

# T The Kingsclere Tower

EDITORS:	Nicki Lee, Sarah Hewitt & Mike Stokoe	
ADVERTISING:	Brian Elborn    b.elborn345@btinternet.com	☎ 298704
DISTRIBUTION:	Brian Elborn	☎ 298704
ASSEMBLY:	Andrew Kitch	☎ 299743
PRINTERS:	Kingsclere Design and Print	
LAYOUT:	Cathy Williams	
Cover Photo:	Kingsclere Players “Flappers” at the Fieldgate ©Gareth Martin, Kingsclere PHOTO Club	

Having just been involved in FOSM/KCA/Kingsclere Players’ Valentine Murder Mystery Dinner, I am once again amazed at what can be achieved by a team of willing volunteers. The Fieldgate Centre was miraculously transformed into a 1920s Chicago Speakeasy during the prohibition era (which was, fortunately, circumvented for the evening). Entertainment was provided by a wealth of talented singers, dancers, musicians and actors all looking terrific in flapper and gangster costumes, including many members of the audience/diners who wholeheartedly entered into the spirit of the event.

Each month, as we read the many notices and articles that come into the Tower, it is evident that so many of our thriving clubs and organisations are run by volunteers, and how lucky we are to have so many people who make the time and put in the effort to making so many diverse events happen.

**The Editor**

Neither the Editor nor the Management Committee accept responsibility for the opinions expressed or the goods and services advertised in the Kingsclere Tower magazine.

**COPY DEADLINE for April 2020 issue: 12 March 2020**

Send copy to the editors at 3 Blue Meadow, Garrett Close, Kingsclere or  
email: [kingscleretower@gmail.com](mailto:kingscleretower@gmail.com)

*All contributors MUST include name, address, phone number and/or email*

# Kingsclere Parish Council

**Chairman:** John Sawyer  
**Clerk:** Louise Porton  
**Email:** [clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk)  
**Office:** 37 George St, Kingsclere RG20 5NH  
**Public Opening: Mon & Wed 9:30 -11:30am**



**BDBC OWN HOME LOAN** – Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council’s equity loan scheme to help people get on the housing ladder - ‘Basingstoke and Deane Own Home Loan’ – launched on Friday 24 January.

Using £580,000 of council money allocated to provide affordable housing, Own Home Loan aims to support young people to buy a home with deposits of up to £30,000 per application. It is available to single people, couples and those with children who are on the housing register, with those who have been on the register for the longest time given priority. Priority will also be given to those applicants under the age of 35. The key difference to other loan schemes and a major local benefit is that it enables people to buy existing homes and not just new build homes.

People wishing to apply must:

- Be living or working in Basingstoke and Deane and registered on the council’s housing register
- Have a household income under £50,000
- Be the first home that you have bought and your only home
- Be able to provide a 5% deposit
- Pass an external financial assessment.

The deadline for applications is Friday 20 March 2020. We will be sharing news of the scheme through Homebid – the borough council’s choice based lettings scheme; Your Home – the borough council’s emailer to people looking to buy affordable homes; the council’s social media channels; the residents’ newspaper Basingstoke & Deane Today and the local media.

**GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN 28TH MARCH 2020** – Following the success of last years event, the Parish Council has agreed to host again in 2020. We will follow the same format as last year with a Gazebo in the Churchyard where volunteers can come to collect waste sacks and litter picker wands. The event will run from 10am til 1pm on Saturday 28th March 2020. During the morning we will hold the presentation to the winners of the Poster Competition, this is planned for 11am.

**POSTER COMPETITION** – At the time of going to press the entries are being judged and the winners will be announced at the Great British Spring Clean Event on 28th March 2020 – see above.

**LIBRARY CONSULTATION** – Hampshire County Council is asking people who live, work and study in Hampshire to have their say on proposed changes to libraries. The consultation offers a choice between different options. The way people use library services is changing. Hampshire Library Service continues to evolve in response.

As well as responding to changing needs, the library service is looking to make savings of £1.76 million. All areas of work across the County Council are being looked at to find savings needed to bridge the current funding gap faced by local authorities across the country, as demands for council services grow.

No decisions will be made on any of these proposals, until people have had the opportunity to give their views. Feedback received will inform decisions to be made by the Executive Member for Recreation and Heritage in summer 2020. To have your say visit

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/library-consultation>  
Paper copies of the consultation form are available in Kingsclere Community Library if you prefer to respond this way. The deadline for responses is 18th March 2020

A public drop-in session for the Library Service Consultation is being held on Thursday 5th March 2:30-4:30pm at Kingsclere Community Library, The Village Club, George Street, Kingsclere, RG20 5NH.

**GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING** – the collections dates are 11th and 25th March 2020.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – will be at 7:30pm on Monday 23rd March 2020, 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.

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



@kingsclerepc



facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil

## Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Ltd

We were delighted that last month's **Murder Mystery Dinner** - our first joint venture with the Kingsclere Players and the Kingsclere Community Association – was an early sell out, and proved a most enjoyable evening. Our thanks to all involved in putting it on, and to all of you who supported us in the audience.

We now look forward to the **Biennial Kingsclere Art Exhibition** in the Kingsmill Room **Friday 17th to Sunday 19th April**, where the organisers are again very kindly donating part of the profits to the Friends. As in previous Exhibitions, a large number of local artists will be showing and selling their work, in a variety of media. There will be a modest entrance fee, and we hope that as many of you as possible will come to see what's on offer.

This is followed by the always popular **Plant Sale** in St. Mary's churchyard, from **9.30 am on Saturday 23rd May**, which will again be a joint venture with the Kingsclere Gardening Association. If, as Spring approaches, you are splitting perennials or sowing annuals or vegetables, we should welcome any surplus contributions; please 'phone Jane Royle, on 297430

**Peter Turner, Chairman**

### Emma @ Salon 46



Senior Stylist Emma Spanswick has over twenty five years experience in the hair industry, specialising in all aspects of hair styling & colouring.

10% Off on all first appointments

Appointments available with

**Emma**

Salon 46 Bartholomew St  
Newbury Berkshire  
RG14 5QA

Call Emma on 07966086003  
emma.spanswick@yahoo.co.uk

# Kingsclere Community Library

Please help **SAVE YOUR LIBRARY!**



The proposal to make volunteer run libraries ‘Independent Community Owned’, completely detached from the County, means:

- \* NO new books
- \* NO inter-library loan books
- \* NO free public WiFi
- \* NO using your Hants Library Card
- \* NO Reserved Books
- \* NO ‘GoOnline’ Computer
- \* NO Library staff
- \* NO County Funding

We are the most northwest public library in the county, so this will affect all of the villages in this area

**Hampshire Library Service** will attend a **drop-in session** in Kingsclere Community Library on **Thursday 5th March** between 2.30 and 4.30pm. There will also be a **Public Meeting** in the Village Club on **Monday 9th March** at 7.30pm. Please come along and help save your library. We have a petition at the library & other locations, or sign online at:

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/> - then enter ‘Kingsclere’. The form to give your views is at [www.hants.gov.uk/library-consultation](http://www.hants.gov.uk/library-consultation) . We **STRONGLY DISAGREE** with the proposals for the 4th Tier Community Libraries.

For more information, please email. Also follow us on Twitter & Facebook.

**Nicki Lee, [Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com)**

## Kingsclere Heritage Association



Our next meeting, the last in our winter programme of speaker meetings, will be on **THURSDAY 19th MARCH** when we will be visited again by Tony Cross, retired Curator of Alton Museum. Tony will present

**“THE ROMANCE OF THE LETTERBOX”.**

The iconic red pillarbox has been a distinctive feature on the roads of Britain for over one hundred and fifty years. Tony has made a study of it and will recount to us an interesting story of its development..

We meet at the Village Club at 7.30pm. Visitors are very welcome at £3pp.

**Michael Leah, Secretary, tel 297403**

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



Installation of the magnificent new roof has been completed and the building is now filled with light and warmth. Thank you to all our users for your forbearance during the many ups and downs. At the time of writing, Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council is planning to re-instate the recycling facility.

Everyone in the village belongs to Kingsclere Community Association and we need your involvement so that we can continue to provide this community space and to support the expanding range of entertainment and activities we offer the whole community. We would appreciate help with events, IT and general DIY. If you can spare an hour or two (or more!) each month please get in touch. ‘Many hands make light work.’

### **Dates for Your Diary**

**Greener Kingsclere/KCA Sustainable Market Saturday 14th March**  
10:30am-1:30pm. (see opposite for more details)

**Monthly Meet-Up Tuesday 17th March**  
2.30-4.30pm. (Phone in advance if you require transport)

**Beck’s Roadshow Disco with DJ Paul. Saturday 11th April**  
7.30pm Motown, Rock&Roll, 70’s Disco, Soul Music. £5 Admission.  
Adults Only.

### **Watership Down Run Sunday 12th July**

To register for the run or to volunteer as a course marshall, go to <https://raceroster.com/events/2020/27555/the-watership-down> or visit our website. Sponsorship opportunities are being offered to local businesses and clubs. Please call or email the office for more information.

Visit our website at [www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk](http://www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk)

tel: 01635 298497 email: [fieldgatecentre@btconnect.com](mailto:fieldgatecentre@btconnect.com)



Following our successful first eco-Market in January, we are delighted to announce our 2<sup>nd</sup> event in association with Kingsclere Community Association

**Sustainable Market**  
**Saturday 14th March 10:30am – 1:30pm**  
**at The Fieldgate Centre**

We are finalising stalls that can enable us to offer a broad range of products, including “refillables” such as:

- dried foods eg cereals, pasta, fruit etc, sold by weight. Bring your own food containers!;
- household and personal care products eg cleaning products, hair products etc. Bring your own containers! *These should be non-food containers, clean, and all labels removed, or reusable containers can be purchased at the market.*

There will also be gift/everyday items available eg Easter Eggs; bamboo socks, kitchen tools, bags, local honey, nappies, skincare and more! All with an emphasis on reusability, and reducing single-use plastic.

Follow us on Facebook to learn more as we secure more stall bookings.



Greener Kingsclere or email [greenerkingsclere@gmail.com](mailto:greenerkingsclere@gmail.com)

## Wolverton Village Hall Market

The next Saturday Market and Tabletop Sale to be held at Wolverton Village Hall will be on Saturday, 7th March. Doors are open from 9.30 am until 11.00 am. Admission is free. The various stalls include local grown home produce, plants, bric-a-brac to name a few, and refreshments are available whilst you browse the stall.

New stallholders are welcome – if you would like a stall of your own please contact:

**Julia or Tony Drake on 01486 608594**



# Kingsclere Film Club

*At 7.30pm (doors open 7.00pm) at the Village Club, George Street*

**Saturday, 7 March, 2020**  
(PLEASE NOTE THE DATE)

## **Topkapi**

*(1964 – Comedy/Thriller -U- 120min)*

A conman gets mixed up with a group of thieves who plan to rob an Istanbul museum to retrieve a jewelled dagger.

Stars Melina Mercouri and Peter Ustinov.

*Next month: Saturday, 11 April – The White Crow (2018)*

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

New members welcome at any time. For further information call:

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

## **Kingsclere Bowling Club**

February sees the start of our planning for the new bowls season. During the closed season we have taken the opportunity to redecorate the club house. The work is now complete, so work on the green will start as soon as the weather permits. We are opening the green slightly earlier this year on the **18th April**. Anyone who would like to join us is most welcome. To celebrate the opening, there will be a **members' quiz night** at the bowls club. See the website for details: [www.kingsclerebowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.kingsclerebowlingclub.co.uk)

As part of our fund raising we are planning to have a:

### **Jumble Sale on Saturday 14th March**

held at our club house, Holding Field between 12pm and 3pm

Refreshments, including homemade cakes, will be available for purchase.

Entrance is free, everyone is welcome to come along and search for a bargain.

Our **Easter Bingo** will be on **April 4th** at the clubhouse.

Doors open 6:30pm, eyes down 7:00pm, bring your family and friends.

# Kingsclere Tennis Club

Kingsclere Tennis Club will be holding their **Annual General Meeting** at the Fieldgate Centre in the Sharman Room on **Wednesday 8th April** at 7.30pm.



Please come along and get involved to help keep a local active tennis club in Kingsclere. For an agenda, please contact:

**Linda O'Leary**, tel **07802 704187** email: [linda\\_m\\_oleary@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:linda_m_oleary@yahoo.co.uk)  
**ALL WELCOME!**

For Tennis Club Membership contact:

**Adam Price** tel **07725 901362** email: [adamprice27st@gmail.com](mailto:adamprice27st@gmail.com)

## Sandham Memorial Chapel -March Events

**Wednesday 4th March 10:15am**

A **short monthly service** in the Sandham Memorial Chapel.

Free admission/donations

Contact: **01635 278394**

**Friday 6th March 11am**

**Papercraft Workshop** - Work with local artist Helen Mortimer to learn about this varied artistic medium and to create cards and 3D projects from a range of colourful papers and cards.

Cost £17

Contact: **0344 249 1895**

**Friday 6th March 2pm**

**Découpage on Glass workshop** - Work with local artist Helen Mortimer to learn the art of decoupage and use napkins to create beautiful decorations on a glass bowl or dish.

Cost £27

Contact: **0344 249 1895**

**Monday 9th March 11am**

**Chapel Talk** - Hear about the origins of Stanley Spencer's Holy Box and explore this incredible series of paintings.

Cost £8

Contact: **0344 249 1895**

**Wednesday 11th March – Sunday 29th March 11-4pm**

**Saturated Space: Art Exhibition** - work by Chapel Arts Studios associate artists in response to themes of the Chapel and its paintings.

Admission free - usual entry charges apply to chapel Contact: **01635 278394**

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sandham-memorial-chapel/whats-on](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sandham-memorial-chapel/whats-on)

**Community Concert**  
**at St Paul's Church, Ashford Hill**  
**Saturday 25th April 2020 7pm**

A wonderful mixture of many genres of music to keep our audience on their toes and raise funds for the Swings and Smiles Charity and St Pauls!

We warmly welcome all for a fabulous evening. Delicious refreshments available. Earlybird Tickets for sale now [www.Eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.Eventbrite.co.uk) at £8 and nearer the time available in local shops.

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

Kingsclere Singers  
 Present

**Sacred and Secular**

The Kingsclere Singers invite you to join them for their spring choral events:

**with Ashford Hill primary school at St Paul's, Ashford Hill**

**Friday 27th March, 7pm**

Tickets £8.50, children free entrance

**Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Silchester, RG7 2HH**

**Saturday 28th March, 7:30pm**

Tickets £10.00 (including Glass of Wine or Soft Drink)

Car parking available in adjacent field (subject to favourable ground conditions),  
 by kind permission of Nick & Bidy West.

**Enquiries/Reservations:**

Richard Fletcher (0118) 970 0633

Sandra Speight (0118) 970 0570.

Payment at the door on the night.

Proceeds to Church Fabric Maintenance Fund

Also we would like thank the community for joining us for our Christmas carol events in December where we raised £750 for the homeless charity

CRISIS

# The Church Pages



What to do when we face changes that are beyond our control? How do we respond when a change we hadn't expected or wanted comes our way? Perhaps it might be our concern about Brexit and the beginnings of our new relationship with our European neighbours. Or perhaps it might be changes at work, the nature of the job is changing or you find yourself in a new role, or indeed without a role. Perhaps it might be changes in family life, children leaving home, losing a loved one. Or perhaps it might be to do with health, challenges to mental health, or deteriorating physical health.

As a church, we are facing some changes which will mean that our church communities will become part of something bigger which will encompass 10 churches in total, stretching from Burghclere to Baughurst. There will be two vicars amongst those churches and we will work together to work out how we can best serve the Lord in this bigger patch.

I must admit, my initial reaction was pessimistic and I was worried about the impact of them on our call as a church to follow Jesus, love God's family and bless others. And many of those I've talked to in our churches have felt the same way. How can we make sure organising ourselves doesn't distract us from reaching out to others? How can we protect and foster growth in our churches? How will we maintain a local church focus in many different villages?

But there will also be opportunities, including the chance to work on bigger projects together, to get more people involved in the ministry and mission of the church, to support and receive support from one another, and to reach more people with the good news of Jesus.

And that final point is what Jesus called the early disciples to do as he returned to heaven. He called them to share the message, teach, baptise, and help people follow Jesus. But He didn't leave them to do it on their own. No, He finally said to them: *"And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age"*. That promise even stretches down to today.

So whatever change you might be facing, remember that promise, and ask Jesus to come and give you strength to face it and to respond in the right way.

**Blessings, Ben**

## Services in March 2020

### St Paul's, Ashford Hill

1st March	8am	Holy Communion
22nd March	11am	Morning Worship (Mothering Sunday)
29th March	8am	Holy Communion

### St Peter's, Headley

8th March	11am	Holy Communion
15th March	8am	Holy Communion

### St Mary's, Kingsclere

**Breakfast every week at 8.45am in the Kingsmill Room**

1st March	9.15am	Communion
8th March	8am	Communion and 9.15am Morning Worship
15th March	9.15am	Morning Worship and 11am Communion
22rd March	8am	Communion & 9.15am Messy Worship (Mothering Sunday)
29th March	9.15am	Morning Worship

**For more information on services and events in our churches: [www.clerewoodlands.org.uk](http://www.clerewoodlands.org.uk)**

### Methodist Services

1st March	10am	Holy Communion : Rev. Rachel Borgars
8th March	10am	Morning Worship : Tim Gardner
15th March	10am	Morning Worship : Muriel Wood
22rd March	10am	Morning Worship : Maggy Wallace
29th March	10am	Morning Worship : Rev. Andy Fitchet

**All are welcome to attend**

### St Mary's Church

Vicar	Rev Ben Read, The Vicarage, Fox's Lane	01635 298471
Church Wardens	Andrew Kitch, <a href="mailto:andrewkitch16@gmail.com">andrewkitch16@gmail.com</a>	01635 299743
	Sarah Mussett, <a href="mailto:sarah.mussett@hotmail.co.uk">sarah.mussett@hotmail.co.uk</a>	01635 291900
Adminstrator	Emma Rivers <a href="mailto:administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk">administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk</a>	07790 934972

### Methodist Church

Chief Steward	Wendy Morgan	01635 297538
Secretary & Hire of Hall	Jeanette Billington	01635 297585

### Roman Catholic

Rev Patrick Tansey	<a href="mailto:tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk">tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</a>	0118 981 4572
--------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------

## Lighting up St Mary's

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

To book contact : **Emma, Church Administrator, tel 07790 934972**

- 30th Jan In loving memory of Gloria Olariu-Stead who was born sleeping 30th January 2019 from Oana, Michael, Emily, Gina, Vaseli & Cornelia
- 22nd Feb To celebrate Thinking Day. Remembering all Girl Guides & Girl Scouts the world over. Kingsclere Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Leaders
- 1st Mar In memory of Ruth & Derek Rodwell, John & Iris Isles and Janet Bradley. With love from their sons & daughters, nieces & nephews

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting & Full Revision of Electoral Roll for St Mary's Kingsclere

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on **27th April** at 7.30pm in the Kingsmill Room (refreshments from 7pm). This is the occasion when we celebrate what has been happening in our church community over the past year, and conduct business such as elections to the posts of churchwardens and the Church Council.

By enrolling on the electoral roll, you become a voting member of the Church of England and may attend and vote at the meeting. It also gives an indication of the real membership and strength of the church in our parish.

If you would like to be added to the roll, please visit the Benefice website: [www.clerewoodlands.org.uk](http://www.clerewoodlands.org.uk) and click on Electoral Roll Form (under "What we Believe"). **Paper forms** can also be found at the back of St Mary's Church. Please complete and return to the Church Electoral Roll Officer or Churchwarden before the **deadline of 3rd April 2020**.

The requirements for joining the roll are:

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

**Les Wallace, Church Electoral Roll Officer**

# Kingsclere Twinning Association

## ??!QUIZ!??

Come and join us for a **MAD MARCH QUIZ** on **Saturday 28 March**, from 7.30 pm at the Village Club!

- Two course light supper included, with a bar serving wine, beer, and soft drinks
- Individuals, couples and teams are all welcome, and no need to be a member.
- **Tickets now available** at £10 for members and £12 for non-members. Please email [Kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk) for tickets.

We are looking forward to our **Cormicy visitors** arriving **Friday 1st May to Sunday 3rd May 2020**. If you are interested in being involved please email: [Kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk) or call **Sue Watson** on **01635 298940** for any further information.

# Kingsclere Gardening Association

Our speaker for the **meeting on Thursday March 12th** is Mr Marcel Floyd, a grower of clematis and other climbing plants, from near Marlborough. He has been recommended as a brilliant speaker so I hope members will come along to hear him, He will be bringing plants for sale also. The meeting at the Village Club starts at 7.30pm; doors open 7.00pm. Members free, visitors £2.00. Help setting up chairs is always appreciated.

We will again be joining F.O.S.M at the **plant sale** in the church yard on **Saturday May 23rd**. If you can grow spare plants for this event they will be most welcome. We are also having an **Open Gardens afternoon on July 5th**, all proceeds in aid of charities. If you can open your garden for this and have not been contacted, Les Wallace will be pleased to hear from you. Phone 01635 298794.

Membership fees are now due. This can be done at our meetings. £8.00 single £6.00 for seniors Our next event will be the **Spring Show on April 12th**

**John Eckton, tel 01256 850017**

**200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200**

Entries drawn first week of each month, various village venues

and St Mary's 200 Club Winner February No 74, **Ann Mytton**  
**Well done, Ann!**

## March In The Garden

The clocks go forward this month, giving extra daylight to work in the garden, as there is plenty to do now plants are coming to life. March can still give some winter weather, but the sun does have some warmth.

The grass has grown regardless of the weather earlier in the year, so mowing could be done if dry enough. The lawn edges may need repairing after the winter, easily done; cut out a square turf at the edge and turn it round, so you have a nice straight edge.

Plenty of planting can be done, and bare rooted plants e.g. new hedging and evergreen shrubs can be moved.

Now is a good time to prune shrub and bush roses; vigorous growing climbers need to be cut back hard eg honeysuckle, ivy, jasmine, climbing roses. With the recent winds this helps to keep the weight from their support. Having lost an archway because of weight and wind it's a lesson learnt.

Planting and dividing perennials can be done now, hard work, but well worth the effort, as they become choked, resulting in poor performance. If not already done cut back last year's old flowering stems. The primulas that have finished flowering can be divided. If possible let daffodils die back naturally, just cutting off the dead flowers. Of course there will be plenty still in bloom. Time to sow hardy annuals outside, very rewarding to see them grow.

There are some jobs to be done in the vegetable garden: early potatoes to plant, onion sets and herbs to sow. If you grow chives these can be divided. Parsnips can also be sown. Red and white currants should have been cut back by now, leaving a few straight stems. Also a good time to feed fruit trees and bushes, with some blood, fish, and bone.

So many lovely plants are flowering just now, so take a moment to enjoy them. Happy Gardening!

**Denise Allen**

## Fund Raising for St Michael's Hospice

Thank you very much to everyone who contributed to the January collection with their tins and boxes. The Kingsclere total was £360.48, all at the Hospice are very appreciative of your donations.

We could do with some more box holders so please let me know if you would like a box - the next collection will be in July. Many thanks

**Clare Risoe 01635 297036**

## Kingsclere Village Club



Saturday March 21st, 7:30pm

### Meal and Magic

Join us for a delicious 3-course meal and close-up magic entertainment by **Mike Stoner**. Tickets £15 from [events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk](mailto:events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk), [wegottickets.com/event/496699](http://wegottickets.com/event/496699), tel. 297390 or from the Village Butcher

Don't forget the **sing-a-long** screening of **The Greatest Showman (PG)** with free popcorn. Add to the fun - dress in character!

**29th February**, 7pm start. Tickets £7:50 under 16s £3:50

[events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk](mailto:events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk), or **tel. 297390**

*With grateful thanks to the Kingsclere Film Club for their help and support.*

## Kingsclere Royal British Legion

Remembrance Day 2019 seems a lifetime ago but I would like to thank again the community for their attendance and support to the event which is a key part of the RBL year. The village Poppy Appeal went superbly and although all monies are not yet in, and we have a number of events planned between now and October, it seems we beat all records, which is down to the generosity of the village and the businesses. Mike Carrington stands down as Poppy Organiser and we would like to thank him for his sterling work last year.

At the January 2020 Hampshire County RBL Conference, the village branch was awarded 2 trophies; the first for biggest increase for a small branch for recruitment and retention, the second for a small branch with the best increase in Poppy Fundraising. This is truly a team effort across the branch and we hope that more of the village will wish to join our success.

With 2020 being the 75th anniversary of both VE and VJ Days, your village RBL plans a number of events throughout the year...details to follow shortly!

Our monthly meeting is held at **The Crown** from 7pm each **first Thursday of the month** and all are most welcome to come along and see what we do.

There is no need to be ex-military to join the RBL. Details of all our events are on our Facebook Page (search for "Kingsclere Royal British Legion" and ask to join the group).

**Mark Holden**

## Kingsclere & Headley Woodlands WI

Venue: Kingsclere Village Club, 35 George Street

This month's meeting: **Wednesday 11th February**

**Members & Visitors:** Please sign in at 1.30 for a prompt start of business at 1.45.

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

Our speaker this month is **Mrs V Dubben** and her presentation has an intriguing title: **"Quilts & the Underground Railroad"**. Many will suspect (for more than one reason) that this will have nothing to do with duvets-on-the-subway but let's leave it at that for now.

**Visitors:** Non-members are welcome to attend one or two of our monthly meetings for a fee of £2 per visit which includes tea, biscuits and a raffle ticket. Be assured: You *will* be made to feel welcome because it's always our pleasure to meet a new guest.

**Members please note: Letter-clue for March is 'I' (for 'India')**

Nova Saunderson, tel 299570

## Overton & District U3A

THE THIRD AGE TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Next meeting:

**Wednesday 18th March 10.00am**

St Mary's Hall, Overton RG25 3HA



**Speaker: Ann Chance - Petticoat Pilot**

Ann gained her Private Pilots Licence at the age of 56 but has also been a professional lady plumber, a florist, a cowboy in Montana - having completed five cattle drives, a scuba diver and a musician. Oh, and she has also written two books. A lady of many talents!

Free to members

Visitors are welcome and pay £3 on the door

## Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby and Toddler Group



**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 are really pleased to welcome Ugly Duckling Pottery Painting from Newbury, who will be joining us in our session on the 10th March. This is a great opportunity for the children to create a lovely Mother's day or Easter gift (or anything else they fancy!). They will be bringing a selection of mugs, bowls and plates, which can be painted or hand printed for just £6 per item and collected a week later after firing. Look out for more details on social media.

It is great that we are able to work with local businesses in this way, so if there is anyone else out there who would like to join us for a session, please get in touch.

**[village\\_bunniestoddlergroup@gmail.com](mailto:village_bunniestoddlergroup@gmail.com)**

## Busy Bees Pre-school Kingsclere

We have had a busy first half of term and are looking forward to some spring weather, so we can enjoy getting out and learning about our Community. We would like thank Trevor Marriner, for donating some wood to enable us to complete our Mud Kitchen and John Lawrence for erecting our picket fence. Our outside area provides a wonderful learning environment.

We have limited availability for the Summer term so please do not hesitate to give us a call if you have pre-school aged children.

See inside front cover for more details

# Girl Guides



## Jumble Sale

### Saturday 14th March

10am till 12noon at Kingsclere Scout Hut, Strokins Rd Kingsclere.

We will also be serving tea, coffee and cake, and will have a raffle. All money raised is going towards Pack holiday and unit funds.

Rainbows have been playing games, made promise caterpillars, designed a badge and had a Frozen-themed promise party where they made crowns and dancing ribbons and enjoyed some cakes.

Brownies have completed their Take Action skill builder badge, and we saw three girls complete their first theme award. Girls have had a go at planning Pack holiday for this year and came up with some great ideas. We had a board game evening which was thoroughly enjoyed, and an evening of rocket building, which were launched using Bicarb and vinegar, and some reaching staggering heights.

Guides have started work on their First Aid skill builder and looked at how to help people when having an anxiety/panic attack, and F.A.S.T. We also practised our CPR.

Girls have also been discussing what they feel is needed in our community and have drawn up their own plans. These were very interesting to read. Lastly the girls made bees wax wraps which they took home and have been using helping them to reduce their plastic waste.

If you have a daughter who may enjoy guiding or like to volunteer email :

**[1stkingsclererainbows@gmail.com](mailto:1stkingsclererainbows@gmail.com)**    **[3rdkingsclerebrownies@gmail.com](mailto:3rdkingsclerebrownies@gmail.com)**

**[1stkingsclereguides@gmail.com](mailto:1stkingsclereguides@gmail.com)**

or register at **[www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)**

# Kingsclere Primary School



## School Crossing Patrol

As some of you may of already heard, Penny Hunt, will be retiring from her School Crossing Patrol duties on 6th March. Penny has been the “lollipop lady” for Kingsclere CE Primary School for over 15 years and will be sadly missed. If any past pupils or parents would like to sign her card or contribute to a gift, please call into the school office by Wednesday 4th March.

**Katrina Mills, Admin Officer tel: 298583**

## Governor Vacancies

Are you: interested in education? good at data analysis? a speaker at meetings? Then why not consider becoming **a governor at Kingsclere Primary School?**

We currently have **vacancies for two co-opted governors**. Our governors are volunteers from a range of different backgrounds, bringing different skills and experience to the team who work together for the benefit of the school.

Being a school governor is an enjoyable, stimulating and rewarding. It is an opportunity to work with other governors and the Senior Leadership Team of the school to understand school management issues, the well-being of the children and staff, as well as be involved in the life of the school.

Meetings include discussion and presentations on curriculum, recruitment, finance and welfare and safeguarding of children and staff.

The Governing Body’s Role is to:

- Set the strategic direction of the School
- Hold the headteacher & senior leaders to account for quality of teaching & learning, pupil progress, behaviour, health & safety and safeguarding
- Ensure good financial governance

The requirements of the governors’ role include:

- An interest in children’s education and the performance of the school
- An open and enquiring mind and the ability to be objective
- A willingness to listen and make informed judgements
- The ability to work well with others
- Commitment to take training to understand the role and responsibilities.

As a member of the Governing Body, you would be expected to attend 4-6 meetings a term in the evenings.

If you are interested, for further details, please contact:

**Jan Doling, Clerk to Governors, [3088Governors@kingsclere.hants.sch.uk](mailto:3088Governors@kingsclere.hants.sch.uk)**

## Nature Notes

It was good to see that the autumnal rains had restored Greenham Common to its usual state when we visited a few weeks ago. There was a time last year when it was looking so dry and parched but now all the scrapes and deeper ponds are filled much to the relief of wildlife and livestock. There is not much high ground but if a mound is climbed there is an attractive view across a mini 'Lake District'. We paid a visit for the first time to the control tower and enjoyed learning about history of the Common, particularly its last eighty years. The view from the top, with its all round view showed its huge expanse and what a bonus it is to local people and as a nature reserve. It was encouraging to see a flock of approximately fifty lapwings and also a gathering of ten magpies, the collective noun of which apparently, is a 'tiding'.



*Blue Tits on a garden bird feeder*

Where once peanuts in their shells, laboriously threaded onto cotton strings, were the only available hanging bird food now, wild bird food is a big industry with farms diversifying into these crops to supply the market. Favourites among our birds are fat balls and suet pellets, they seem to instinctively recognise the value of fat, and black sunflower seed. Robins, blackcaps and long tailed tits and others are all adept at using hanging feeders. A standard wire feeder holds 175 grams of sunflower seed and it is easily emptied in a day, how many trips are made to carry away every seed?

Two wild plum trees are in full blossom in the village, the buds are attractive to bullfinches

## Divorce Recovery Workshop (DRW)

is a nationwide registered Charity and non-profit organisation, dedicated to helping people come to terms with a marriage or significant relationship that has irretrievably broken down.



**DRW** is suitable for anyone of **any age, gender, faith or background, and at any stage** of separation or divorce.

DRW has six 2-hour sessions using video material, providing a constructive focus, followed by small group sessions, offering a safe environment in which to discuss, share, support and understand personal feelings. The workshop is run by volunteers who have themselves suffered the breakdown of a relationship and who have attended the workshop as a participant. The key theme of the workshop is ‘go through it or grow through it’ – that is, recovery from traumatic experiences can bring plenty of opportunities for personal growth.

**Coming to BASINGSTOKE 25th April, 30th April and 5th May...**

Workshops are at **St. Mary’s Church, Goat Lane, Basingstoke, RG21 7PZ** (ample free parking close by the church) and refreshments are provided.

For further information, or to book a place at the workshop:

**tel Mary on 01256 334022** or email [basingstoke@drw.org.uk](mailto:basingstoke@drw.org.uk).

You can also call the **National Helpline 0333 335 0489** (local call rate) for more information on DRW and other local and residential courses.

## “All Shook Up”

**Thursday 16th - Saturday 18th April**

Central Studio, Cliddesden Lane, Basingstoke

**BATS**  
**N E X T G E N**

Loosely based on Shakespeare’s “Twelfth Night” this hip-swivelling musical fantasy will have you jumpin’ out of your blue suede shoes with such classics as “Heartbreak Hotel”, “Hound Dog”, & “Jailhouse Rock”.

Tickets prices at £13\* adult and £11.50 concessions.  
(\* a fee of 7% + VAT per booking will be added )

Available from [ticketsource.com/bats-next-gen](http://ticketsource.com/bats-next-gen) or  
via the links at [batsnextgen.co.uk](http://batsnextgen.co.uk) or  
[facebook.com/BATSNG](http://facebook.com/BATSNG)



# Newbury Spring Festival 2020

9th to 23rd May



Tickets: **0845 5218 218**

Tickets go on sale on 27th February for the Newbury Spring Festival 2020. A host of artists and performers from the worlds of classical, jazz, world music, folk, ballet and cabaret will descend on Newbury from 9th to 23rd May.

The Festival opens on 9th May with the BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sakari Oramo with British pianist Paul Lewis playing Beethoven Piano Concerto. On the same night but opening the daily Corn Exchange programme is The Sons of Pitches who are currently taking the entertainment world by storm.

Other highlights include Solomon's Knot at Holy Cross Church, Ramsbury on 15th May and Harry Christophers and the Sixteen at Douai Abbey on 22nd May. Cardiff Singer of the Year 2019 makes one of his first British recitals on 13th May at the Corn Exchange.

For more information: [www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk](http://www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk)

For homing, fund raising and volunteer enquiries;  
Telephone: **0345 260 1501** or  
Email: [sylvia.cp@outlook.com](mailto:sylvia.cp@outlook.com)

To view all cats currently up for adoption visit  
[www.andover.cats.org.uk](http://www.andover.cats.org.uk)



This handsome man is Snowy who came into our care as his owner was struggling due to ill health. The vets estimate he is about 6 years. He has had lots of dental work done and will be ready for homing soon. He is very friendly so will love a fuss once he has settled in. Daisy, our featured cat from last month, was homed to an older couple and is being thoroughly spoilt.

*Helpful tip* - Cats have evolved to eat little and often – in the wild a cat would eat around 10-12 small meals throughout the day. Pet cats will often prefer the same, although once neutered, cats typically have reduced energy needs, so consider cutting down their daily amount accordingly.

***We are urgently in need of more volunteers*** and have several roles available. Please get in touch if you can offer any assistance to help our little branch.

