

# The Kingsclere Tower



**December/ January 2019**

**Your Village Magazine**

# The Kingsclere Tower

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Christmas is a time when those of us who are fortunate can enjoy the celebration of family and community life in Kingsclere and participate in the many joyous events that are taking place in our village during the next few weeks.

It is also a time to reflect on those whom we have lost and be grateful for what they gave us. There is a service "Remembering at Christmas" on the 17<sup>th</sup> December at St. Mary's Church.

Bob Newbury died in October. He farmed at Porch Farm and was an active member of St Mary's and FOSM as well as being a part-time fireman when the fire engine used to be housed at what is now the Chemist.

Margaret Ingram, who also died recently, was a leading member of the Methodist Church. Many of us will remember her as a social historian of Kingsclere. She contributed frequently to this magazine and published two books, the last being "Kingsclere, A Social History." It is full of fascinating detail about the lives of former village residents.

Lastly, our oldest resident, Gladys Pearce, 101, has sadly died. A member of a well-known Kingsclere family. The Pearce family owned "The Old Bakery" in George Street before it was sold to Hussey's.

Let us raise a glass at Christmas to those whom we have lost and who have given so much to our village.

**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.

#### **To all "Tower" Contributors**

Copy for **February** to the Editor at 3 Blue Meadow, Garrett Close.  
or kingscleretower@gmail.com

**NOT LATER THAN 12th January.**

**Will ALL contributors please include full name  
& home phone number/e-mail address.**

## KINGSCLERE PARISH COUNCIL

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



**POSTER COMPETITION** – Children aged 5-14 WE NEED YOU to design a poster to encourage people to pick up after their dogs. What we're after: Bright and eye catching posters; Amazing drawings; Encouraging messages. 1<sup>st</sup> place prizes for each category: Ages 5-7; 8-10 and 11-14. Winning designs will be made into signs and installed around the parish. Competition closes 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Drop your finished poster into the Parish Council Office before the closing date. A template can be downloaded from [www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk](http://www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk) or collected from the Parish Council Office.

**GRANT FUNDING FOR RURAL BUSINESSES** – Government announced 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019 the launch of a grant scheme specifically targeted at rural businesses to support growth, job creation and tourism in rural areas. Businesses can apply for between £20,000 and £750,000. The funding will open for application on Monday 4 November and businesses will need to submit an expression of interest by 16 February 2020.

More information on the scheme is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/rural-businesses-to-benefit-from-35m-government-fund> and information on how to apply can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rdpe-growth-programme>

Should any rural businesses be interested in applying, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council would be more than happy to support them with developing their expressions of interest. For assistance, please contact Daniel Garnier, Economy and Culture Manager, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Tel: 01256 845720, email: [Daniel.Garnier@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:Daniel.Garnier@basingstoke.gov.uk)

**DON'T HAVE A RUBBISH CHRISTMAS – RECYCLE** – 'Tis the season for family and presents – and plenty of extra household waste. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is urging residents to recycle more and try to waste less during this festive season.

There is no limit to how much you can recycle. Any extra recycling can be put in cardboard boxes or clear sacks which are available from larger supermarkets and homeware stores. Leave the cardboard box or clear sacks filled with recycling and large, flattened cardboard boxes next to your recycling bin. Please remove the polystyrene and plastic packaging before leaving cardboard out.

There are lots of items that can be recycled including cardboard packaging, paper, newspapers and magazines, food tins, drinks cans, aerosols and plastic bottles.

Remember that Christmas wrapping paper cannot be recycled and needs to go into your black waste bin. Try wrapping presents with brown paper instead, it's recyclable and can look beautiful when decorated. Christmas cards can be recycled but only if they do not contain glitter, ribbons or bows. If you're unsure about what can and can't be recycled visit [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/recycle](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/recycle) or call the council on 01256 844844.

Christmas can mean extra rubbish which can't be recycled, so extra sacks will be collected for the first collection after Christmas only.

If you're thinking of getting a real tree, you can recycle it at one of a number of drop off points across the borough between Thursday 2 January and Sunday 26 January 2020, a list of the collection points will be available in December.

For the first time those people signed up to the Garden Waste service will be able to put their real Christmas trees out for collection with their fortnightly garden waste. Christmas trees over 6ft need to be cut in half and decorations must be removed from all trees. For more information visit [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/christmas-tree](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/christmas-tree). Cabinet Member for Environment and Enforcement Cllr Hayley Eachus said: "It's inevitable that extra rubbish will be created over the festive period. I would ask residents to make sure they're disposing of their waste and recycling correctly so we can enjoy a more sustainable start to 2020."

This year bin collections will be affected over three weeks and, unless adverse weather affects bin rounds, collections should return to normal from Monday 13 January 2020.

Instead of the normal Wednesday collection dates, the Festive Collection dates will be Friday 27 December 2019, Friday 3 January 2020 and Thursday 9 January 2020.

Check your bin collection day on the website [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/bincollections](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/bincollections) or call 01256 844844

**HAMPSHIRE ALERTS** – We are sometimes contacted by residents concerned about crime in the area. The Parish Council would like to enable residents to help themselves wherever possible and one really useful tool is the Hampshire Alert scheme. It is easy to register to receive alerts via email on their website [www.hampshirealert.co.uk](http://www.hampshirealert.co.uk). Simply register for an account and then you can adapt the setting to specify which agencies you receive messages from including Neighbourhood Watch; Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner; SGN (Gas Emergency Service); The Police; Action Fraud (NFIB).

**STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2020** – If your child is 4 or will turn 4 before 1 September 2020, they can start school in September 2020. For more information go to [www.hants.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hants.gov.uk/admissions) where you will also find information about schools in Hampshire. Alternatively, parents can phone 0300 555 1377 for further support.

The national closing date for applications is Wednesday 15th January 2020.

**GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING** – the collections dates are 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – will be at 7:30pm on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 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.

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

The Parish website [www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk](http://www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk)  
 @kingsclerepc facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil



## Basingstoke Borough Council Plan and Deane

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council would like to hear your views on its draft Council Plan to ensure the borough continues to be a great place to live over the next four years and budget proposals to support this.

The draft Council Plan for 2020 to 2024 sets the key priorities for the council over the next four years and into the future.

With a focus on putting residents at the heart of everything the council does, four priorities have been developed – strengthening communities, protecting and enhancing our environment, improving safety and planning for the future. Supporting the council plan, proposals for a balanced budget for 2020 to 2021 aim to protect services that residents value.

To do this, proposals include a £5 average increase for the borough's part of the council tax and a 3% average increase in fees and charges to help pay for the cost of optional services the council offers.

Over the last 11 years £13.7 million in savings have been made without cutting services, with the borough council continuing to look at how it can run more efficiently.

Further savings of £1.42 million have been identified in 2020/21, increasing to £1.82 million by 2023/24.

Executive Director of Finance and Resources said, "Residents give the area a 94% satisfaction rating however the council is not complacent. Based on what people and businesses have said matters to them, this draft plan sets priorities that put residents at the heart of the council's future plans.

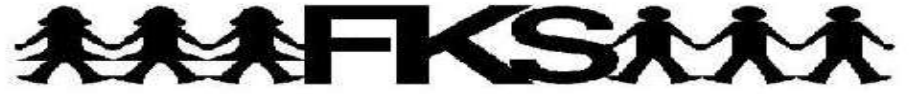
This is supported by the council's proposals to deliver a balanced budget for 2020 to 2021.

As residents, businesses and partner organisations are key to the success of these plans, the council would like to hear from a range of people to help shape its proposals."

To give your views on our Council Plan and budget proposals, please go to [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/priorities](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/priorities). Feedback from the consultation which runs until Wednesday 1 January at [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/priorities](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/priorities), will be considered before final decisions on the Council Plan and budget are taken at a meeting of Council in February.

If you require information in an alternative format, such as paper, please contact the council by emailing [customer.service@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:customer.service@basingstoke.gov.uk) or by calling 01256 844844.

**Jessica Bave**  
**Senior Communications Officer**  
**Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council**



A huge "Thank You" for supporting the Fireworks this year. It was very well attended and not even the weather could stop us!

Our next event is the

**Christmas Fayre on Saturday 7th December 14.00-16.00**

There will be a superb raffle! Prizes include our traditional Christmas hampers, vouchers, tickets, wine and many other exciting prizes. All of these are donated by parents and friends of the school and local businesses to whom we are very grateful.

There will also be the ever-popular Santa's Grotto, Elfridges, games, mulled wine, mince pies and back by popular demand, our "School Bake-Off"!!!!

As always, we are looking for volunteers to help run the event with us. So if you are free and fancy getting involved email us at : [fkscommunity@yahoo.com](mailto:fkscommunity@yahoo.com).

**Harriet Baker**

## Police Report

### Kingsclere Headley and Ashford Hill

There were no residential burglaries reported this month but a commercial premise off the A339 near Wolverton was broken into. Power tools and petrol were stolen. Fuel was also stolen overnight from a parked lorry at Ramsdell

Village Hall. We received reports of anti-social behaviour around St Mary's Church, where someone tampered with the bell ropes and left litter in the church. There were also reports from several landowners of vehicles driving onto farmland in the area. The occupants were seen getting out and looking at outbuildings, and other suspicious behaviour. If you see people acting suspiciously with a vehicle, please report the number plate and descriptions of the occupants. If it's happening there and then, always call 999.

Did you know?

When you meet a police officer, it is now most likely that they will be wearing a camera. The body-worn video is only activated if a situation requires it, such as during an arrest or search. It helps provide evidence and also allows police conduct to be monitored. Hampshire Constabulary was one of the first forces in the UK to introduce body-worn video.

Your neighbourhood policing team includes: PC Simon Denton and PC Jon Hayes

[Basingstoke.rural@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Basingstoke.rural@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)

For reporting crime call 101. If it is in progress always call 999







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.

## Christmas at Your Community Centre

We have planned a full programme of seasonal events for all the family so there should be something for everyone to enjoy. The team at The Fieldgate Centre would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

### December

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> **Nathan's Singers Christmas Cabaret**  
 Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> **Monthly Meet-up Christmas Party – All welcome**  
 Friday 20<sup>th</sup> **Yule Sing with the Kingsclere Singers**  
 Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> **An evening with Gary Myles**  
 Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> **Ceroc Christmas Eve Dance Party**

### January

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> **Christmas Play for children: 'A Christmas Knight'**  
 Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> **Cookery Class (Diabetes specific)**  
 Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> **The Big Weight Loss Event**  
 Friday 17<sup>th</sup> **FOSM Annual Quiz Night**  
 Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> **Monthly Meet-Up**

For ticketed events, please contact the centre or use:-

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/kingsclere-community-association>

### Replacement of the Roof

The replacement of the roof is proceeding steadily. There have been some challenges given that it has coincided with a period of frequent heavy falls of rain!! However, we are now waterproof. We would like to thank all users for their forbearance during this period.

For more information visit our website: [www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk](http://www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk)  
 tel: 01635 298497 email: [fieldgatecentre@btconnect.com](mailto:fieldgatecentre@btconnect.com) facebook



## Kingsclere Village Club



We would like to thank all those people who took the time to complete and return our survey about the club. The surveys are now in the process of being analysed, and once this is completed, we will have a clearer view of how you would like to be able to use the club which will help to guide us in our development planning.

**Save the dates! Save the dates! Save the dates!**

29<sup>th</sup> February Singalong film

21<sup>st</sup> March: An Evening of Magic with 3 course meal

### Keep Moving!

The older we get, the harder it is to keep moving, and the less we move, the more likely we are to suffer ageing conditions that make it harder still to move. BUT...we can break this cycle by keeping moving and exercising sensibly which will increase flexibility and stamina, help to reduce pain and increase our feelings of wellbeing. Want to see what kind of exercises would help us? Here's one to try right now which will, done regularly, significantly increase your leg strength, help to strengthen knee joints and improve your heart health.

***Sit on a dining chair with your hands across your chest or on your hips and stand up. Then sit down. Repeat this movement as many times as you can in 30 seconds.***

How many did you do? Do you want to find out more exercises and improve your fitness? Come to the friendly 'Move it or Lose it!' class at the Village Club on Thursdays from 2-3.00pm



## Christmas Carols with the Kingsclere Singers



**Join the Kingsclere Singers  
 at the 'Yule Sing' Christmas Carols  
 charity events, raising money for CRISIS.**

Jingle all the way and bring your Christmas cheer.... These events are FREE! Christmas is a time that brings us all together, come sing with us and enjoy a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie too!



**Sat 14th Dec 4pm at St Mary's Kingsclere**

**Fri 20th Dec 7.30pm Fieldgate carols**





## Kingsclere Rugby Club



From January KRFC is running Touch Rugby sessions from 7.00-8.00pm on Wednesday for the Adults team which everyone is welcome to attend and then from 8.00-9.30pm we move on to game play tactics and more contact training. For those who don't want to do the second part then it's "get in to the bar for a pint!"

We train with RFU qualified coaches from 7.00pm on Wednesdays at The Fieldgate Centre and play our matches on Saturday afternoons. Come along and join no matter what level of experience you have.

We welcome all new members to the Club both on and off the field.

Upcoming matches are:

International Matches:

7th December KRFC v Trojan 3rds (Away)	2nd February France v England KO 3:00pm
14th December KRFC v Andover 3rds (Away)	8th February Scotland v England KO 4:45pm
11th January KRFC v Winchester Knights (Away)	23rd February England v Ireland KO 3:00pm
18th January KRFC v Portsmouth 3rds (Home)	7th March England v Wales KO 4:45pm
1st February KRFC v New Milton III (Home)	14th March Italy v England KO 4:45pm

For further information please email [info@kingsclererfc.co.uk](mailto:info@kingsclererfc.co.uk) and looking forward to seeing you all there!

**Kingsclere Rugby Club**

**Please follow us on Kingsclere RFC**



**Rugby's values of Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship are what define the game of rugby**

200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200

**St Mary's 200 Club Winner November 2019,  
no 72, Veronica Wiltshire**

**Well done, Veronica**

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

## Kingsclere Twinning Association



**Tickets Available for  
"Would I Lie to You?"**

**A Wine Tasting Challenge for all to enjoy!**



Come and sample some wines and see whether you can spot truth from lies with our panellists with prizes for the winning palates!

Two course supper included and cash bar available.

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2019,**

**7.30pm**

**Village Club**

**Tickets £12 for members, £15 for non-members.**

Please contact [kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk) or telephone Sue Watson on 01635 298940 for tickets or further information.

## Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere



Because of the absence of a number of key players in the FOSM team, we will regretfully **not** be organising our post-Christmas Village Walk this year. We hope to revive it again in December 2021.

Our first event in the New Year will be the always popular and enjoyable **Quiz Night with Ploughman's Supper** at the **Fieldgate Centre on Friday 17th January**. Tickets, at £15 a head, include a glass of wine and will be available from the Village Butcher from early January.

There will be a cash bar and a Raffle. Doors open at 6.45 p.m. for a prompt start at 7.30pm. Get up a table of eight with friends or we will team you up with others on the night. This event is usually sold out in advance, so buy tickets early!

In February, come and join us for an intriguing

**Valentine's Evening on 14th February**

**Murder Mystery Evening**

at the Fieldgate Centre in association with the **Kingsclere Players**.

Details in the February issue of the Tower!

Thank you for supporting our events during 2019 and all best wishes for a happy Christmas.

**Peter Turner, Chairman**



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

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

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

If you would prefer 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**.

We're really looking forward to another fantastic Christmas Day.  
**With best wishes Gavin, Pippa & Harry Ashton**

### St Mary's 200 Club

Have you already bought your 200 Club ticket for 2020? £12 gets you twelve monthly draws with a chance of winning £50 if your number comes up. Contact Maggy/Les Wallace on [mjwwatershipdown@msn.com](mailto:mjwwatershipdown@msn.com) ; or at Jada, Union Lane, Kingsclere, RG20 4SS; or 01635 298794.

### CAMARADERIE IN JUNE

Our Christmas Party will be held on Wednesday 4th December in the Methodist School Room, commencing at 2.30pm

There will be seasonal entertainment from the Ukulele Group and Christmas Fayre will be served as afternoon tea.

Who knows – there may even be a surprise visit from a gentleman dressed in red!

Do join us for an afternoon of fun and friendship. All welcome.  
£2.00 to include refreshments and raffle.

Pam Kitch – 01635 299743

## Reflections

The hope that Christmas brings is something that is sorely needed this year. The year has been a turbulent one, with various Brexit deadlines extended, two prime ministers, fierce arguments, a Parliament prorogued (was it only me who didn't know that word before?) and then recalled after a Supreme Court decision, and all that with a general election still to come.



But Christmas gives us hope for the future as we remember the birth of Jesus Christ. It reminds us that God is somehow at work bringing light into darkness, hope to the hopeless and order to the chaos. It must have felt quite turbulent for Mary and Joseph as they made their way to Bethlehem for the census with Mary heavily pregnant. The birth was hardly ideal but brought the adulation of shepherds and angels. It was what the nation had been longing for and yet it went largely unnoticed. When it was noticed by the authorities, King Herod worked against it, trying to get rid of this baby but his plan was thwarted and God continued to put in place all that was needed to declare to the world His love for them and to bring hope.

This hope was found in the child born to Mary and Joseph, outside the inn, round the back with the animals. Because this child was no ordinary child but He was Emmanuel, God with us. God's plan wasn't to just declare His love from afar, to dangle a lifeline down from heaven, to send hope to the world but it was to come Himself and give that hope to all who would trust Him. He entered the world not with a show of power, but humbly, longing for people to want to get to know Him rather than being forced to do so. And that offer is open even this Christmas to each one of us. As a church we long to get to know Jesus better as we celebrate His birth, to be drawn in again by the awesomeness of the event, how "all the fullness of God" dwelt in that tiny baby. And we look forward to welcoming many of you readers as we celebrate this in our Christmas services.

We do hope you have a happy Christmas and take hold of the hope that God brings us as we remember the birth of Jesus Christ.

**Blessings, Ben**

### Christmas Flowers in St. Mary's

St. Mary's Flower Team are busy planning the floral displays for Christmas. If you would like to donate towards the cost of the decorations, perhaps in memory of a loved one, then please contact me. We will display the names of those being remembered.  
Thank you

**Pam Kitch 01635 299743 Email: [pamkitch16@gmail.com](mailto:pamkitch16@gmail.com)**



## **Worship in our Churches December 2019**

### **St Paul's, Ashford Hill**

15<sup>th</sup> December 6pm Carols by Candlelight  
25<sup>th</sup> December 11am Christmas Day Communion

### **St Peter's, Headley**

1<sup>st</sup> December 8am Holy Communion\*  
8<sup>th</sup> December 11am Holy Communion  
22<sup>nd</sup> December 11am Family Carols  
29<sup>th</sup> December 8am Holy Communion

### **St Mary's, Kingsclere**

Breakfast every Sunday at 8.45am in the Kingsmill Room  
1<sup>st</sup> December 9.15am Communion  
8<sup>th</sup> December 8am Communion, 9.15am Morning Worship  
and 4pm Christingle & Children's Christmas Party  
15<sup>th</sup> December 9.15am Messy Worship and 11am Communion  
17<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm "Remembering at Christmas"  
22<sup>nd</sup> December 8am Communion & 9.15am Morning Worship  
24<sup>th</sup> December 4pm Nativity and 11.30pm Midnight Communion  
25<sup>th</sup> December 9.15am Christmas Day Communion  
29<sup>th</sup> December 9.15am Morning Worship

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

\* please note that over the Winter months (November – February) 8am Holy Communion service on the first Sunday of the month will be held at St Peter's, Headley instead of Ashford Hill



## **Sunday Worship in our Churches January 2020**

### **St Paul's, Ashford Hill**

26<sup>th</sup> January 11am Holy Communion

### **St Peter's, Headley**

5<sup>th</sup> January 8am Holy Communion\*  
12<sup>th</sup> January Holy Communion  
19<sup>th</sup> January 8am Holy Communion

### **St Mary's, Kingsclere**

Breakfast every week at 8.45am in the Kingsmill Room  
5<sup>th</sup> January 9.15am Communion  
12<sup>th</sup> January 8am Communion and 9.15am Morning Worship  
19<sup>th</sup> January 9.15am Messy Worship and 11am Communion  
26<sup>th</sup> January 8am Communion and 9.15am Morning Worship

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

\* please note that over the Winter months (November – February) 8am Holy Communion service on the first Sunday of the month will be held at St Peter's, Headley instead of Ashford Hill

## Kingsclere Methodist Church

Services in December and January

### December

1st Revd. Rachel Borgars Holy Communion 10am  
 8th Christine Thomas Morning Worship 10am  
 15th John Waterer Morning Worship 10am  
 22nd Revd. Rachel Borgars Carols with Candlelight 6.30pm  
 Please come and join us to sing some Carols and enjoy a Service with a bit of a twist !

Refreshments will be served in the Hall afterwards (N.B. there is no Morning Service on the 22nd)

25th Revd. Rachel Borgars Short Morning Worship of 30 minutes at 9am  
 29th Maggy Wallace Morning Worship 10am

### January

5th Revd. Rachel Borgars Covenant Service with Holy Communion 10am  
 12th Local Arrangement Morning Worship 10am  
 19th Revd. Jenny Ellis Morning Worship 10am  
 26th Rosie Greenhalgh Morning Worship 10am

All are welcome to attend and we look forward to welcoming you.

**Wendy Morgan**



## St Mary's Church Fete



After several years of organising the August Bank Holiday Fete, the small group overseeing proceedings have decided to take a rest. We are really grateful for their hard work and the fun, successful fetes we have had under their direction.

We know the Fete is a much-loved part of our village and we'd like to see it continue but without a team to oversee it, it is in danger of not going ahead in 2020. We are therefore looking for people who might be able to commit to being part of a small team who meet and make plans for the day. Can you help?

If you'd like to know more about what is involved or have some ideas that you'd like to see put in place then please contact

**Sarah Mussett - [sarah.mussett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sarah.mussett@hotmail.co.uk) or 291900.** We'd love to hear from people regardless of the amount of time they can offer as the fete is a team effort and everyone can play a part!  
 We look forward to hearing from you!



## Changes to St Mary's Church Interior

The project team have been busy preparing the very important Statement of Need and Statement of Significance which are the vital documents which put our plans into the public eye. The two statements accompany our application to the diocese planning office (DAC) which then goes before a committee of experts for their consideration and comment. It is also the time at which the plans become available for comment and scrutiny by other organisations, such as Historic England.

So, we have had to consider a number of factors before we take this step forward.

Is the plan a final plan and have we considered all the feedback we have received?

Have we considered the impact on the community of Kingsclere?

The approximate cost and is the cost of our plan achievable?

Have we researched the background and history of the church and that in doing so made sure we preserve those elements of the church that have significance?

Primarily it is a place of worship but it must have a future as more of a community space able to be used by everyone in the village.

It must meet the 21<sup>st</sup> century standards for these uses and have modern clean and adequate toilet and catering facilities.

Our church has been in the centre of the village for hundreds of years and during that time it has changed and been altered to meet the changing needs of our society.

Some of those changes have been made without consideration for the future and we must make sure the changes we make are for generations not just for tomorrow.

Where are we in this process?

It has been decided not to rush into making our application immediately. We are looking again at our plans with a view to change some of the things. Why? Well for many reasons but cost is a factor, feedback from a number of people over some elements of the current plan and after consultation with a number of experts we feel we need to consider the heritage of the building and its future community use.

I was advised when I took on this project that it would not be a quick fix and that it would take time. Its important that the project continues to a conclusion and we don't falter, put off by the mountain of paperwork needed to make it happen.

I think by allowing ourselves time to make adjustments and a breathing space for the process to be made more acceptable to everyone we will see the changes finally take place.



**Andrew Kitch**



## Après Ski Party

**Kingsmill Room Thursday 30th January 2020**

**12 noon until 4pm**

The Kingsmill Room of St. Mary's Church will be transformed into a warm and welcoming Austrian Inn for our Après Ski Party. A hearty lunch will be served and there will be Glühwein and lashings of hot chocolate. Special diets can be catered for. Do come along and join in with the Austrian Style entertainment.

Bobble hats or Austrian costume may be worn!!

ALL WELCOME

£10.00 per person, all inclusive.

Spaces are limited, so book your place as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

**Pam Kitch – 01635 299743**



## Lighting up St. Mary's

### December

18th Remembering my darling Mark. All our love Amanda and Rocket

19th For Marjorie.

21st Bob Cowley. It has been 3 years since you left us Dad. We think of you often and have so many happy memories. Love from Jan, Sue and families.

22nd For Olive Wickham-Smiths' birthday (aged 4 on 12th December), her Mummy and Daddy's sixth Wedding Anniversary and in memory of Great Grandad's and Great Grandmother's Wedding Anniversary on the same date 22nd December (1945). Love from Grandad and Granny London.

25th Mick / Grandad Forever in our thoughts. Merry Christmas. Love Carla, Nick, Ellie and Lucy xx.

27th Remembering our brother Thomas (Tom) Reilly on his birthday. We miss you, Tommy, you are forever in our hearts. Love always from your sisters and brothers, family Reilly.

### January

13<sup>th</sup> For Chris, you were the light of my life, with all my love forever, Sue

14th Dearest Eileen on the Anniversary of your Death....Until the day breaks and the shadows flee, Goodnight, God Bless you Dear.

With My Love Always...Anne x

To book, please send to:

Emma Rivers administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk

or by post to The Vicarage, Foxs Lane, Kingsclere RG20 5SL

Online www.clerewoodlands.org.uk £12 per evening, block booking discounts. Cheques payable to St Mary's Kingsclere PCC, gift aid welcome. Deadline for February Tower is January 10th.



## Nature Notes

Sharp-eyed residents have made contributions to the last notes of 2019. A bat seen roosting beneath a door canopy but subsequently found dead, was identified as a brown long eared bat. This is a widespread and common species. It was only by being given an opportunity to examine one closely that one could appreciate its name, its near transparent ears were truly huge.

There was news of a rose ringed parakeet regularly visiting a sunflower seed feeder recently. These small, social, Asian parrots are well established and breeding in England and are common in Home Counties' parks. Something of a pest now, they are voracious feeders and compete with our tree hole nesting birds for nest sites.

And finally, a real bonus; an osprey was spotted and photographed by another observer. It was perched high in a large tree visible from Swan Street and was doubtless on its migration southwards to West Africa.

There was a large tree at the head of the lake whose spreading branches were irresistible to the cormorant population. They loved to stand upon them in heraldic pose, wings spread to dry after a fishing trip, eight or nine birds sometimes. They are large birds and inevitably produced large quantities of droppings which scorched the leaves and after a few years the tree died. Was this a cause for dismay - not a bit, bare branches were even better as perches. However as time slipped by, branches fell away until, rather pathetically, there now remains only a large stump and the birds have been forced to move to smaller, inferior trees.

**Diana Tait and Rod Eldred**



## Autumn Delights Concert - what a wonderful evening!

Despite the windy and rainy weather, many people so bravely came out to listen to Reading A440 and also an instrumental group called Fusion run by Derek Hasted. What a wonderful memory for all.

The quality of the performances was outstanding and the two soloists James Weir (saxophone) and Archie Duffie (piano) were such a joy to listen to. Delicious refreshments too!

A huge "thank you" to all who came and all who helped. We managed to raise £1,000 to be split equally between The Living Paintings Trust and St. Paul's Church Ashford Hill. What an amazing amount!

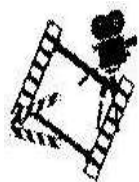
Our next special concert is on

**Saturday 25th April 2020 7pm**

**St Paul's Church Ashford Hill**

We would love to see you there.

**Vanessa Martin (on behalf of St. Paul's Church Ashford Hill)**



## Kingsclere Film Club

*Second Saturday of the month at  
7.30pm (doors open 7.00pm) at  
the Village Club, George Street.*

**Saturday, 14 December, 2019 - *Esio Trot*** (2015 - PG 88 minutes)

A retired bachelor has a thing for his neighbour who only shows affection for her pet tortoise. Stars Judi Dench and Dustin Hoffman.

**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, 11 January, 2020 – *Mamma Mia! Here we go again***

(2018 PG 114 min)

5 years after the events of Mamma Mia!, Sophie prepares for the grand reopening of the Hotel Bella Donna as she learns more about her mother's past. A sunny film for January!

**9 February, 2020: *The Spy who came in from the cold*** (1965)

For further information about the Club or use of our equipment, 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*

## Kingsclere Community Library

**OPEN DAY!**

**Please drop in Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, 9am – 8pm!**

Everyone is welcome to enjoy a bacon roll or pastry for breakfast, or some cake in the afternoon, with tea and coffee. **ALL FREE**

Christmas Rhymetime with Rita on Saturday 14th December, 10am. Includes Christmas treats!

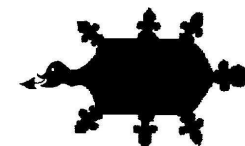
Let us show you what your library has to offer!

We are also very interested to learn what you think of the library, and any suggestions or requests you might have.

Opening hours: Tues & Thurs 1-5:30pm; Saturdays 9:30am-2pm  
**Nicki Lee, [kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com)**



## Kingsclere Heritage Association



Our next meeting will be on  
**THURSDAY 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**  
We welcome a return visit by **CLIVE WILLIAMS**  
who will present:

**" SHIREHALL THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS ".**

**Please note the meeting will be held at  
the Methodist Church Hall 7.30pm.**

**Visitors welcome at £3 pp.**

Clive is a solicitor who spent many years at Berkshire County Council in Reading. He will give us a light-hearted look back at his time with the council and promises plenty of humour with a few scandals thrown into the mix. Clive will bring some copies of his latest book with him. This will be an entertaining evening with seasonal refreshments.

We enter 2020 with our meeting on

**THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY**

**DAVE STUBBS** presents

**"THE FIRST BATTLE OF NEWBURY"**

**Kingsclere Village Club 7.30pm.**

**Visitors welcome at £3 pp.**

Dave is a retired police officer and recently retired Newbury Town Marshall. He will give us an illustrated presentation, much from his own considerable research. His particular interest started when having moved house to Wash Common, he dug up a number of artefacts. He will therefore bring a special local flavour to the talk.

**Michael Leah Secretary, 297403**

## CHURCH CONTACTS

### St. MARY'S CHURCH:

**Vicar** Rev Ben Read, The Vicarage, Foxs Lane 01635 298471

### Church Wardens:

Andrew Kitch [andrewkitch16@gmail.com](mailto:andrewkitch16@gmail.com) 01635 299743

Sarah Mussett [sarah.mussett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sarah.mussett@hotmail.co.uk) 01635 291900

### Administrator:

Emma Rivers  
[administrator@stmaryskingsclere.org.uk](mailto:administrator@stmaryskingsclere.org.uk) 07790 934972

### 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](mailto:tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## Kingsclere & Headley Woodlands WI

Village Club, 35 George Street, Kingsclere

**Wednesday 11th December**

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



### January 2020:

Please note: There is no meeting scheduled for January but there will be a post-Christmas luncheon. For reasons of advance planning this is for members only. We look forward to receiving visitors once again from February onwards.

Our speaker this month is **Fiona Birchall**, a storyteller who specialises in stories from around the world covering fables, myths, legends, folk tales et al. The title of her talk is *'The Twelve Tales of Christmas'* - well, Surprise! Surprise! But, hang on . . . this is *Fiona Birchall* after all, and we'd best expect the unexpected. Fiona was once a Senior Librarian in Hampshire until the late '70s and used to do 'recce' or 'visiting' trips to a number of local libraries in towns and villages including Kingsclere on her trusty moped in the early days, no less. She then swapped her career for marriage and motherhood. However, books, stories and the like remained a constant and she has brushed up her natural talent for story-telling via Hampshire WI's well known Denman College.

**VISITORS:** Non-members are welcome to attend one or two Kingsclere WI monthly meetings for a fee of £2 per visit which includes tea, biscuits and a raffle ticket.

### MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE:

Letter-clue for November is 'U' (for 'Uniform')

Nova Saunderson - 29950

## You Trust

**Dragonfly Project- Domestic Violence & Abuse Awareness**



The Dragonfly Project is a project focused on raising awareness and support within isolated communities across Dorset and Hampshire about Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA). We are looking to try and encourage a training within the Kingsclere community with any volunteers who would like to become champions for DVA within their community. The training will provide them with the knowledge and skills to support people affected by DVA and signpost them to specialised services.

**Victoria Randell**  
[www.theyoutrust.org.uk](http://www.theyoutrust.org.uk)

## Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby and Toddler Group

We are all looking forward to our Christmas party on 10<sup>th</sup> December – timings tbc. As well as fun and games, we will have some special entertainment and a party lunch (bring a plate – sign up list at Bunnies). We hope to see all of the children to wish them Merry Christmas with a small gift.



As for New Year's resolutions, why not add coming along to Bunnies to your list? Its never too early to bring your baby along, it is a great chance to meet fellow parents and carers from the village and surrounding area, so why not give it a try with a free first session? Equally, there is always such a variety of toys, craft and Tuff Tray activities that toddlers and preschoolers will love it too!

The Bunnies' committee would like to wish all children and families a **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.**

**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.

[villagebunniestoddlergroup@gmail.com](mailto:villagebunniestoddlergroup@gmail.com)

## Ashford Hill Tabletop Sale

**Saturday, 15th February 2020**

**at St Paul's Church, Ashford Hill 9am to 2pm**

Sellers Tables £5 each (must be reserved in advance)

Book yourselves a table and sell your quality unwanted or excess items. Someone else may love them and you'll make some money for yourselves and support the church!!!

### Buyers entrance fees

**9am -10am @ £1**

**10am onwards @ 50p**

Refreshments available. All proceeds in aid of St Paul's Church funds.

On the day there will also be a small area for us to sell any quality individual items either donated or on a commission basis.

**Please contact Lorraine on [loricusworth@hotmail.com](mailto:loricusworth@hotmail.com) for information and to book a table.**





## Wolverton Saturday Market and Tabletop Sale

The next **Saturday Market and Tabletop Sale** to be held at Wolverton Village Hall will be on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December**. Doors are open from 9.30am until 11.00am. Admission is free. The various stalls include local, homegrown produce, plants, bric-a-brac to name a few and refreshments are available whilst you browse the stalls. New stallholders are welcome.

If you would like a stall of your own please contact:  
Julia or Tony Drake 01486 608594.

Chris Curtis



## Kingsclere Gardening Association

There is no Garden Club meeting in December so a Happy Christmas to all our members.

Our next meeting will be the **AGM on**

**Thursday January 9<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm in the Village Club**

Arrangements for a social evening including a meal for members is being arranged for February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020, most likely at the George and Dragon Wolverton.

More details at the AGM.

**John Eckton 01256 850017**

## First Kingsclere Sustainable Living Market Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January, 10am – 1pm Fieldgate Centre



**Greener Kingsclere's Inaugural Market** is coming up in January. Please mark your calendar and start saving your containers to refill!

Our first priority is offering alternatives to plastic and wasteful packaging. We expect to have dried foods (pasta, rice, fruits, grains, etc.) and cleaning products (handwash, washing up liquid, laundry detergent, etc.) that you may purchase using your own containers. **NOTE: Cleaning products may ONLY be decanted into non-food/drink containers which have all labelling removed.**

You do not have to bring your own containers, some will be for sale.

At this early stage we also have local honey, beeswax wraps for food and other fabric wraps and bags, locally made deodorants and shampoos, makeup, and a number of other household, eco-friendly products. We expect to add to this by market day!

We hope to be able to offer a delivery service if you are in Kingsclere and walk or cycle up - we will drop off your heavy or bulky purchases.

If you would like to be on our mailing list to receive occasional emails with more up-to-date information, please email us at:

**[greenerkingsclere@gmail.com](mailto:greenerkingsclere@gmail.com)**

**Nicki Lee & Sarah Hewitt**

## St Michael's Hospice Coffee Morning Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November



Thank you to everyone who supported our Autumn St Michael's Hospice Coffee Morning. We raised a fabulous £641.00 which included some very generous donations.

The next event will be in June 2020. Watch out for news of the exact date.

Annette and Anita's preserves are gaining quite a reputation.

So, if you haven't popped along for a coffee and a browse, please join us next year to help raise funds for this very worthwhile local cause.

**Sarah Melling**



# Cheam and Kingsclere Primary School Choirs

## Community Carol Concert

**Presented by  
Clare Balding  
Thursday 5th  
December**

Doors open 6.00pm  
Service at 6.30pm



**St Mary's Church  
Kingsclere**

In aid of Living Paintings

**Tickets £12** Mulled Wine and Mince Pies Included!  
[TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/CHEAM-SCHOOL](http://TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/CHEAM-SCHOOL)

## Sandham Memorial Chapel

### Bell Ringing and Carols 11<sup>th</sup> December 11am-12noon

Join us for our Christmas Service with festive tunes and carols by our local hand-bell ringers.

### Christmas Workshops

Local Artist Helen Mortimer will be running courses on 7<sup>th</sup> December for those interested in making paper gifts, cards, Christmas baubles and boxes. Add a personal touch to your Christmas cards and gifts. A Decopatch course will be run during the afternoon.

Papercraft workshop cost £17. Decopatch course cost £27.50

### Wreath Making workshops 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> December

You will leave with a unique wreath for your home and something with which you can feel very proud of making yourself.

Times 10am-12 noon, 1pm-3pm Cost £33.00

Contact number: 0344 249 1895

Email or website: [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sandham-memorial-chapel](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sandham-memorial-chapel)

## THE KINGSCLERE TOWER DIRECTORY

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### **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 07388 539  
730

**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	Swan Street P O	297035
S.Electric	08000 727282	Vet	29557 or 40565
S.Water	0845 278 0845	Dentist	299981
Busy Bees	299566	Fieldgate Centre	298497
Chemist	298419	Village Club	297913

### **BOROUGH COUNCILLORS**

**Ken Rhatigan** 07850 530319 [cldr.ken.rhatigan@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.ken.rhatigan@basingstoke.gov.uk)

**Clare Kinnear** 07970 400864 [cldr.clare.kinnear@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.clare.kinnear@basingstoke.gov.uk)

### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

**Tom Thacker** 01264 738464 [tom.thacker@hants.gov.uk](mailto:tom.thacker@hants.gov.uk)

### **MP for N.W Hampshire:**

**Kit Malthouse** 01264 401401 [kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk](mailto: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](http://www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk/directory)**