickets can be purchased in advance at **The Village Butchers in Kingsclere** or from any choir member. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

Thank you to our main sponsor – **The Crown Inn Kingsclere**

For more information visit www.kingsclere-singers.co.uk

Kingsclere Twinning Association



From 25th to 27th October, we spent a very enjoyable weekend with around 50 of our friends who had left Cormicy at about 5.00a.m on the Saturday morning. After a reception and lunch at Kingsclere Primary School our guests went off to explore the village and its surroundings with some of the hosts – a group even played a game of tennis! Saturday evening saw a lot of rather tired French people having dinner with their hosts and, for many, an early night was in order.

On Sunday, the group went to Oxford accompanied by some of our members. As well as spending free time exploring and visiting colleges, museums and shops, they visited Magdalen College and took part in a walking tour of Oxford with French-speaking guides. In the evening, we had a super Scottish Ceilidh with a fish and chip supper. The group left on Monday and visited Canterbury (which is twinned with Reims, the nearest city to Cormicy) on their way home. Many thanks to hosts and to all who attended the Ceilidh.

World War 1 Commemorations

Cormicy was very much involved in the First World War, with much of the village being completely destroyed as the front passed through, and many villagers were lost.

On Remembrance Sunday, a poppy wreath was laid in Kingsclere on behalf of the Kingsclere and Cormicy Twinning Associations.

A small group of members of the Twinning Association went to Cormicy on November 10th and 11th to take part in the village's commemoration ceremonies. On November 10th, we visited the cemetery at Hermoville where English soldiers are buried and laid a poppy wreath in their memory. On November 11th, we laid a poppy wreath at the memorial in Cormicy. We also laid a wreath on behalf of the British Legion.

Advance Notice. Diary Date!

We are planning an official visit to Cormicy on Saturday, 24th October until Monday, 26th October, 2015. This is the first weekend of Hampshire schools' half term holiday. The plan is to travel by coach. All welcome. Please put the date in your diary now. Further details will follow shortly.

Email address: kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk Telephone **Sue Watson**: 01635 298940
Website: www.sites.google.com/site/kingscleretwinning. Follow us on Facebook

Notes from the Editor:

1. **Workhouse correction:** in November's Tower we included an article from the Kingsclere Heritage Association about the Workhouse. An eagle-eyed reader spotted a date error made in the transcription: the Workhouse closed in 1956, not 1996.
2. **Tower telephone:** with immediate effect we are discontinuing the Tower telephone message-taking service, as it is so rarely used.

December and January at The Fieldgate



A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you
from your community association!

Children's Christmas Party

Sunday 14th December 3.00 – 5.00pm.

We are planning a party for children aged 4 – 11 years old with entertainment and party food provided.

There will be no charge for tickets for the party thanks to the generosity of local donors. However, numbers are limited and entrance will be strictly by ticket obtained from Karen Green - mobile number: 07765 093549. Ring or text to reserve a place.

The deadline for obtaining a ticket is 7th December.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--------------|--------|
| 17 th December | Tea Dance Christmas Celebration - | Dancing from | 2.00pm |
| 20 th December | Christmas Starts Here! – Annual Gary Myles evening | 8.00 – Late | |
| | Free entry | | |
| 30 th Jan 2015 | Friends of St Mary's Quiz Night with supper | 7.00pm | |

Please note that Slimming World sessions continue throughout the Christmas period.

Rugby Matches

All matches start at 2.00pm

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 6 th December | Away to Southampton |
| 13 th December | Home to Aldershot |
| 20 th December | Away to Chineham |
| 17 th January | Home to Alresford |
| 31 st January | Away to Locksheath |

Bellringing



On **Thursday 18th December** there will be a peal attempt starting at 6pm for approximately 3 hours.

Helen Piper

KINGSCLERE & HEADLEY WOODLANDS WI

Our **Christmas Meeting** will take place on **December 10th at 12-00 noon, Members only,**

The first meeting of 2015 will take place on **Wednesday January 14th**, usual place and time, the Village Club @1-45pm, This will be a Social Gathering, with a Cream Tea, plus a Silent Auction,

If you are interested in joining us please ring Betty Eckton on 01256 850017

Merry Christmas & Best Wishes for the New Year to Everyone,

St Michael's Hospice, Basingstoke

Fund-Raising



From 5th January I will be collecting the LOOSE CHANGE BOXES for the Hospice. If you would care to help raise money for St Michael's by having a box please give me a ring and I will deliver a box to you.

Josie Norton 298059

Village Market:

The next market will be Saturday 31st January, 10am-noon at the Village Club, George Street.



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☎299489

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☎01256 892202

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☎0118 981 4572

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Emergency 999

Police Enquiries/Information

non Emergency 101

Kingsclere most Saturday mornings 10am-12noon

☎299138

Hampshire Police

☎0845 045 45 45

Kingsclere Health Centre:

☎296000

North Hampshire Hospital, Basingstoke

☎01256 473202

Kingsclere & Ashford Hill with Headley Care Group:

General Enquiries ☎01635 298794 *Transport only* ☎07880-658187

Kingsclere C.E. Primary School: Ash Grove

☎298583

The Clere School, Burghclere

☎278372

Parish Council: 37 George Street (see page 2)

☎298634

Dial-a-Ride

☎01256 462101

Bas & Deane BC 01256 844844

Buses 0845 121 0180

Trains 0845 748 4950

Fieldgate Centre 01635 298497

Village Club 01635 297913

Library 0845 603 5631

Gas Emergency 0800 111999

Electric Emergency 0845 7444555

Southern Water 0845 278 8045

Thames Water 0845 920 0800

Chemist 01635 298419

Post Office 01635 298211

Parish Web Site - www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk

There is a more comprehensive list of local contact numbers on the Parish Council website. Go to www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk/directory