

The
KINGSCLERE

Tower



December 2017 - January 2018

Your Village Magazine

T The Kingsclere Tower

EDITORS : Nicki Lee & Sarah Hewitt
ADVERTISING: Les Wallace, Jada, Union Lane
DISTRIBUTION: Brian Elborn
PRINTERS: Kingsclere Design and Print
LAYOUT/COVER Peter Goff

☎298794

☎298704

Welcome to our final Tower magazine of 2017, a year that seems to have flashed by.

Sadly we say goodbye to Janet Sturgess, who has been involved with the Tower for many years, with responsibility for its assembly when it was produced in the Kingsmill Room. It was generally Janet who was on hand to help with issues when damp meant paper would not feed through the duplicating machine; or when an editorial oversight led to a previous month's Methodist church dates being sent to print (quick hand-written corrections saving the day); and the stomach-lurching occasion when the pages were accidentally printed in such a way that when collated the Tower read from back to front. She's seen it all. So, it's a very big THANK YOU JANET from all of us on the team – we really couldn't have done it without you!

This month we have had to reduce a number of submissions to fit in as many items as possible. We hope this doesn't detract from anyone's enjoyment..

We would like to thank all the volunteers involved in getting the Tower to you; and thank you, our readers, contributors and advertisers, for your continued support of our village magazine.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2018.

The Editors

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 2018 issue

to the editors at 3, Blue Meadow, Garrett Close or
kingscleretower@gmail.com by January 12th 2018
Copy MUST include name, address/phone number

Kingsclere Parish Council



| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Chairman: | John Sawyer (297221) |
| Clerk: | Louise Porton (298634) |
| Email: | clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk |
| Office: | 37 George Street, Kingsclere RG20 5NH |
| Public Opening: | Mon & Wed 9:30-11:30am |

VILLAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITIONS – Kingsclere is a great place to live with a strong community spirit which is why the Parish Council would like to enter Kingsclere in two Village of the Year Competitions next year. We wish to enter the Hampshire competition which we won in 2003, together with a new national competition which was launched earlier this year. Penelope Keith and her team of judges have been visiting villages across the UK this summer to determine the winner of this brand new competition which will be shown on Channel 4 television. The competition will run again in 2018.

Entry for both competitions is free. To start the preparations a meeting will be held in the Village Club at 7.30pm on Thursday 18th January 2017. The meeting is open to anyone who would like to be involved along with all village organisations representing our large range of community interests.

REPORTING ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – Parishioners frequently call to make a complaint about anti-social behaviour or suspicious activity. When you observe this, we urge you to report this to the police by calling 101. We do know that some are reluctant to report incidents however if the right authority is not informed nothing can be done about it at the time nor can action be taken to try to prevent repeat occurrences. Please pick up the phone, dial 101 and report incidents to the Police.

STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2018 – Was your child born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014? From 1st November 2017 you can apply:

- online at www.hants.gov.uk/admissions where you will also find information about schools in Hampshire; OR
- using a paper application form available from any Hampshire infant or primary school.

Application deadline is Monday 15th January 2018.

PARISH PATHS - The Parish Paths working group met again in October on another lovely autumn day. For the first time this year we ventured out to work on the paths on the Kingsclere-Ashford Hill boundary.

If anyone would like to join us to help keep the paths clear for all walkers to enjoy, please email the address below or just turn up at the shed, which is in the garden of the Village Club in George Street.

The next Parish Paths working group will be on **Sunday 28th January** meeting at 9.45am at the shed, in the garden of the Village Club. For more details email kingsclereparishpaths@btinternet.com

Regards, Ian and Pam Norris.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING – Although we may not even have the Christmas tree up when this goes to press, any real trees that need recycling after the celebration can be done so at The Fieldgate Centre from Wednesday 3rd January until Sunday 28th January 2018.

FESTIVE BIN COLLECTIONS – Christmas can mean extra rubbish, for example wrapping paper can't be recycled. Therefore, extra sacks will be collected in the first collection after Christmas. As normal there will be no limit on how much residents can recycle.

The collection days for your black (general waste) bins will be Friday 29th December 2017 (instead of Wednesday 27th), Friday 5th January 2018 (instead of Wednesday 3rd) and Thursday 11th January 2018 (instead of Wednesday 10th).

Unless adverse weather affects bin rounds, collections should return to normal from Monday 15th January 2018.

GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING – the collections dates are 6th and 20th December 2017, 5th January (Friday) and 17th January 2018.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – will be at 7:30pm on Monday 29th January 2018, in the Village Club, (unless otherwise notified). We welcome the attendance of all parishioners at our meetings and anyone who wishes to raise any matters of concern will be given the opportunity to do so.

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



The Parish Website www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk



[@kingsclerepc](https://twitter.com/kingsclerepc)



facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil

The Tower: both on-line and delivered to your door!

There are two ways to view The Tower electronically: either via the Parish Council website, or by 'subscription' method whereby you can send a request to the editors to receive a PDF version of the Tower by email.

If you live in the village and choose to view The Tower by either of these supplementary methods, you will still receive a magazine through your door. We cannot track whether people do/don't wish to receive copies, property ownership may change over time, and often the printed copy contains additional fliers, so please accept the printed version as well as the electronic format.

Editors

St Mary's 200 Club It's that time again.....

£12 a year for one ticket, gets you 12 chances to win £50 in the monthly draw – what's not to like??

Did you win in 2017? Why not try again in 2018? It may be your lucky year. Tickets as a Christmas present with a difference? – 12 months' worth of potential interest??

If you are already in membership please let us have your name/money again - £12 - and you will be re-registered keeping the same number.

If you are new to the Club – let us have your contact details (name, address, email/phone number) plus £12...cash or cheque. All cheques to be made out to *PCC of Kingsclere*

Maggy / Les Wallace, Jada, Union Lane, Kingsclere, Newbury, Berks. RG20 4SS or contact us on 01635 298794 or mjwwatershipdown@msn.com

We look forward to hearing from you.

Closing date for 2018 membership is Friday 13 January 2018.

Loddon Valley Lions Fireworks



Thank you to everyone who supported our 33rd annual Firework Fiesta which raised around £8,000 for our charity.

Ken Williamson, Publicity Officer, Loddon Valley Lions Club.

Kingsclere Heritage Association



Our next meeting will be on **THURSDAY 14th DECEMBER** when we welcome a return visit by **BOB CLARKE**, renowned local historian and author. Bob's talk is entitled "**The Basingstoke Borough Police 1836-1889 and the Cork Legged Swindler.**" Basingstoke had its own police force in those years after which the town's policemen were absorbed into the Hampshire Constabulary. Come along and hear the Police story and about some of the more colourful characters encountered including the Bungling Burglar of Basingstoke, the Wild Woman of Windover Street and the Cork Legged Swindler. This will be another of Bob's interesting and very entertaining talks and not to be missed.

Then on **THURSDAY 25th of JANUARY** our speaker will be **SUSAN HOWE** on "**History minus the Boring Bits**". Susan has a passion for history in general but loves the brighter side of things ! Her talk will be free ranging and delivered in her own inimitable style of anecdotes and stories. Susan has led a very interesting life including working as a PA to Sir John Betjeman, owning hotels and tracking tigers in India. She is a Registered London Blue Badge Guide. We are promised a most entertaining presentation which will show history can be anything but boring and just right to bring cheer to a winter evening.

Our meetings are at the Village Club at 7.30pm. Non-members always very welcome.

Finally, our WW1 Commemorative Bedbug magazine is now on sale in several outlets in the village and is a bumper edition with much information on Kingsclere and its people during those trying years. Look out for our advert at the outlets.

Michael Leah, Hon Secretary, tel 297403

Barbara Dorothy Daw

My mother Barbara left Kingsclere for Weymouth two years ago. I am sorry to tell you that she died in our local hospice on 1st November. Mum had lived in Kingsclere for thirty years and was a Parish councillor before her eyesight became so bad.

She was cremated on Monday 20th November. Her daughter, Georgina, son Adrian and granddaughter Elinor will be scattering her ashes as requested by her.

If her friends want further details, they can contact me on this email address georgina.s.skipper@gmail.com or 01305 761993.

Thank you. Georgina Skipper

Kingsclere Medical Practice

We are sure you have all heard of the challenges currently faced by the NHS and GP practices in particular. It will be necessary for us to develop and adapt in these changing times; our goal is not simply to maintain the quality of care and services, but to improve it. Over recent years, we have established a close working relationship with Oakley and Overton Partnership and we are extremely happy to find that we share a similar approach to patient care and general practice.

We believe the best way forward is to merge our practices. We would like to reassure you that we anticipate no changes to the doctors or staff and that you will be able to enjoy the continued high level of service you are used to receiving in Kingsclere. There is further information available at the Health Centre or on our website www.kingscleremedicalpractice.nhs.uk .

Win Harfield, Practice Manager

Kingsclere & Headley Woodlands WI

Kingsclere Village Hall, 35/37 George Street



Our December meeting will follow the set format of a Christmas Lunch for W.I. Members only, early-booked at an 'outside' venue.

However, we invite visitors to come along at 1.30 on **Wednesday 10 January 2018** to our usual venue to enjoy a talk by Alan Turton, a topnotch presenter - scheduled speaker for that meeting. Alan tells us that his talk will be "a lighthearted recounting of '**My Life in Films**' complete with proof projected onto screen." Make a note of that now because you would not want to miss it!

VISITORS: £2 per person.

Competition Guide-Letter for January is 'H'

Did you know?:

THE HAMPSHIRE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES WILL BE CELEBRATING THEIR CENTENARY IN 2018

Since the January edition of The Tower will be the first issue out in 2018 our monthly inserts in this magazine will feature our Hampshire Centenary Logo from then on throughout the commemorative year.

Nova Saunderson - 01635 299570

Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Ltd



Our congratulations and warm thanks to **Jane Baikie** for organising another distinguished and most enjoyable Art Exhibition, and for kindly donating the proceeds - very nearly £1,300 - to the Friends.

Our next event is the **Village Walk on Wednesday 27th December**, followed by refreshments - and a prize draw - afterwards. Assemble at St Mary's from 10 a.m., for a 10.30 start. All are welcome, with a suggested donation of £5 for each adult, children and dogs free. This event is growing year by year, and is an invigorating way to recover from the busy lead-up to the festivities.

The first FOSM event of 2018 will be the popular **Quiz Night on Friday 19th January at the Fieldgate Centre**. Tickets for the Quiz, including a good Ploughman's Supper and a glass of wine, are £15 each, and will be available from the Village Butcher from early January, or by 'phoning Jane Royle on 297430. Make up a team of 8, or be joined with others on the night; it's always a very lively and enjoyable evening!

Peter Turner, Chairman

'Autumn Colours' Concert - an evening to remember!

Wonderful performances by all at this special concert. Fantastic soloists from as young as 11yrs, played on veena, organ, violin, piano and sang. An original composition was played on piano.

Trevor Pitman had the audience gripped with his two poems. Sarah Ball ended the evening with a rousing "We'll Meet Again", audience and performers singing together.

Sound experts Bruno and Paul created the right volumes. Beautiful flowers and lovely lighting added to the ambience of the evening. There was a small exhibition of Ron Goodwin's music and a CD was played of his music before the concert started. Delicious food made by local people and a fantastic team of people helping to make everything run smoothly. A huge thank you to all who came along.

It was a good crowd of people and so lovely to see the church full. The whole evening managed to raise £1,208.56; half of this amount to Ashford Hill Primary School and half to St. Paul's Church Ashford Hill.

Vanessa Martin

Kingsclere Twinning Association



Save a Date in your diaries for our next event: a **Beetle Drive on Saturday 14 April 2018**. All welcome, including families, and details to follow.

The 2018 visit from Cormicy will take place on the weekend of **19 May 2018**. If you are interested in hosting a French family over this weekend please let us know. There is no obligation to speak French, and it is a great way to get involved in the Association.

We always welcome new members. Why not consider joining in 2018? Family membership is £5 per year and includes reduced admission prices to most of our events, free monthly French conversation/class (depending on confidence level), and the opportunity to visit Cormicy in the beautiful Champagne region of France. Please contact kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk or telephone Sue Watson on 01635 298940 for details regarding membership or hosting.

Thank you to all our members and supporters for making this year another successful year for the Twinning Association, and we look forward to welcoming our Cormicy visitors in May 2018.

Kingsclere Twinning Association

Happy Hoppers – Kingsclere’s Run Club!

Calling all running rabbits!

Want to explore the Watership Down and the rest of the village / the beautiful surrounding area? Keen to make new friends and run happy? Bored of running the same old routes alone?

Great news... in kind partnership with the Fieldgate Centre,

(where we shall meet and finish and have access to the toilets and free parking) your free, friendly, informal, non-affiliated Run Club is coming soon....



Mondays, 6.30pm, @ the Fieldgate

Suitable for individuals who can run 5k comfortably. Routes around 5/10k with faster runners doing run-backs to ensure we all stay together. Hills and speed work can be thrown in if there is a desire! Routes to be decided on the night depending on who turns up, what we fancy and energy levels! (If you are an absolute beginner, have a look at: <https://groups.runtogether.co.uk/runtogetherwestberks> for details of suitable groups in the area) High viz and head torches recommended during winter.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Search our Facebook group
‘Happy Hoppers – Kingsclere’s Run Club’

St Mary's Building Update



There is a lot of refurbishment going on at St Mary's over the coming months to maintain the church as the spiritual and social centre of the village, as well as being a Kingsclere landmark. We need to make sure that it is fit for purpose for the 21C and to pass on to future generations.

The building needs to be dryer, safer and easier to use. Replacing damaged stone work, preventing tile damage, repairs to some roofs and the stair turret and rewiring and installing new lighting in the whole building are some of the our projects. Coming up through January is major work to the Kingsmill Room and after that, redecoration of the main church.

The cost since 2013 has been c £139,000 and another £93,000 is budgeted for the Kingsmill Room and total cost of redecoration. The huge commitment from the congregation and village has provided £108,000, with wonderful support from Friends of St. May's (£67,000), and local grants from Councils and trusts and a VAT refund making up the balance.

Our thanks to you all. Please continue to pray for and support all our work.

Nick Selsey is happy to answer any further detailed questions (selsey53@hotmail.com)

Kingsclere Community Library



Library Christmas Hours:

The Library will be **CLOSED** Saturday 23rd December, and Tuesday 26th December. All other days will be as normal.

Kingsclere Bowling Club

This season has been very enjoyable with good results in all leagues; notably the BDBA Monday League Triples team retaining the championship. Now that the green has closed until next season the social side comes into its own with various activities taking place during the winter.

The next of these will be our Christmas Bingo evening on the Saturday 2nd December at the bowls club, Holding Field. Doors open at 6:30pm, eyes down 7:00pm. Non-members are welcome.

C. Howard

Activities for pre-schoolers in Kingsclere – sponsored by Village Bunnies!



| Day / time | Location | Name and description | Cost |
|---|--|--|--|
| Monday 9.30am (Every 3 rd and 5 th Mon of month) | St Mary's Church Kingsmill room | ABC. A children's church service and tea, coffee, drinks and snacks afterwards with toys for the children. | Free |
| Mondays 2-3pm | St Mary's Church Kingsmill room | Songtree. Singing class based on the Kodaly method run by Rita. ½ hour of singing and music followed by ½ hour playing with biscuits, squash and tea/coffee. See facebook site. In Methodist church until Xmas. | £5/session £20 5 session card, Siblings ½ price Under 1 sibling free |
| Tuesdays 9-11am | Village Club | Bunnies! Group for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers (as well as expectant Mums who want to meet people). Range of inside and outside toys dependant on weather, craft activities, sing song or story and a snack of fruit and carbs. Check our facebook page! | 1st visit free £1 for bumps & babies £2 1st child 50p extras |
| Tuesday 2.30- 3pm (Every 2 nd Tue of month) | Library (in club) | Singing with Rita. ½ an hour of favourite nursery rhymes with a few fun instruments. | Free |
| Wednesdays 9.30am | St Mary's Church Kingsmill room | Toast for Tots. Drop in play session with toys for pre-schoolers. Toast, squash and tea / coffee for kids and grown ups. | Free |
| Thursday 2- 3.30pm (4 th Th of month) | Dr surgery | Baby weighing with health visitors and often other advisors. | Free |
| Thursdays 10.45- 11.30am | Village Club | Moo Music. Music and movement sessions for 0-5 year olds. Grown ups encouraged to join in. See facebook site. | £35 term 1 child £21 sibling |
| Sundays 8.45- 9.15 | St Marys Church | 8.45 Breakfast. 9.15 Junior church. | Free |
| Sunday (3 rd Sun of Month) | St Mary's Church | Messy Church. Messy Church also visits Kingsclere Primary school 4 times a year on a Tuesday at 3.20. | Free |

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St Mary's 200 Club Winner November No 76, Janet and Denis Dunn

Well done, Both

Entries drawn first week of each month, various village venues.

Reflections



How could she? He was getting angrier and angrier. As a flurry of abusive, crude insults went through his head, so too came the self-justifying thoughts, “After all I’ve done for her, all we’ve been through, to think that while I was slaving to build our future, she was throwing it all away.” As his rage grew, he smashed down his hand upon his day’s work rendering it useless and in the process, sustaining a nasty graze and splinters. As he tended his wounds, annoyed with himself for losing control, he remembered the lesson his parents had taught him both in word and action. They used to tell him, “Son, when you’re angry, take it to God rather than take it out on anything else – remember you’re in the royal line of David”. This meant little to him until one day in his youth, returning from prayers with his father, he saw him humiliated by a Roman soldier. On their return home, his father, quivering with rage, went straight to the workshop and furiously recited some of David’s psalms at the top of his voice! Now he, his son, finding himself in that same workshop, began to do the same. He shouted and screamed until his voice could take it no more, and exhausted, he slumped into a heap, quietly sobbing and whispering, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Then he slept, and as he did so, he had the most vivid dream of his life so far, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear...”

Joseph must have been really hurt by what had happened. Had he been asked “What hurts the most?”, he may well have said that it was being betrayed by Mary, his fiancée and one who he deeply trusted, that was until he had that dream. When almost twelve thousand people answered the same question just under a fifth (17%) said that relationship problems were what hurt the most. At Christmas time, we remember an ordinary young couple beginning a family and facing all the challenges that brought. But we also remember an extraordinary God who doesn’t leave them to their own devices but experiences it all first hand in their Son – God’s Son, Jesus Christ.

I look forward to seeing some of you over the Christmas period at our services and do hope you all have a happy Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Blessings, Ben.

Services in the parishes of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley December 2017

| | | |
|---|----------------|---|
| Sunday 3 rd December Advent 1 | 8am | Holy Communion – St Paul's, Ashford Hill |
| | 9.15am | Holy Communion with Junior Church – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am) |
| Sunday 10 th December Advent 2 | 8am | Holy Communion – St Mary's, Kingsclere |
| | 9.15am | Morning Worship with Junior Church – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am) |
| | 10.30am | Holy Communion with Baptism – St Peter's, Headley |
| Sunday 17 th December Advent 3 | 8am | Holy Communion – St Peter's, Headley |
| | 9.15am | All Age Messy Christingle – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am) |
| | 6pm | Candlelit Lessons & Carols – St Paul's, Ashford Hill |
| Sunday 24 th December Christmas Eve | 8am | Holy Communion – St Mary's, Kingsclere |
| | 4pm | Blessing of the Crib – St Peter's, Headley |
| | 4pm | Blessing of the Crib – St Mary's, Kingsclere |
| | 11.30pm | Midnight Communion – St Mary', Kingsclere |
| Monday 25 th December Christmas Day | 9.30am | Christmas Day Communion – St Paul's, Ashford Hill |
| | 11am | Christmas Day Communion – St Mary's, Kingsclere |
| Sunday 31 st December Christmas 1 | 9.15am | Morning Worship – St Mary's, Kingsclere |
| | 10.30am | Holy Communion – St Peter's, Headley |

**Our ABC service for children and their carers will be held
in St Mary's, Kingsclere on 18th December at 9.30am**

St. MARY'S CHURCH:

Vicar Rev Ben Read, The Vicarage, Foxs Lane 01635 298471
Church Wardens: Eileen Selsey eileen.selsey@hotmail.co.uk 01635 42962
 Sarah Mussett sarah.mussett@hotmail.co.uk 01635 291900
Administrator: Emma Rivers administrator@clerewoodlands.org.uk 07790 934972

Services in the parishes of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley January 2018

| | | |
|--|----------------|---|
| Sunday 7 th January Epiphany | 8am | Holy Communion – St Paul's, Ashford Hill |
| | 9.15am | Holy Communion with Junior Church – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am) |
| Sunday 14 th January Epiphany 2 | 8am | Holy Communion – St Mary's, Kingsclere |
| | 9.15am | Morning Worship with Junior Church – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am) |
| | 10.30am | Holy Communion – St Peter's, Headley |
| Sunday 21 st January Epiphany 3 / Week of Prayer for Christian Unity | 8am | Holy Communion – St Peter's Church, Headley |
| | 9.15am | All Age Messy Worship – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am) |
| | 11am | Holy Communion with Baptism – St Mary's, Kingsclere |
| Sunday 28 th January Epiphany 4 | 8am | Holy Communion – St Mary's, Kingsclere |
| | 9.15am | Morning Worship with Baptism & Junior Church – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am) |
| | 10.30am | Holy Communion – St Paul's, Ashford Hill |
| Sunday 4 th February 2 nd Sunday before Lent | 8am | Holy Communion – St Paul's, Ashford Hill |
| | 9.15am | Holy Communion with Junior Church – St Mary's, Kingsclere (breakfast 8.45am) |

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

METHODIST CHURCH:

Chief Steward Wendy Morgan 297538
Secretary & Hire of Hall Jeanette Billington 297585

ROMAN CATHOLIC: Rev Patrick Tansey 0118 981 4572
tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

From the Registers of St Mary's

Baptism *We welcome you into the Lord's family*
29 Oct Ezra Randall George Peltohaka

Burial of Ashes *I am the resurrection and the life says the Lord*
13 Oct Roland Fenney and Marion Harral

Lighting up St. Mary's



November

13th Happy 80th Birthday Patrick. With love from the Neighbours.

December

2nd In remembrance of Reginald George Court. Killed at the Battle of Cambrai, 2nd December 1917. Gill, Tim, Claire, Catherine and families.

14th Remembering a very special mother Daisy Lawrence. Always in our thoughts. All our love Pearl, Adrian, Family and Friends.

15th Paul Read. Every day, in some small way, memories of you come our way. Though absent, you are ever near, still missed, still loved, and ever dear. Alyson, Eleanor and James.

18th For my beloved Mark who would have been 53 today. We love and miss you Amanda and Rocket.

19th For Majorie.

21st Bob Cowley. Thinking of you today Dad. Remembering happy times. Missing you. Jan, Sue, Gran and Great Grandchildren.

23rd Remembering our wonderful parents Margaret and David and our sister Sally, Amanda and Guy.

25th Barbara Jones. A very special lady, sadly missed and thought of every day. All our love Donna and Tina.

25th Michael Hopkins So many happy Christmas times spent together, so many memories I will treasure forever. Love and miss you every day. Jac xxx

January

14th For my dear Eileen on the 4th Anniversary of your death, Until the Day breaks and the Shadows flee, Goodnight, God Bless you Dear. With my love as always Anne

To book please contact Andy and Sarah Bates, Brook House, Popes Hill, Kingsclere RG20 5SJ. 01635 299710. Online www.clerewoodlands.org.uk.£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.

Methodist Notes



December

| | | | |
|------|--------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3rd | 10am | Rev Jenny Ellis | Morning Worship |
| 10th | 10am | Jane Sutton | Morning Worship |
| 17th | 6pm | Rev Rachel Borgars | Carols by Candlelight |
| 24th | 10am | Rev Rachel Borgars | Holy Communion |
| 25th | 9.30am | Tim Gardner | Morning Worship (shortened version) |
| 31st | 10am | Rev Peter Howson | Morning Worship |

January - All January services start at 10am

| | | |
|------|---|------------------|
| 7th | Rev Rachel Borgars | Covenant Service |
| 14th | Muriel Wood | Morning Worship |
| 21st | Local Arrangement / Alternative Worship | |
| 28th | Helen Watson | Morning Worship |

CAMARADERIE (Together in Friendship)

Wednesday 13th December at 2.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall

Christmas Afternoon Tea and Entertainment

Cost £1 and includes a free Raffle Ticket - All are welcome

Christianity on TV

If you're not aware of Freeview channel 65, and Premier Christian Radio channel 725, may I introduce you to them. I have difficulty in sleeping and I am usually up by 5 or 6am and listen. My favourites are Joel and Victoria Osteen, and Charles Stanley has a lovely soothing voice.

May I wish you all a Happy Christmas with God's blessing and peace. May we remember all Christians in others parts of the world where life is difficult for them.

God Bless you all, Margaret Ingram.

Police November update



By the time you get to read this article no doubt your Christmas preparations are well underway, buying presents, bulk food shopping, the works Christmas do etc, however criminals, burglars in particular see this as an easy pickings time of the year, please don't become a victim this Christmas, follow these preventative measures to reduce the risk of your Christmas being ruined.

Buy a light timer if you're planning on going away

Let a neighbour you trust know that you are going away and when you be back

Don't leave presents on display in the house or in your car! (You would be amazed how many people leave Christmas presents in the car)

If you're going away for a period of time you can drop me an email, obviously I can't keep an eye on your property 24/7 but I can certainly bear it in mind and keep my eye out. Martyn.evans.25569@hampshire.pnn.police.uk (I work a lot of late shifts)

Other crimes we typically see increase this time of the year is drink driving, I cannot emphasise enough how dangerous this practice is. My colleagues and I at Tadley will be supporting Operation Holly which is Hampshire Police's response to proactively targeting these criminals. I will report back to you after Christmas the results of this.

If you know or suspect someone is drink driving please call us straight away on 999 you could be saving a life.

In terms of criminal activity in the Kingsclere area since my last report I regret to inform you that we have had three recorded dwelling burglaries. During one of these burglaries a vehicle was stolen with keys. The vehicle was sighted by Police in Wiltshire a few days later where it was pursued however the driver decamped from the vehicle and made good an escape.

We have had six non dwelling burglaries also, targeting both sheds and agricultural locations in the area.

I have also had reason to deal with some individuals who have been causing nuisance and annoyance to local businesses on Swan Street this will have hopefully addressed these issues.

Finally I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable run up to Christmas and the New Year.

Regards

Martyn

PC 25569 EVANS, Kingsclere Beat Officer
Martyn.evans.25569@hampshire.pnn.police.uk



Messy Church is being held on Tuesday, 5th December at 3:20-5:30pm at Kingsclere Primary School.

Our theme this time is to understand more about Mary and we have lots of fun activities planned, including making your own Mary puppet, making Christmas baubles, eating Edible Angels and playing games. Do come and join us having lots of fun and learning more about Amazing Mary, we then we finish with a hot meal.



Christingle Service at St Mary's

This year we are holding our Christingle Service on **Sunday, 17th December at 9:15am**. There will be a chance to create your own Christingle in the service and the opportunity to understand more about what the Christingle is all about.

The service is a family friendly service with a Messy Church theme so do come and join in the fun. Breakfast is served at 8:45am so come and join us for that as well.

For more information contact: sarah.mussett@hotmail.co.uk

The Garden Club



Meeting At the Village Club **Thursday December 7th, 7.30pm.**

Denise Allen will be giving us a **Flower Arranging Demonstration.**

As well as arranging Denise will talk about the materials she uses, which may well all come from her own garden. Denise is a qualified NAFAS judge/demonstrator.

Competitions: A table decoration. A vase of flowers. 2 vegetables, each a different kind. A single stem from the garden.

Thursday January 11th 2018 A. G. M at the Village Club starting 7.30pm
After the business there will be Cheese and Wine with a chance to socialise.

Saturday January 20th Social evening at Sassos. Details at December meeting.

John Eckton 01256 850017



*Second Saturday of the month
at 7.30pm at the
Village Club, George Street*

Saturday, 9 December, 2017 - Fantastic Mr Fox

(2009 - Certificate PG - 87 minutes)

Urbane Fox returns to old habits and has to help his community against retaliation.
Based on best selling book by Roald Dahl.

'It looks like nothing you have seen before.' (Animation)

Christmas Party. Please contact the Secretary (Fiona Sawyer - 297221) to let her know if you are coming and/or if you are bringing guests.

Saturday, 13 January, 2018 - Never on Sunday

(1960 - Certificate PG - 91 minutes - 1 Oscar)

US scholar tries to 'save' the object of his infatuation. Set in Greece. (Foreign)

February: *A Private Function*

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

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

New members welcome

Fund raising in aid of Mityana

Please come & support these events to raise funds for Mityana in Uganda. All welcome. A group will be going there in February & taking items needed to support the schools & villages - extra funds raised will mean we can take more.

Coffee, cake stall & crafts - 2nd December 10am - 12:30

Kingsmill Room, St Mary's Church

Buy some home made cakes from our cake stall, enjoy a coffee & buy Christmas crafts.

Lunch for Mityana - 28th January noon - 2pm - Kingsmill Room, St Mary's Church

Enjoy a delicious home made soup & bread lunch & give the cost of your usual lunch to the fund.

See you there! **Janet Larkins - 01635 297813**

Nature Notes

On a shallow lagoon at Keyhaven we saw a dabchick (little grebe) being quite a nuisance to a pair of mallard, repeatedly pushing into them while they dabbled for weed. The dabchick dived underwater every time a duck upended. It is thought that the dabchick was a young bird, now on its own and was using the ducks to perform the same function that its parents had.



A cluster of colourful widgeon drakes, with beautiful blue bills, was somewhat unruly, as young males often are, with their noisy and persistent whistling. A large flock of brent geese wheeled overhead and, as if in opposition, an even larger flock of Canada geese made their presence known in overhead flypass. By the end of October rooks had already returned to a nearby rookery where only one of last year's nests survives.

At a recent talk on garden birds we were advised to clean bird baths every day! Quite a tall order but feeders and bird baths are a focus for the virus that is responsible for the death of many greenfinches,; regular cleaning can really help.

Diana Tait & Rod Eldred

St Michael's Hospice

Coffee Morning – Saturday 4th November



I am delighted to report that we raised £406.24 at the Autumn coffee morning. Special mentions for donations and stalls go to The Village Shop, Honesty Café, Mr Butt at the Pharmacy, Nicki Lee Massage, Howe & Son, & Anita & Annette's homemade preserves.

Ann O'Shaunessey and her guitar pupils provided the musical accompaniment. Many friends and village folk made cakes, gave prizes and manned the stalls.

A happy morning was had by all. Thank you for supporting St Michael's Hospice.

Sarah Melling

Crafts Sale

Margaret and Ann will have their craft items for sale in the **Kingsmill Room** on **December 9th** between 10am and 12 noon.

Donation from proceeds to St Mary's church.

Margaret Armstrong

Basingstoke Disability ConneXions

Basingstoke & District Disability Forum continue to host Basingstoke Disability ConneXions on the first Tuesday of the month in the Basingstoke Discovery Centre and would like to invite along anyone affected by disability including friends, families and carers. No need to book, just pop in and see us between 12:30-2:30pm in the Community Room on the following dates:

- Tuesday 5th December – disability access issues
- Tuesday 2nd January – NHS health passports
- Tuesday 6th February – Mindfulness for wellbeing
- Tuesday 6th March – disability information and awareness

We are looking for volunteers to help us to run these events and to take this service out to a wider community – if you are interested in getting involved please get in touch with Amanda at info@bddf.org.uk or telephone 01256 423869.

The Children's Society



Thank you to all box holders for your donations. The total amount you have raised is £252.56. The next opportunity to return your box will be at the end of February, but please contact me if yours needs emptying before then. New box holders are always welcome.

A great way for children to be involved in donating is through the popular Christingle celebration. Candle shaped tubes will be offered during Messy Church on 5th December for the children to fill with coins and bring to the service at St. Mary's Church on Sunday 17th. There'll be plenty of fun making Christingle oranges to take home.

Local services have been able to support thousands of children this year and with your support they will be able to ensure that more children receive help when it's needed most.

Best wishes for a happy new year.

Sue Grove-White 01635 297683 www.childrenssociety.org.uk

YULE SING

Kingsclere Singers

Saturday 16th December 4-6pm, Kingsclere St Mary's

Thursday 21st December 7:30pm, Kingsclere Fieldgate Centre

Enjoy an evening of drinks, mince pies and Christmas carols with the Kingsclere Singers. A lovely Christmassy evening for all ages.

Both events are free with a collection for the local charity Swings and Smiles.

Fieldgate Centre



Season's greetings to all our hirers and volunteers.

The trustees of KCA would like to thank all those in our community who have helped to make this a successful year for The Fieldgate Centre. We rely very much on the good will and energy of the many people who give up their time as volunteers in different ways.

The next year will be an exciting and demanding one for the centre and the trustees as we manage large scale improvements. If you feel that you would like to contribute your time and skills in any way to help with these exciting developments, or help in any other capacity, please contact us.

Events in December

- Sunday 3rd 'A Christmas Carol' 5.30pm – 7pm. Dickens' story adapted and performed by award winning Proteus Theatre Company. *One show only – limited tickets available.* Suitable for families with children aged 6 and over. Contact the office for ticket info.
- Saturday 9th Les's 60s/70s/80s Disco. Tickets £7. Over 21s only. 7.30pm – midnight. - 07968 438775
- Saturday 16th An Evening with Gary Myles. 7.30pm. Music and dancing.
- Sunday 17th Nathan's Christmas Cabaret. 7.30pm. A showcase of talent and entertainment.
- Thursday 21st Festive Sing Along, hosted by the Kingsclere Singers. 7.30pm. Entry FREE. Collection in aid of the local charity Swings and Smiles.
- Christmas Eve. Ceroc Dance Freestyle Christmas Event. 7.30pm. New members welcome. 07775 920131

We'll be inviting you to more events before Christmas, so please check our website or facebook page for updates.

website: www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk
 tel: 01635 298497 email: fieldgatecentre@btconnect.com
 Office open: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-1pm.

Amendments to Advertisers' details

Page A - Jiminy Crickets Pre-School.

web site address is now www.jiminycricketpreschool.com

Page O - Opus Tree Care,

70 Urquhart Road, Thatcham, Berkshire, RG19 4RT
 Tel: 01635 273269 (Office) 07482 316419 (mobile)

KINGSCLERE VILLAGE CLUB CLASSES FOR SPRING 2018



Art - Painting and Drawing

Mondays 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Spring Term starts: 8th January 2018, ends 26th March 2018

11 week course £79 (£2 discount for BACS payment)

Iyengar Yoga

Tuesdays 7:30pm to 9.00pm, term time

Spring Term starts 9th January 2018, ends 27th March 2018

11 week course £73.50 (£2 discount for BACS payment)

Morning Yoga

Wednesday 11am – 12 midday

Spring term starts 3rd January 2018, ends 28th March 2018

12 week course £74 (£2 discount for BACS payment)

Evening Yoga

Wednesday 7pm – 8pm

Spring term starts 3rd January 2018, ends 28th March 2018

12 week course £74 (£2 discount for BACS payment)

Art Class

Thursday 7pm – 9pm

Spring term starts 11th January 2018, ends 29th March 2018

11 week course £79 (£2 discount for BACS payment)

Pilates

Friday 11:15am – 12:15

Spring term starts 5th January 2018, ends 23rd March 2018

11 week course £68 (£2 discount for BACS payment)

For any enquiries please email education@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk

Dear Editor

I would like to say a belated thank you to everyone who voted for my grandson of the under 11's Kingsclere football, **Baydon Lawrence**, who was awarded the **Gary Rigby** award. Thanks to everyone who runs and trained all these boys .On behalf of all my family we are so very proud for Baydon to hold this award for the year . **Tina Reynolds**





Kingsclere's firework and bonfire display (organised by FKS & a dedicated team of past parents) at The Fieldgate Centre on 4th Nov raised several thousand pounds for Kingsclere C of E Primary School. The event was enjoyed by approx. 3,000 people and we thank villagers for their support.

Thank you to all the volunteers who make this event happen, it is a fantastic team effort. This years fireworks were amazing and it was lovely to see so many people enjoying this event. A big thank you to all our sponsors. (See Kingsclere Fireworks Facebook page)

Date for you diary - **Kingsclere C of E Primary School Christmas Fair** at school on Friday 8th Dec 3.30pm -5.30pm. ALL WELCOME. Pop along to see Santa in his Grotto. There's a brilliant raffle with £100 1st prize or 10 festive hampers to be won plus other great prizes. Get into the festive spirit with seasonal refreshments plus games, crafts and stalls. It's lots of fun and a great chance to catch up with friends. We look forward to seeing you there!!

FKS thank you all for your support in 2017, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Look out for what we have planned for 2018 in the next issue of The Tower.

Rachael Knight, FKS Chairperson. Tel 01635 268160
Email: knightrachael@hotmail.co.uk

Do you Need a Stair Lift – or know someone who wants one?

The Trustees of The Sir George Brown Charity in Wolverton has a nearly new Stannah stair lift available. If you need a stair lift or know anyone who may, please contact Martin Slatford, Chairman, on 01635 298524 or martin.slatford@gmail.com.
Donation needed if lift is used outside Wolverton area.

NATHAN LUBBOCK-SMITH AND ACADEMY OF VOCAL ARTS

CHRISTMAS CABARET

FEATURING SINGERS FROM THE WEST END

SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2017
FIELD GATE CENTRE @ 7PM

TICKETS £10

*WITH A GLASS OF MULLED OF WINE AND A MINCE PIE
RAFFLE AND A GOOD OLD FUN PUB QUIZ*

THE KINGSCLERE TOWER DIRECTORY

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

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

POLICE, FIRE or AMBULANCE **Emergency 999**

Police Enquiries/Information **non Emergency 101**

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

Parish Council: 37 George Street (see page 2) 298634

Dial-a-Ride 01256 462101

Churches: *see contact details within Church Pages inside*

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Bas & Deane | 01256 844844 | Cub Scouts | 298413 |
| Buses | 0345 8101000 | Girl Guides | 299875 |
| Trains | 0845 748 4950 | Kingsclere Library | 0300 555 1387 |
| Gas Emerg. | 0800 11999 | Post Office | 298211 |
| S.Electric | 0845 770 8090 | Vet | 29557 or 40565 |
| S.Water | 0845 278 0845 | Dentist | 0844 576 9339 |
| Busy Bees | 297576 | Fieldgate Centre | 298497 |
| Chemist | 298419 | Village Club | 297913 |

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Ken Rhatigan 07850 530319 cllr.ken.rhatigan@basingstoke.gov.uk

Donald Sherlock 01672 521247 cllr.donald.sherlock@basingstoke.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Tom Thacker 01264 738464 tom.thacker@hants.gov.uk

MP for N.W Hampshire:

Kit Malthouse 01264 401401 kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk
2, Church Close, Andover, SP10 1DP

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