

The KINGSCLERE

Tower



December 2015 - January 2016

Your Village Magazine

The Kingsclere Tower

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LAYOUT/COVER Peter Goff

We're a hardy lot in Kingsclere: in the past year two of our Tower deliverers have retired, both ladies in their mid nineties. And another delivery lady will be 90 next March!

We do appreciate the support of all the volunteers involved in getting the Tower to your doors each month; that includes our 3 layout gents, our yellow pages advertising team, the printing team, the assembly team and the army of deliverers.

We also appreciate the support of everyone in the community who uses the Tower, whether you are one of the many organisations who submit information about local events, an advertiser, or a resident who peruses it to find out what's going on each month.

We have seen an increase in submissions, which is great news, but causes the editorial and layout teams challenges in making sure all the information we receive is included in the limited space available. Please help us by keeping your notices brief! We try not to disappoint.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

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 2016 issue

to the editors at 3, Blue Meadow, Garrett Close or
kingscleretower@gmail.com by January 12th 2016
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



PUBLIC BENCHES – The council have been asked to provide more amenity benches around the village but suitable locations need to be identified. If you can think of an appropriate location for a bench please contact the clerk at the above address. Benches/Seats are already located in the Recreation Ground (4), Cemetery (2), Holding Field (2), Allotments (1), Bear Hill (1), Basingstoke Road (1) and Tower Hill (1).

ADMISSIONS TO SCHOOL, SEPTEMBER 2016 – If you have a child due to start school in September 2016 the closing date for applications is 15th January 2016. A copy of “A PARENT’S GUIDE to applying for a school place” is available to view in the parish office. If you would like a copy please send an email to admissions.team@hants.gov.uk or contact the team on 0300 555 1377.

THE HOLDING FIELD – During the early hours of Wednesday 4th November 2015 a vehicle gained access to the field by removing one of the bollards. The field and football pitch have been badly damaged. At the time of going to press, the council are obtaining quotes for the repairs. All this will have to be paid for out of the budget which affects all council tax payers. If you think you may have some information about the incident please contact the clerk who will be able to give you the Crime Reference Number or contact PCSO Kness.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARDS - The presentations are to be held on Friday 8th January 2016 at the Village Club. Kit Malthouse MP 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.

CHRISTMAS PUBLIC OPENING HOURS - The parish council office will be open as usual on 23rd December but will then be closed until Monday 4th January 2016

VILLAGE DIARY – If you would like your event listed in the online village diary, please send the details to the clerk at the above email address.

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

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

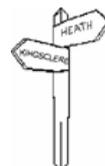
GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING – the collections dates are 9th and 23rd December, 6th and 20th January 2016.

CHRISTMAS WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE – our collection days over Christmas and New Year will be Thursday 31st December and Thursday 7th January, NOT the usual Wednesdays. Unless adverse weather affects bin rounds, collections should return to normal from Monday 11 January. Christmas can mean extra rubbish, for example wrapping paper can't be recycled. Therefore, in the first collection after Christmas ONLY extra sacks will be collected.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – will be at 7:30pm on Monday 25th January 2016, 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 KINGSLERE PARISH COUNCIL**

Kingsclere Parish Paths Working Group



On Sunday Oct. 25th we had two separate groups. One worked on Shepherd Steps, Hollowshot Lane and the Hannington bridleway, and the other group at Frobury Farm. It was a beautiful day, much work was achieved, there were many people out walking and we actually received quite a few thanks!

No meeting in December, so the next work day will be in 2016, Sunday Feb. 7th (not Jan. 31st as previously advertised).

For further information please call the Parish clerk (Tel. 298634) or myself (298376)

Heath Denness

How to contact your Councillors and MP

Borough Councillors: **CATHY OSSELTON** Tel: 01635 298774 Mobile 07787 150457

E-mail: osselc@aol.com

DONALD SHERLOCK Tel: 01256 782925

E-mail: cllr.donald.sherlock@basingstoke.gov.uk

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

E-mail: keith.chapman@hants.gov.uk

MP for North West Hampshire:

KIT MALTHOUSE Tel: 01264 401401

Email: kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk

Address: 2, Church Close, Andover, SP10 1DP

Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby and Toddler Group



Christmas preparation is well underway! Our Bunnies' Christmas Disco Party will take place at the Village Club from 10am - 12 noon on Tues 22 December. You **must** sign up for this in advance – there will be a sheet out in every session between now and then. We ask that all parents/carers also sign up to bring a plate of food to share. We are planning a cocktail-making class for our parents/carers Christmas social – details tbc, so keep an eye on the Facebook page.

We are a friendly group of parents, carers and mums-to-be who warmly welcome you to join us for a play and a natter over a cup of tea.

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

Where: The Village Club, George St

When: every Tuesday, 9am-11am

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

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

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

Claire Ellis - 297050

200 CLUB

As 2016 gets rapidly closer, it's time to be thinking about your **200 Club entry** for next year. **£12 gets you 12 entries** into the monthly draw with the possibility of winning at least £50. The more people, the more money! This is an excellent way of raising money for church funds, with the possibility of something for yourself as well. All results published monthly in The Tower.

If you would like to renew your membership or join us for the first time, £12 please to Maggy or Les Wallace. Cash or cheques, made payable to *St Mary's Kingsclere Keystone Project*. 01635 298794; mjwwatershipdown@msn.com ; Jada, Union Lane, Kingsclere. RG20 4SS.

Thursday, 10th December, 7:30 pm



The Battle of Britain over Kingsclere, 1940

On the 75th anniversary of the battle, historian John Smith will describe the course of events in 1940 and how they affected our village and community.

Kingsclere Village Club
35 George St

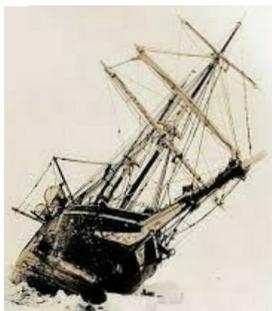
All welcome; visitors & guests £3

Contact Peter Woodman
01635 297144

peter@pwoodman.co.uk

Kingsclere Heritage Association

In the footsteps of Shackleton



His ship Endurance crushed by heavy sea ice, Ernest Shackleton led his crew to deserted Elephant Island in the ship's boats. He then sailed in an open boat, with a small crew, in stormy Antarctic Seas, the 750 miles to South Georgia. Climbing over the mountains they reached the settlement of Grytviken to raise help. **Neil Stewart** follows this saga of the seas with his own award winning photographs and tells us about one of our great polar explorers.

7.30 pm Thursday 21 January 2016

Kingsclere Village Club

All welcome.

Visitors and guests £3

Pay at the door

Kingsclere
Heritage
Association

Peter Woodman

01635 297144

Peter@pwoodman.co.uk

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St Mary's 200 Club Winner November 2015 No 75 Mike Huxstable

Well done, Mike

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



**Kingsclere
Film Club**

**10th Anniversary Season
2015-2016**

Saturday, 5 December at 7.30pm at the Village Club, George Street:

Christmas Social and *PADDINGTON* (2014 – PG – 95 minutes)

Members and guests, please book for the film and social with Fiona (297221). Members £3 (Guests £10 incl. film) to cover refreshments.

Next month: 9 January 2016 – *Out of Africa*

Kingsclere Film Club membership gives access to all films shown each month on the big screen (averaging out at £4.16 per month).

For further information:

John Sawyer (Chairman) 297221/ Diana Tait (Membership) 298494

Get the Festive Feeling at the Fieldgate Centre this Christmas

**Children's Christmas Party
Sunday 13th December 1-4pm**

(11 Years and under) - FREE



Santa's taking a night off his busy preparations to come and bring an early Christmas present to the Children of Kingsclere.

At our Christmas party your children can visit Santa on his sleigh, delight in a Christmas picnic, marvel at the magician and get involved in tons of fun festive games. Reindeer food is in short supply at this time of year so we ask parents to make a small contribution of £2 to see Santa on his sleigh.

**Christmas Sing-along
17th December 7.30pm-9.00pm**

Come and sing along to all your favourite festive tunes with the Kingsclere Singers. Enjoy mulled wine, mince pies and get into the Christmas spirit with your friends and family at the Fieldgate Centre.

No advance tickets required just turn up!

The Fieldgate Centre – Your Community, your place!



CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH **in the Kingsmill Room** **St Mary's Church**



Back for it's third year, we will be hosting a **traditional Christmas Lunch, on Christmas Day**, for people and couples who are on their own this festive season.

This joyous event will be held in the Kingsmill Room from **12.45pm on 25th December**, the cost is **£7 per person** and transport to/from your home in the village can be provided.

If you would like to spend Christmas Day in the company of others and would like to join us, or if you just have a query, please call **Pippa Ashton on 01635 298448 /07775 903214** - there are also **sign up sheets in the Kingsmill Room and at Rose Hodson Court**.

Best wishes - The Ashton Family

RICKY COOL AND THE IN CROWD

SATURDAY 30th January at 8.00 p.m



Guaranteed to have your feet itching to dance, Ricky Cool and the In Crowd play an explosive mix of original and classic rhythm and blues grooves from the late 1950s and 60s

The atmosphere they create is reminiscent of Georgie Fame and the Blue Flames playing at the legendary London's Flamingo Club. The Band's music is rooted in the traditions of New Orleans, Texas, Chicago and the emerging Jamaican scene of the period. It is delivered with style and passion by some of the Midlands' top musicians, fronted by the charismatic RICKY COOL, long regarded as one of the most entertaining front men in the business.

**TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE VILLAGE BUTCHER
OR BILL COOPER (01635 299293) Price £12.00**

Royal British Legion



THANKYOU. THANKYOU. THANKYOU.

There are so many people that we would like to thank for their contributions and assistance with the Poppy Appeal this year.

Remembrance Sunday was especially poignant with having our friends from Cormicy in the Parade, also the Parachute Regiment and the Rainbows marching with us for the first time. The Rainbows were a credit to their Leaders and to the Guide Movement as a whole.

We as a Branch appreciate very much the support we get for this Annual Parade which is held in Remembrance of those who lost their lives in various Wars in order that we may live in Peace.

Our Branch is continuing to grow in numbers and we hope to welcome more new Members in the future. In 2016 we hope to have various Social Events to which the public will be invited as well as our monthly meetings.

At our recent AGM it was voted on and agreed that from January we shall meet at the Crown with permission from Les and Karen to whom we are especially grateful. Our meeting night has now changed to the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm.

If you would be interested in joining us please come along to any meeting, you will be made most welcome.

A final total of monies raised in the Poppy Appeal will be announced in the first Tower of 2016.

Maureen Martin (Secretary) 01635 299003

Royal British Legion Remembrance Day Parade

Once again there was a great turnout in the parade and we welcomed a group from Cormicy – so glad they were able to join us. Sincere thanks to Rev Neil Britton for a meaningful service which received many good, favourable compliments.

It was very pleasing to welcome the ‘Rainbows’ joining the parade for the first time – bless them! It’s always delightful to see so many members of the public gathered at the Memorial and present in Church – thank you.

It was the last parade for our ‘standard bearer’ Maggie Ward, who is retiring from the position. This duty will be carried out by Trevor Marriner, and Maggie wishes him all the best.

We must always remember the fallen who gave their lives that we may live in peace.

Kenneth Cox, Parade Marshall.

The Garden Club



December 3rd: meeting in the Village Club. 7.30pm.

This month there will be a talk on a trip to the Arctic Circle, also questions answered by group members. Send a question to the secretary or chairman. 01256 850017 or 01635 297966.

Competition: a table decoration, a vase of flowers, 1 kind. Two different vegetables, a single stem from the garden, a pot plant.

January 14th, A G M at the Village Club, usual time. This is a social evening, come to enjoy.

Saturday January 30th 2016 Our Social Evening at Sandford Springs. Details at meetings.

John Eckton secretary 01256 850017

Kingsclere & Headley Woodlands W.I.



We're pleased to report that we're finally getting to meet more and more local women who have taken up the option to visit us - in fact, we had a number of visitors at our monthly meeting yesterday. We fully expect to count them in as new members at the start of the new year!

Our next W.I. meeting will be our Christmas Meeting, scheduled for earlier in the month than usual because the build-up to Christmas and New Year is such a hectic time. Sadly, for financial reasons this will be a members'-only event because 'outside' catering, particularly over the Festive Season, demands careful planning, accurate ordering and pre-payment all-round.

Our doors are open to visitors again on Wednesday 13 January 2016. This will be a social gathering, cream tea & bring-and-buy with a quiz or other parlour game also laid on. Visitors will be especially welcome @ just £2.00 per person.

Now how about marking that date into your new diary?

See you on the 13 January then!

Nova Saunderson (01635-299570)

St Michael's Hospice



Fund Raising

For all the people who have loose change boxes and collection tins for donations to St. Michael's Hospice Basingstoke, I will be collecting at the beginning of January 2016.

Caroline Smithers. 299877

Kingsclere Twinning Association



Our official visit to Cormicy took place at the end of October. The programme included a visit to Reims and the cathedral, a delicious evening meal based on the cuisine of the Alsace region of France, a buffet lunch on the Sunday, a visit to a champagne museum and also to a local producer. We experienced the usual generous and warm hospitality from our hosts and everyone very much enjoyed the weekend. Some members took the opportunity to spend a few extra days visiting other parts of France.

The Mayor of Cormicy, with other representatives of the veterans of Cormicy, came to Kingsclere in November to take part in the Remembrance Sunday commemorations. They joined the parade, laid 2 beautiful wreaths at the war memorial made of fresh red, white and blue flowers, as is the tradition in France, and the Mayor read a poem during the Remembrance Sunday Service. Much of Cormicy was completely destroyed in the First World War, with many lives being lost, and as it's twin, we came together to remember our fallen – a very moving experience.

It is not too late to join the Association or renew your membership - the cost is £5.00 per household per year and the benefits include reduced ticket prices to social events, free informal French conversation evenings with qualified French teachers (different levels catered for) and exchange visits to our twin town of Cormicy. If you would like to join the Association, please email kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk.

Website - www.sites.google.com/site/kingscleretwinning

BELLRINGING



A half muffled quarter peal of 1288 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung on Sunday 8th November in memory of Simon Lipscombe. He was a young, enthusiastic local ringer.

EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE

The Andover District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild of Bell Ringers would like to welcome everyone to join them for a short Epiphany carol service on Saturday 9th January 2016 at 4.15pm at St Mary's Church.

Helen Piper, Gill Gardner - 298948

Reflections



GETTING READY FOR THE BIRTHDAY!

The season of Advent is a special time for Christians. For four Sundays we prepare for the birthday of Jesus, who is God coming amongst us as a human being.

Why did God choose to reveal himself in Jesus? Essentially to save us from sin – from our pride, selfishness and desire to dominate others. To offer us everlasting life in the Resurrection.

Advent is a joyous time. We rejoice at the coming of God with us (Emmanuel), but we know He is to die for us. So it is also semi-penitential; a time to turn away from sin and to think of others in need. There is a need for us to attend the Birthday Party dressed well spiritually to appreciate it properly.

The consumer society we have developed looks more towards a Winter Festival of bright lights and large quantities of drink and food. The Christian is called to break away from this worldly distraction, and to look beyond it, to the needs of others. Then we become ready to greet our God in prayer, and to eat, drink and make merry until Epiphany – and with no rush!

Happy Advent! Followed by a joyful Christmas and happy New Year!

Father Patrick Tansey

From the Registers of St Mary's

Baptisms	<i>We welcome you into the Lord's family</i>
18 Oct	Ivy Georgia Barrett
1 Nov	Siena Ffion Pamela Robinson
8 Nov	Oliver Phillip James Barton

Funeral	<i>I am the resurrection and the life says the Lord</i>
30 Oct	Memorial Service for Kate Baker

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

Sunday 6th December (Advent 2)

8am	Holy Communion	Ashford Hill
10.30 am	Parish Communion with Junior Church	Kingsclere
4pm	Christingle Service	Ashford Hill

Sunday 13th December (Advent 3)

8am	Holy Communion	Kingsclere
10,30am	Holy Communion	Headley
4pm	“A Taste of Christmas” Second Sunday Service	Kingsclere

Sunday 20th December (Advent 4)

8 am	Holy Communion	Headley
10.30 am	Parish Communion with Junior Church and Baptism	Kingsclere

Thursday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

4pm	Blessing of the Crib	Kingsclere
4pm	Blessing of the Crib	Headley
11pm	Midnight Communion	Kingsclere

Friday 25th December (Christmas Day)

9.30am	Christmas Day Communion	Ashford Hill
11am	Christmas Day Communion	Kingsclere

Sunday 27th December (Christmas 1)

10.30am	Benefice Communion	Headley
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**Our ABC service for children and their carers
will be held in St Mary’s, Kingsclere
on 21st December at 9.30am**

**Services in the parishes of
Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley
January 2016**

Sunday 3rd January (Epiphany)

8am	Holy Communion	Ashford Hill
9.30am	Covenant Service at the Methodist Church	Kingsclere
10.30am	Parish Communion with Junior Church	Kingsclere

Sunday 10th January (Epiphany 1 - Baptism of Christ)

8am	Holy Communion	Kingsclere
10.30am	Holy Communion	Headley

Sunday 17th January (Epiphany 2)

8 am	Holy Communion	Headley
10.30 am	Parish Communion with Junior Church and Baptism	Kingsclere

Sunday 24th January (Epiphany 3)

8am	Holy Communion	Kingsclere
10.30am	Parish Communion	Ashford Hill

Sunday 31st January (Presentation of Christ)

10.30am	Benefice Communion	Kingsclere
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Sunday 7th February (Sunday next before Lent)

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

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

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

The Vicarage phone has been disconnected. Please use details below.

Eileen Selsey (Churchwarden – Kingsclere) eileen.selsey@hotmail.co.uk or 01635 42962

Steve Jaques (Churchwarden – Kingsclere) steve.jaques@me.com or 07887428145

Emma Rivers (Administrator) administrator@clerewoodlands.org.uk or 07790934972

Methodist Notes

Morning services 9:30am. Preachers for December and January:



Dec 6 th	Rev Elaine Rawlings
14 th	Malcolm Stone
20 th	Tim Gardner. Carols by Candlelight 6pm Elaine Rawlings
Christmas Day	Tim Gardner 9:30
27 th	Helen Watson
Jan 3 rd	Covenant Service – Elaine Rawlings
Wed 6 th	Epiphany Service – Elaine Rawlings 6:30
10 th	Christine Thomas
17 th	Something Different – Rosie Greenhalgh
24 th	Local arrangement
31 st	Jeff Britt

Coffee Mornings: Thursdays 10:30 – 12 midday.

May I wish everyone a joyful time with blessings as we celebrate the birth of Jesus and all it means to us. We live in difficult times but the bible does warn us of this and we pray that we will keep the faith and may we have peace in the New Year.

Margaret Ingram

Methodist Church (see also Back Cover)

Chief Steward Wendy Morgan

Secretary Jeanette Billington

Hire of Hall Jeanette Billington

☎297538

☎297585

☎297585

Lighting up St. Mary's



November

- 6th Remembering our Great-Nanny Hazel on the day of her Memorial Service in Bath with all our love always Jack, Katie, Tom, Harry and George xxxxx
- 18th In loving memory of Simon Lipscombe. Thinking of his family and friends.

December

- 2nd Remembering Jack Pollard - Dearly loved husband and father.
- 8th Remembering Margaret Fowler
- 10th For my dearest Mum Barbara Jones it seems such a long time now you left us but you are always thought of in our home. Tessa, John and Family xx
- 15th Paul Read, on the first anniversary. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear. "Always", Alyson, Eleanor and James xxx
- 18th For my beloved Mark who would have been 51 today. We love and miss you so much. Amanda and Rocket.
- 19th For Marjorie on her birthday.
- 25th Christmas wishes for Michael Hopkins (Mick) Missed so much every day no amount of time will ever heal the deep hurt of losing you. Will love and miss you forever. Sleep with no pain. Jac xxx
- 25th Mick/Grandad Forever in our thoughts and memories. Merry Christmas love Carla, Nick, Ellie and Lucy xx
- 25th For Bob, Sheila, and Debbie Swaine: Christmas is full of family traditions, we keep one or two ourselves, like missing you and loving you, and keeping you close in our hearts this year and every year since we've been apart. All our love Tiggy and Jim xxxxxx

January

- 3rd & 8th For Mum and Dad - another year has passed and we miss you both as much as ever. Pat, Anita and families.
- 14th For Eileen Soper Dearest Eileen. On the second Anniversary of your death. Until the day breaks and the shadows flee. Goodnight. God Bless you Dear. With my love, as always . Anne x

To book please contact Andy and Sarah Bates, Brook House, Popes Hill, Kingsclere RG20 5SJ. Tel: 01635 299710. On-line: 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.

The United Benefice of St Mary's, Kingsclere, St Paul's, Ashford Hill and St Peter's, Headley.

Vacancy update 3

Where are we now?

This is the third update on the Vacancy – it's an amazingly long process, isn't it? So, where are we now?

By the time you read this, the formal Church of England legislative process will have moved slowly on. The Profile (information about the benefice) and the Role Description and advert will have been prepared – drafted by us but formally approved by the Diocese. This will all be available on the church web-site once the recruitment process goes live. We then move into advertising, short-listing and interviewing, hopefully with a successful outcome. However, it will still be many months before someone new arrives (and that's assuming all goes well first time round).

In the meantime, the work goes on! Services and all church offices (baptisms, weddings, funerals) are being taken by a range of visiting priests, who are helping us during this period of Vacancy. Throughout the benefice, prayer is offered on a daily basis and pastoral visiting continues regularly for all those in need. The great Christian Festival of Christmas to celebrate the amazing birth of Christ is coming up fast – come and join us for a wide range of different services and activities at all three churches: St Mary's, Kingsclere; St Paul's, Ashford Hill; and St Peter's, Headley. We'd love to see you all.

We will continue to keep you up-to-date with what is going on. If you have any queries in the meantime please do get in touch.

Maggy Wallace mjwwatershipdown@msn.com or 01635 298794.

Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Ltd

Our next event will be a circular **Village Walk**, on the morning of **Sunday 27th December, ending with refreshments in the Kingsmill Room**. All are most welcome to join us, along with children, dogs, lingering Christmas visitors, etc., to recover from the preceding festivities! Full details are in the flyer with this issue of the Tower, and we hope that this may become an annual Kingsclere event.

Following this, we have another **Quiz Night in the Fieldgate Centre on Friday 22nd January**. Make up a table of eight, or join in with others on the night. **Tickets at £12 per head will include a Ploughman's Supper and a glass of wine**, and there will be a bar, and a raffle. Doors open 6.45 p.m., Quiz starts at 7.30 p.m. prompt. Tickets and entry forms will be available from early January from The Village Butcher, or by 'phoning 01635 298434. These evenings are always great fun, and we look forward to a full house!

Peter Turner, Chairman

St. Mary's Guild

We welcomed Margaret Braddock as speaker at our October Meeting. Margaret entertained us with the tale of William Walker, the Diver of Winchester Cathedral fame.

Our Coffee morning in November raised the grand sum of £300.00 for St. Michael's Hospice. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this possible and to all those who came and supported us on a very wet Saturday morning.

Our December Meeting will be a Christmas Meal at Sasso's (Members only). Our AGM will be held on Wednesday, 27th January – 2.15 pm in the Kingsmill Room.

Unfortunately, this may be our final meeting, as our Chairman and Treasurer wish to step down and we have been unable to find anyone willing to take on these roles. This is a real shame, as St. Mary's Guild has been providing fellowship for some 40 years – but I suppose it was inevitable that this would go the way of other clubs. I would like to personally thank all our members, committee members and everyone in Kingsclere for supporting our various events.

Pam Kitch

Kingsclere Photo Club



Thriving and friendly club, meeting on the first Wednesday of each month at the Village Club, George St. Doors open 7:30pm for 8pm start:

Wed 2nd Dec **Annual General Meeting.**
Followed by 'Best Photo of 2015' competition and Xmas nibbles.

Wed 6th Jan **'New Zealand & Beyond'** by our Ray Fidler.

Membership still only £5 for the year, members £2 per meeting, guests £4 (first visit free for prospective new members).

For information see our website www.kingsclerephoto.org or call Gareth Martin on 01635-299227 (evenings).



News from FKS

The Parent Teacher Association of Kingsclere Primary School

Registered charity no. 1099453

Thank you to all who attended **Kingsclere Fireworks and Bonfire Display**. This fantastic community event was very well attended and raised over £12,000 which will provide much needed support to our school. A huge thank you to all our sponsors and also to Jewsons, Newbury Tools, Buildbase & Alan Sewell Electrical for supplying materials for the event, Clive, Gemma and Richard 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 4th December 2015
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.

Rachael Knight.

Kingsclere Community Library



Our next event is a talk by Daniela F. Sieff, PhD, author of *Understanding and Healing Emotional Trauma: Conversations with Pioneering Clinicians and Researchers*. Her talk is based on one she delivered to the Royal Society of Arts earlier this year, and is suitable for anyone with an interest in psychology as well as mental health professionals. A donation of £3 is requested for tickets, available in the library or from EventBrite http://j.mp/Kingsclere_Sieff.

Join us for this fascinating presentation on Wednesday, 20th January at 7:30 and enjoy a complimentary glass of wine as well.

Opening hours:

Tues & Thurs 1 – 5:30 Saturdays 10:30 – 3
CLOSED for the holidays: 24, 26 and 31 December.

Nicki Lee, kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com

Nature Notes



A fortnight in Cuba gave us a limited opportunity to observe some of the wildlife at wherever we were staying. Turkey vultures were everywhere, flocks of these dark brown birds circling effortlessly above city, plain or jungle and so called because their faces are bare and red. Grackles, blackbird like, noisy and opportunistic and mocking birds, roughly same size but slimmer with grey backs and pale undersides and very vocal were very numerous. We saw humming birds on tropical flowers, ringed plovers and cormorants at the beach however the stars were the Brown pelicans. There was a pair which patrolled their beat just off shore and would regularly take off, gain height then thump into the waves to scoop up fish. Close though they were our attempts to capture a good shot in flight resulted in views of sky, sea and a head or tail. The commonest animals were Curly tailed lizards, approx 7" long and yes: their name describes them perfectly. We recognise our now entrenched, non native and invasive plants and the impact they make on the environment. In Cuba the dominant invasive plant is sickle bush, an extremely thorny (hence Sickle) scrubby evergreen plant six to eight foot high rampaging everywhere and virtually out of control- even the goats won't eat it. Vast areas of it grow and impoverish the land.

The answer to the woodpigeon behaviour (October Tower) appeared in the Autumn issue of the R.S.P.B. magazine. It seems that woodies need to get water to hard to reach areas for good feather condition.

On a local walk in late October the familiar sight and sound of fieldfares arriving here for the winter made us aware of the passing year.

Diana Tait & Rod Eldred

Kingsclere Neighbourhood Plan

Thanks to everyone who attended the village meeting on 16th October. It was a really good attendance – according to the Newbury Weekly News over 400 residents - and a good exchange of views were aired. Since the meeting we have received many comments from residents which we hope to post on the web for others to see. Please keep your views coming. The group are now setting up meetings with the land agents/developers of the four sites we are now considering to firm up on their proposals and discuss our concerns.

By the time you read this the presentations from the meeting along with the minutes will be on the NP web site. The Scoping Report for the Strategic Environmental Assessment should also be on line for all to view.

For further information see www.kingsclere-np.org.uk or contact Sue Adams, 01635 299242, sueadams@madasafish.com, our Parish Clerk, Louise Porton, 01635 298634, clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk

Basingstoke Male Voice Choir

Christmas Concert

**7:30pm Monday 21st December
at United Reformed Church, London St, Basingstoke**

Admission: Free* (by ticket) *a retiring collection will be made for charity

Tickets available by contacting **01256 327033** or at the website
basingstokemvc.org.uk/contact-us

Basingstoke Ladies Choir

Annual Christmas Concert

**3pm Sunday 13th December
at Carnival Hall, Council Rd, Basingstoke**

Free Entry; Charity collection will be taken during the evening. Raffle.

Tickets from Judy Ball 01256 783000 or Jan Hodges 01256 781035.

Kingsclere Social Dog Walking Group

I'm delighted to announce a Facebook group called Kingsclere Social Dog Walking Group, which you can find and join using the standard search function.



Designed to help dog owners in the village and surrounding areas safely participate in and organise social dog walking events and bring together like minded individuals. As it's a closed group, only members can see group activity. Now that the hours of daylight are shorter, please remember to stay safe on your dog walking adventures.

Aleksandra Wells

Basingstoke Voluntary Action



Christmas Food Boxes for Basingstoke 2015

Each year **Basingstoke Voluntary Action** appeals to individuals, businesses and organisations to join us in providing Christmas Food Boxes for those less fortunate than ourselves, who benefit enormously from a little extra at Christmas time. The staggering response last year enabled us to supply refuges, families and homeless centres in Basingstoke and Deane with a total of 302 much appreciated Food Boxes filled with Christmas goodies.

It's that time again, and we would like to invite you to join this worthwhile project. We will gratefully accept any non-perishable food or monetary donations up until Monday 14th December, between 9am - 4.00pm, at Basingstoke Voluntary Action, The Orchard, White Hart Lane, Basingstoke RG21 4AF, or call us to arrange a collection.

Please note we cannot accept any donations of alcohol or food containing alcohol.

Queries to: Natascha Shepherd: 01256 423816 **Email** Admin@BVAction.org.uk

Living Paintings

Living Paintings are delighted to announce that David Walliams has given his support to this local charity that provides a free library service of tactile and audio books to blind and partially sighted people of all ages.

Living Paintings has published an accessible, Touch to See, version of David's book "The Bear Who Went Boo!" on 5 November, the same day as HarperCollins Children's Books released it in hardback.

David Walliams said, "I am so pleased that my story will be enjoyed by blind children. It will be available on the same day as the commercial release. Living Paintings do a fantastic job of making books accessible to children without sight, and the finished touch and feel version of 'The Bear Who Went Boo!' is a thing of beauty."

For information about Living Paintings and the service they provide please contact Camilla Oldland on 01635 299771, CamillaO@livingpaintings.org, or visit the website www.livingpaintings.org.

Hampshire Police



October Crime Summary for the parishes of Kingsclere, Ashford Hill, Headley and Hannington

Total Crimes reported - 12 : I am happy to see that the crimes reported this month are nearly half of last month

Incidents of note: as most residents in the village are aware, there was a break to the Headley Village shop this month. A safe with £600 worth of cash inside, keys to the shop and post office were stolen. This incident is currently still under investigation and we do ask that anyone with any information does come forward by contacting 101.

There have recently been a few issues with the youths in the area hanging around at the Fieldgate Centre engaging in anti social behaviour and potential drug use; we do ask that as parents you are aware of where your children are after dark. If anyone sees anyone acting anti- socially in the area then we do ask that this is reported through 101. A few youths have been spoken to this month by the local beat officer and have been banned from hanging around outside the Fieldgate Centre and in the bar. Patrols will continue to be carried out in the area, and any misconduct will be dealt will accordingly.

If you have any information regarding any of the incidents detailed in this update please contact us either by email or calling 101

PCSO 15948 Melody KNESS

Hampshire Constabulary, Tadley Police Station, Mulfords Hill, Tadley, RG26 3HZ
Email: Melody.Kness@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Follow us on Twitter [@BstokeRuralCops](https://twitter.com/BstokeRuralCops) for regular updates and advice. Or join [Hampshire Alerts](#) for personalised alerts and updates from the Police.

Village Club Market

May I thank all the stall holders and you, the customers, for your support in 2015. We try to get a mixture of stalls, and new ones are planned for 2016 and are being costed.

We would like to see more younger people: are there things you would like to see at the market? Remember it is two hours once a month, so cost plays a big part. If you have any ideas give me a ring.



So may I, on behalf of all the stall holders, wish you a happy Christmas and New Year.

Alan Gore 01635 299 118.

1st Kingsclere Brownies Christmas Prize Bingo Saturday 5th December

Scout Hut, Strokins Road, Kingsclere
Doors Open at 6pm, Eyes Down at 6.30pm

Bingo Tickets £1 Each or 6 for £5.00
2 Flyer Games, £1.00 Per Ticket
Refreshments Available: Tea/ Coffee, Biscuits and Cake

Christmas Hamper Raffle Plus Other Prizes

Everyone Welcome- Special Rounds for Children

For Tickets or More Information Contact
Hannah Fisher on 07780461436
hannahfisher90@aol.co.uk



Index to Advertisers

50plus, Handyman	E	Kingsclere Motor Services	R
Account Right, Accountants	O	Ironing Service	A
Active Heating & Plumbing	E	Kingsley Financial Management	P
AFGAS Heating	F	Knightsbridge Garage	R
AGB Automation, Garage Doors	G	Laurabella Spas	B
Alan Abinger Ltd, Joiners	I	Locksmark, Locksmith	A
Amigo, Window Cleaning	A	Looking Good, Property Maint.	I
Area Sweep	L	Lucies Locks, mobile hairdresser	B
Ascentia Property Lettings	N	MGP Removals	O
Autocraft, Vehicle Servicing	Q	N & J Meadham, Builders	D
Paul Butler, Construction	D	M.O.L. Photography	O
Busy Bees Pre-School	inside front cover	Ninety Seven Designs	M
Calla Salon, Beauty Salon	B	Ben Norris & Co, Antique Restoration	N
Carlton Cattery	S	Oakley Windows	D
CaroSell, Upholstery & Fabrics	H	Opus Tree Care	K
Graham Carter, Accountant	P	Overton Bathroom Centre	F
Cejays, Garage Door Repairs	G	Chris Pearce Renovations	I
Chicken Essentials	S	Dudley Pearce, Electrical Contractor	F
Chiropodist, Mrs C. Tipple	C	W.F. Pearce & Co, Builders	E
Christine Scott Interiors	H	PHD, Decorator	inside back cover
Clarke & Son, Solicitors	L	Pilates/Nordic Walking, Joanna Lewis	C
Classic (Graduate) Tutors	Q	PKN Consulting, Accountants	P
Clear Digital Marketing	M	Pincott, Plumbing & Heating	E
Cooper, Domestic Appliance Repairs	G	Property Search	I
Cottages Day Nursery	inside front cover	Arthur Rampton, Garden Maint.	I
Cover Up Designs Ltd, Furnishings	H	GC Randall, Painter & Decorator	F
Cut-n-Go, Hair Studio	T	R.D.S., Domestic Appliance Repairs	G
DP Fencing	K	Sarah Sladen, Computer help	M
Ecchinswell Village Hall	Q	RC Smallbone, Funeral Directors	T
Elysium Massage Therapy	B	M.J. Sly, Stonemason	T
Feel the Beat Dance	C	Smarthire, Vehicle Hire	R
Fencing & Landscape Services	K	Amanda Taylor, Leatherwork	S
FirstXtra, Financial Advisor	P	Test Valley Pest Control	S
Foremost Footcare	C	Mark Townsin, Antiques	N
Foxes Tree Services	J	The Nail Lounge	C
Jiminy Cricket's Pre-School	A	The Village Club	inside back cover
J.P. H. Forestry	J	The Wellington Arms	Q
Greenwire Solar Installations	H	Titcombe & Murray, Funeral Directors	T
Horizon, Aerials and Satellites	M	Tutoring Solutions	Q
Howe & Son, Funeral Directors	T	J. Verney, Plumbing	G
Imogen Dental Practice	O	Ben Wheeler, Pianos	L
Jardine Moore Fabrics	H	C.P. Willoughby, Tree & Garden Maint.	K
D.P. Jolliffe, Plumber	E	Wilkins, Chimney Sweep	L
Kingsclere Garden & Property Services	J	Woodlands Day Nursery	inside front cover
Kingsclere Garden Care & Landscapes	J		

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CHURCHES: For further details of services see inside

St. Mary's C of E: Church warden - Eileen Selsey ☎01635 42962

email: eileen.selsey@hotmail.co.uk

Church warden - Steve Jaques ☎07887 42815

email: steve.jaques@me.com

Administration - Emma Rivers ☎07790 934972

email: administrator@clerewoodlands.org.uk

Methodist: Rev John Beadle ☎01256 892202

Roman Catholic: Rev Patrick Tansey ☎0118 9814572

POLICE, FIRE or AMBULANCE:

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

Parish Council: 37 George Street (see page 2)

☎298634

Dial-a-Ride

☎01256 462101

Bas & Deane 01256 844844

Gas Emerg. 0800 11999

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 0300 5551387

Village Club: Educational and Social 297913

Post Office 298211

Vet 297557 or 40565

Dial code is 01635 unless otherwise stated

Dentist 08445769339

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