



The Kingsclere Tower

What's On & Local News
June 2025

The Kingsclere Tower

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PRINTERS: Kingsclere Design & Print Ltd

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Kingsclere is so lucky to have a variety of shops run by caring and dedicated staff. Covid was a sore test for all of us. It seems a long time ago we were queueing outside the shops wearing our masks. Our lives were made much easier by the kindness of the shopkeepers and staff, and along with all the volunteers, they made the village a safe and secure place to be. Such kindness continues with many in the community receiving personal deliveries from the local shops

One of our shopkeepers, Mr. Butt, quietly retired last month after running the Chemists for more years than we care to remember. Although he clearly wanted to avoid the farewells, on behalf of the Village, we would like to say a very big "Thank You" Mr. Butt for your kindness, help, support and advice over the years. Enjoy a peaceful and happy retirement. .

We welcome our new chemist to Kingsclere.

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 **July** to the Editor at kingscleretower@gmail.com

NOT LATER THAN 12th June 2025.

If possible please submit articles as a MS Word document, A5 page size, font Times New Roman 11, single spacing. If email not possible, post to:
23 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Newbury RG20 5PP.

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

KINGSLERE PARISH COUNCIL (KPC)
Email: clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk
Telephone: 01635 298634
Office: 37 George Street, Kingsclere RG20 5NH



COUNCILLOR VACANCIES – We are looking for 2 more Councillors to join the team. A little more about the role and what KPC does -

- Represent the views of all residents within the parish.
- Understand the views and needs of different groups in the community.
- Be well-informed especially about diverse local views.
- Deliver services to meet local needs.
- Strive to improve quality of life in the parish.
- Attend meetings of the council.
- Review, monitor and maintain the village financial matters - always striving for best value for money versus the budget.
- Represent the local community externally.
- Review planning applications and respond from a community perspective.

The Parish Council looks after approximately 14 acres of land around the village including the Holding Field, the Recreation Ground, the two cemeteries, allotments, the Churchyard, the Malthouse Open Space and Crown Green. Many grass areas in the village are maintained by Basingstoke and Deane or Local Housing Authorities. Hampshire County Council look after the verges and the roundabout. Hedges should be maintained by the owner of the property they adjoin.

KPC needs help and there are always projects which need to be driven forward. The majority of KPC members work full-time. We would be pleased to hear from anyone who may like to get involved either in becoming a Councillor or volunteering for a project.

HAMPSHIRE HOPPIT TRAIL RACE- is scheduled for Sunday 15th June. Any surplus funds generated will go to the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. Managed road crossing on the B3051 by the 40 MPH speed sign. All welcome!

GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING – the collections dates are Wednesday 11th and 25th June and the 9th July.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – The next full Council Meeting is scheduled for 7:30pm on Monday 30th June. We welcome the attendance of all parishioners at our meetings and anyone who wishes to raise any matters will be given the opportunity to do so during Public Questions.

Kingsclere Charities

The Robert Higham Apprenticing Charity: This Charity promotes the education and training of young people aged 16 – 25, resident in the Parish of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley. Grants are awarded to assist with the cost of such things as equipment, books and specialist clothing and equipment required for learning or training in a stated subject, and expenses incurred in travelling to and from home to a place of learning.

Welfare Charity: This Charity helps anyone resident in the Parish of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley regardless of age or means. Grants have been given towards mobility aids, medical equipment such as nebulisers, aids to make life easier for the sick and less mobile, and travel costs to and from hospital.

Kingsclere Charities Meeting Dates: June 19th, Sept 18th and Nov 20th 2025.
Contact : Gill Hern at kingsclerecharities4@mail.com

Kingsclere Cricket Club's Strong Start to the 2025 Season

The 2025 league cricket season is well underway with hard wickets and fast outfielders. Our first Saturday league fixture was against Old Basing 2s at the Fieldgate Centre. A strong bowling and fielding performance restricted Old Basing to 194 for 9 off their 45 overs. In reply, the batsmen were in aggressive mood with Ross Andrews scoring 50 off 31 balls. Ed Lyle made 100 not-out off 51 balls, ably supported by Keith Enters, 21 not out, seeing KCC home, winning by 7 wickets with 19 overs to spare.

The midweek team won its first fixture against Stratfield Turgis / Hartley Wespall by 50 runs. Nearly all the batsmen made double figures in setting a dominant total of 173 off 18 overs. Roger Jones and Ed Lyle took two wickets each, but it was Chris Hanney who finished off the opposition with 4 for 22.

We had less success in our second Saturday fixture away to Whitchurch. Pete Frith, Dan Jones, and Jack Grove White contributed the majority of the runs as KCC set Whitchurch 144 to win. We made Whitchurch work hard for the win, taking six wickets before they passed the total.

The midweek team took the points from their second fixture as Basingstoke Hockey Club conceded the match.

Our home fixtures on Saturdays and Tuesdays are played at the Fieldgate Centre and Park House Stables, respectively. All fixtures and results are on our website. We're always on the lookout for new players, so come up and say hello or just enjoy the sunshine and a classic English summer scene!

Mark Hirst Kingsclere Cricket Club bb07901 118818





Ordering a Repeat Prescription via the NHS App

Ordering repeat prescriptions through the NHS App is a simple, convenient way to manage your repeat medication needs without the hassle of phone calls or visits to your GP practice to drop off paper scripts. With just a few taps on a smartphone, you can request your medication at any time, from anywhere, ensuring you never run out of essential treatments. The NHS App allows you to track your request, see when it's been approved, giving you peace of mind and full control over your prescriptions.

Using the NHS App not only saves you time but also helps reduce the workload on GP practices, allowing staff to focus on providing care to those who need it most and our patients who do not have access to digital means. It's secure, user-friendly, and designed to fit into your busy life, with features like viewing your prescription history and choosing your preferred pharmacy for collection. We have never 'lost' prescription requests which come in via the NHS App. By embracing this digital solution, you're taking a proactive step towards managing your health efficiently while supporting the NHS in delivering faster, more streamlined services.

Download the NHS App today (<https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-app/>) and experience the ease of ordering your repeat prescriptions at your fingertips!

It is also possible for those who don't have a smartphone or do not wish to use this technology, to have a family member or carer set up as their proxy to help manage this important part of healthcare. Even patients in care homes choose to make the most of having their medication ordered electronically.

Please note medications that are classed as 'Acute' or 'Controlled Drugs' cannot be ordered via the NHS App.

Help with the NHS App

There are a number of staff at Watership Down Health who can help assist you with the NHS App. Our Receptionists will try and help but sometimes, you might need to be referred to one of our managers. We also have a number of our PPG who have received training to help. Please ask via Reception if you need help.

Notification on the NHS App

The NHS are increasingly using the NHS App to send patients important notifications and messages. We recommend that all those NHS App Users allow notifications via the App.

Covid Vaccine Programme

The NHS national booking system is open for Spring Covid-19 vaccination bookings for those eligible able to book appointments until 17 June 2025. Following JCVI advice, this Spring's eligible cohorts include:

Adults aged 75 years and over by 30 June 2024

Residents in care homes for older adults

Individuals aged 6 months and over who are immunosuppressed

Please follow the link :www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/vaccination-and-booking-services/find-a-walk-in-covid-19-vaccination-site

We often get asked why we invite patients who have previously declined. Unfortunately, the NHS England 'rules' do not allow us to permanently decline a patient from a vaccination programme as patients may change their minds at a future point. When we can, we do allow patients to decline from the invitation sent.

Update on the Targeted Lung Health Screening programme

We have had a number of enquiries from patients regarding the Targeted Lung Health Screening programme results. Hampshire Hospitals have confirmed that the letter regarding the result will come from the Lung Health Service directly and whilst your GP Practice will get a copy of the letter in time, it is through the hospital that patients need to follow up any enquiries about this service..

1st Kingsclere Scout Group AGM

1st Kingsclere Scout Group are holding their AGM on Friday 4th July at 6.30pm at the Scout Hut in Stokins Road.



Please come along if you are interested in finding out what the Scouts have been up to this year, or if you'd like to learn more about Scouting in Kingsclere.

Any queries please contact 1stkingsclerescoutssecretary@gmail.com.

St Mary's
Kingsclere

Village Fete

**Bank Holiday Monday
25th August
12 noon – 4pm**

St Mary's Church and churchyard

Plans are progressing well for a fun filled day.

We'll need lots of help so if you'd like to volunteer, please email
fete@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk or phone 01635 297813.

Hold on to your donations of good quality bric-a-brac, toys,
accessories, books, unwanted gifts and jewellery. No clothes, please!

We'll also welcome bottles for the bottle stall (alcoholic and
non- alcoholic), cakes and home-made produce.

Plenty to look forward to! More details next month.



Accessories Stall



**St Mary's Kingsclere Village
Fete**

Bank Holiday Monday August 25th 2025

Please can you donate good quality gifts,
handbags, hats, scarves, pashminas and jewellery
for our Accessories Stall this year.

**Please start putting accessories and gifts aside
and contact me from the beginning of July.**

Many thanks!
suzystokoe@btinternet.com
01635 297234

Kingsclere Community Library



Following Councillor David Conquest's generous
donation of £500 to the Kingsclere Community Library,
we are delighted to say, that all the new books we have
purchased with this grant, are now in the library and available to borrow.
Again, many thanks again to Councillor Conquest for his generosity.

Kingsclere Community Library is delighted to announce that with effect
from **Thursday 5th June**, there will be Stories and Songs for children of
any age, but aimed particularly at pre-school children, in the library. Chris,
who is running these, used to run these sessions in the Tadley Library and
she now volunteers in Kingsclere and is happy to do the same for us.
Sessions will take place on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month at
2.30 pm. So come along and join the fun!

The Limerick Competition has now finished and entries have been sent off
for judging. We will let you know the results and prize winners in due
course!

HOURS Tuesday and Thursday 10am-5.30pm
Saturday 10am-1pm

Nicki Lee, Library Phone 01635 297464

kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com www.kingsclerelibrary.co.uk



Kingsclere Twinning Association

Join us for a friendly **Bingo Night** on **Friday 4th July**
at the **Village Club**. Doors open at **7 pm**,
Eyes Down approx **7.30 pm!**

£15 for 8 games of Bingo – the money you pay becomes the Prize Pot.

The more people who play, the higher the winnings!

£5 entry fee including Hot Dog and light pudding.

Bar serving wine, beer, soft drinks - and dabbers!

Proceeds from the entry fee, bar and raffle will go towards the
Kingsclere Twinning Association to facilitate visits and establish
connections between Kingsclere and Cormicy.

Please note that this is an over-18's only event.

If you would like to attend, please email **kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk** to
reserve your tickets, or for further information about the Kingsclere
Twinning Association and Kingsclere's connection with the beautiful village
of Cormicy in the Champagne region of France!



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.

The Fieldgate Centre continues to be busy and bustling. Check our website for full details and come and join us for Pilates, Clubbercise, Ceroc, Slimming World, Badminton, Darts, Monthly Meet Up and Songtree.

The **Kingsclere Players** present their show **Play On** which is a hilarious comedy. Showing over 2 weekends, tickets are on sale for the shows on **6th, 7th, 13th and 14th June, all starting at 7.30pm**. Tickets can be booked on TicketSource.

The bar opening on Friday evenings will continue throughout June, excluding the Players' dates above. It is hoped we will have the food vans back for some dates. More info to follow on our website!

Monthly Meet Up takes place on **Tuesday 17th June** from **2.30-4.30pm**. It's a lovely friendly afternoon of chat, cuppas, cake and activities. Everyone is welcome. Free lifts are available if needed.

After lots of organising from a group of amazing volunteers, the **Music Festival** finally arrives on **28th June**. During the day, starting at 12 noon, there are two stages for the live music, family friendly fun, food and drink stalls and activities. It's going to be a great day out! The evening event which will take place inside the centre from 7pm is tickets only. Tickets are on sale, so book now to avoid disappointment.

Contact us if you need any further information about our activities or if you would like to hold your event at The Fieldgate Centre. Please visit our website or Facebook page for more information.

www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk

01635 298497

fieldgatecentre@outlook.com

Facebook

Kingsclere Local History Association

Many thanks to everyone who helped put on or contributed to our successful VE Day 80th Anniversary Exhibition at The Village Club. Special thanks to Helen Andrew, Gareth Martin and Mike Stokoe for organising the event.



KINGSLERE VILLAGE CLUB Est. 1921 CHARITY 1189234

Website <http://www.kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk>
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/kingsclerevillageclub>

VE Day in Kingsclere Exhibition

A big thank you to the Local History Association for putting on the fantastic exhibition about Kingsclere in WW2. A fascinating collection of documents, photographs and memorabilia were on display

Community Café

Please note that we are unable to run the Community Café this month. The next Café is on **Saturday 26th July**.

Open Garden

Our garden is looking really lovely and we want to show it off! On the day of the July Café (Saturday July 26th), we invite you to bring a picnic or just stroll round. If the weather is good, there will be water play for the children. Look out for more details in the July Tower.



Live Theatre



Can you believe that we can bring you high quality, live theatre for £15?

Tickets are selling fast for **As You Like It** by the all-male theatre group **The Festival Players, Friday 20th June, performance starts 7.30**. Tickets £15 performance only, £22.50 performance + picnic from <https://wegottickets.com/event/651267> or Helen (below). *Only picnics purchased from us can be consumed, unless there are exceptional circumstances.*

ABB

The ever-popular blues band ABB, with a new line-up and some new songs, are returning to the Club on **Saturday 25th October**. Great live music and a chilli supper (non-spicy available by request!). Doors open 7.30 for an 8pm start. Tickets £17 (including supper) from <https://wegottickets.com/event/659960> or Helen:

Helen 01635 297390 or events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk

Passing

As the butterfly escapes her chrysalis
Finding joy in her new found warmth and light
we follow her with love in our thoughts and dreams.

Paul Jenkins

Nature notes

I'm sure the A339 *drives* many of us bonkers with the slow traffic, but this month it has afforded our family several opportunities to see brown hares in the adjacent farmland. Driving back to the village from the Vyne, we caught sight of two, one sitting upright in the middle of an arable field, the other sprinting away towards the hedgerows, so distinctive with its enormous hind legs pumping like pistons and huge ears. Brown hares (*Lepus europaeus*) are the UK's fastest land mammal, and can reach speeds up to 40 mph. I was surprised to learn they are not originally native to this country and are thought to have been introduced by the Romans.



We've been eagerly checking our pond each day to check on the growth of the tadpoles which turns out to be agonisingly slow, for my husband and I as well as our impatient toddler. Still no legs! (The tadpoles, not the toddler.) But we were overjoyed to spot a newt, hiding in the algae. We assume it was a smooth newt, the most common to be found in garden ponds, as it was tricky to get a good look at it. He stayed for three days, and we have not seen it since. It's likely to be looking for a mate. Newts eat tadpoles, as well as insects, slugs and worms, and our pond is well stocked for snacking.

The bluetits are still busy in and out of our birdbox. No sign of the fledglings yet but mum and dad's feeding activity has increased, so hopefully it is a sign the chicks are growing and hungry. I can sympathise with mum there.

In our depleted nature climate, it feels like a relief to see a few butterflies in the garden. I spotted a male Orange-Tip (see picture) on the wing a little early, but perhaps it was this very dry May that has encouraged it out. It's easy to know it is a male as the females do not have the orange tip.

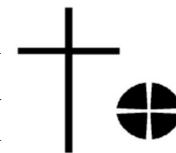


Lastly, what a joy it has been to see the hawthorn flowering abundantly in so many parts of the village, including in our own garden. I've loved watching the tiny white petals drifting down in the breeze, sprinkling a snowy covering over the dark green nettles.

Lydia Harley-Tomlinson
lydia.harleytomlinson@gmail.com

Hi,

I have an hourglass on my desk, which I often use as an arbitrary measure of some quiet time. When all my plates seem to be spinning OK on their own, I can take a few minutes and just centre myself, reconnect with God, and feel His peace.



The other day, as I watched grains of sand funnel through the waist, I had a sense of the preciousness of time. It doesn't matter if you're the CEO of a large corporation, or a barista, if you're raising a family of five, or live on your own, we all only have 24 hours in each day.

As the grains fell, I pictured each one as an hour of our life passing from future to past. And when they are in our past, we can't reuse them, can we? Every hour that passes means there's one fewer in our future. We can't just invert the hourglass and use the grains again.

Time really is so precious!

Yet, most of us waste copious amounts of time. A 2012 study concluded that the average guy has spent ten thousand hours playing video games by the age of twenty-one.

Imagine what you could do in ten thousand hours! Become fluent in another language, get a degree, learn and get good at a new skill, say cookery or carpentry.

Or you could beat level four of Call of Duty.

The average American spends 705 hours on social media every year and 2,737 hours watching TV. I don't suspect the average Brit is all that different.

We all have a choice how we spend our time, that's true, and if video games or social media are your thing, then that's your choice. But as someone who's just lost a loved one quicker than expected, I'd like to urge you to consider what you do with the time you have left on this planet. Once time is gone, it's gone.

Henry David Thoreau, in his famous book, 'Walden', writes of going into the woods for two whole years to slow down and simplify his life. He says, "*I wished to live deliberately*".

The Apostle, Paul, wrote, "*look carefully how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time*" (Ephesians 5: 15-16).

Time is precious – so how will you spend yours? Will you squander it on trivial things, or deliberately invest it in your future? Or make deposits into an eternal inheritance with God?

The poet, Mary Oliver, wrote that, "*attention is the beginning of devotion*". What are you possibly giving too much attention to? Our lives are the sum of what we give our attention to, after all.

All I'm trying to say is, spend your hours wisely and deliberately, and be careful what you give your attention to.

Don't waste the one thing we cannot recover – our time.

Bless you,
Rev. Pete

Worship in our Churches March 2025



Sunday 1 st	9:00 am Traditional Morning Worship 9:30 am BCP Holy Communion 10:30 am Contemporary Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere St. Peter's, Headley St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 5 th	10:30 am Traditional Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 8 th	9:00 am Traditional Holy Communion 9:30 am Traditional Morning Worship 9:30 am Bubble Church 10:30 am Contemporary Holy Communion	St Mary's, Kingsclere St. Peter's, Headley St. Paul's Ashford Hill St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 12 th	10:30 am Traditional Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 15 th	9:00 am Traditional Holy Communion 9:30 am Traditional Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere St. Paul's Ashford Hill
Thursday 19 th	10:30 am Traditional Holy Communion	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 22 nd	9:00 am Traditional Morning Worship 9:30 am Traditional Holy Communion	St Mary's, Kingsclere St. Paul's Ashford Hill
Thursday 26 th	10:30 am Traditional Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 29 th	9:00 am Traditional Morning Worship 10:30 am Contemporary Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere St Mary's, Kingsclere

Kingsclere Methodist Church Services June 2025

Sunday 1st June Joint service at Whitchurch Methodist Church **10.30 am**

Sunday 8th June Revd Rachel Borgars

Sunday 15th June Mrs Helen Watson

Sunday 22nd June Mrs Alyson Read

Sunday 29th June Revd Jenny Ellis

All services begin at 10 am unless otherwise stated

Coffee morning every Thursday 10.30 am until 12 Noon

Hall available for hire, see directory on page 24 for details.

Table Top Sale

Saturday 14th June 2025 from 11am until 2pm

to be held in

Kingsclere Methodist Church Hall.

**Lots of interesting items for sale and many bargains to be had !
Tea, coffee and cake will be available.**

If you would be interested in hiring a table at a cost of £5 please
contact Wendy Morgan on 01635 297538

Lighting up St Mary's

The sight of St Mary's Church when it is floodlit is truly beautiful. Many people sponsor these lights (£15 per evening) to mark an occasion, such as a birthday, wedding, anniversary, or some other special day in their lives.

To book, please email administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk or call 01635-299528. To include your tribute in the Tower, please let us have your words before the 12th of the preceding month.

June

5th & 6th Congratulations to Chris and Siân on their wedding.



Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere Ltd (FOSM)

Thank you for your great support for our Plant Sale at the end of May.



19. Kingsclere Church in 1846

We hope to have a repeat visit to **Frith Herb Farm at harvest time**, though with uncertain weather patterns it is difficult to pin down a date as yet. This is a fascinating opportunity both to see the processes of drying the herbs and distilling oils from them, and to stand waist deep in a herb field with only the sound of larks! Quite captivating!

Our **Cornish Staycation** will be from 12 noon until 3pm. on **Saturday 15th November** at the **Fieldgate Centre**. It promises Cornish fare and lusty singing from a **Sea Shanty Group**.

Further details of both these events will appear in later editions of the Tower.

Peter Turner, Chairman

Website: friendsofstmaryskingsclere.org. For membership and FOSM enquiries contact fosmkingsclere@gmail.com

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The winner of the May Draw was
No.116
Neal Briscall
Congratulations Neal

Next month's Draw will take place at Bel and the Dragon
at about 7 pm on Tuesday 3rd June

Saturday Coffee in the Kingsmill Room, St Mary's Church.

Fresh brewed coffee, tea and delicious homemade cakes.
June 7th, 14th and 21st – 10am to 12 Noon

If you're looking for great company,
we'd love you to join us for a cuppa and a natter!
For more info, please contact the church office on 01635 299528.



Music and Arts Centre - Shipinnarts

The Ship Inn Country Hotel, Ashford Hill. RG19 8BD
<https://shipinnarts.org> Email: shipinnarts@gmail.com



Open Mics – have now moved to another venue locally – please get in touch by email: shipinnarts@gmail.com if you want to come along and join in – we will then forward your details to Jon Whitfield who runs these evenings, all welcome.

If you would like to be on our mailing list please email us at the Shipinnarts address above. We have events coming up in July, August and September here at Shipinnarts.

JUNE

Saturday 7th & 28th June Flautissimo II. Contact Alison Pickering, email: alisonpickering30@gmail.com

Friday 13th 20th & 27th June Recorder Choir (18 years and up) – come and join us! Bring your recorder if you have one. Alison has some to lend if not. Please bring £5 cash each practise.

Contact Alison Pickering, email: alisonpickering30@gmail.com

Future events coming up soon in July and August – ticket links on our website

Saturday 19th July 3-5pm – Courtlye Musick 'Threading through Time and Place' with Anita and Martin Felton, Anne and Gareth Jones.

A medieval tea will be served.

Saturday 16th August 3-5pm A Summer Cream Tea with Music

Angela Moore will play her harp in the background.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Wolverton Market and Midsummer Bazaar

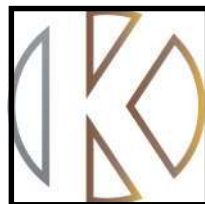
The next Market is on **Saturday 7th June**, doors open from **9.30am until 11am**. All the usual stalls will be available, which include locally produced honey, fresh eggs, plants and vegetables. There will be some items suitable for a nice Father's Day present and a selection of very colourful and unusual jewellery, lampshades, aprons and shopping bags.

On **Saturday 21st June** at the same venue there is a Midsummer Bazaar, doors open from 1pm until 5pm. Stalls planned include a tombola, plants, books, cakes and jigsaw puzzles. There will also be a raffle and refreshments will be available.

We look forward to seeing you at both these events and, as always, we are very grateful for your support in helping to maintain our lovely, thatched ,hall.roof .
Wendy Morgan 01635 297538

Kingsclere Performing Arts

Spotlight on Summer: A Busy Season Ahead at Kingsclere Performing Arts



It's a vibrant and exciting time at Kingsclere Performing Arts, as we head into a jam-packed Summer term full of activity, achievement, and celebration.

June is already shaping up to be a busy month for our talented students, with exams in full swing and rehearsals well underway for our highly anticipated **Summer Showcase**. This much-loved event promises to be a spectacular celebration of our students' technical progress and hard work. **Tickets are now available to purchase**—we'd love to see members of the local community there to support our performers!

Monday 9th June is our **Curriculum Performance Evening** at the Forum, Newbury College: Acting and Foundation Students will perform the play "**Citizenship**" by Mark Ravenhill (recommended for aged 14+). The Acting students will also debut their Directors' Pieces; extracts, which they have sourced, edited and directed themselves. Finally, Year 2 students present their "**Original Performances**"; group work of 20-30 mins created entirely from a given stimulus as the final examined unit of their Level 3 Extended Diploma qualification. Tickets can be purchased via the link on our website.

As the term draws to a close, our students will be rewarded for their efforts with a fun-filled end-of-term trip to **Thorpe Park**—a well-earned break before a thrilling start to July.

The first week of July is set to be one of our busiest yet! Our students will be taking part in the **Young Performers Showcase at the Newbury Corn Exchange**, sharing the stage with other rising talents from across the region.

On Wednesday 2nd July, we open our doors for an **Open Morning**—a great chance for prospective students and families to come and see what we're all about.

This is followed by our **New Students' Day** on Thursday 3rd July, giving our incoming students a chance to experience college life.

We then round off the week in style with our **Graduation on Friday 4th July**—a special occasion to celebrate the achievements of our leavers.

For further details on any of these exciting events, please visit our website or get in touch via the email address below.

We look forward to welcoming you!

<https://www.kings-pa.co.uk/>

Kingsclere Gardening Association

We are looking forward to garden visits and a social evening before our annual show in August. We will begin our winter evening lectures in September with a wildlife photographer. This should be an interesting evening.



THE ANNUAL SHOW AUGUST 17th

The Fieldgate Centre

9am -11.30am

Open to the public at 2.30pm

There are several classes available for Kingsclere residents only which can be entered on the day starting at 9am until 11:30am. The show will have cookery, handicraft and children's classes. The flower arranging classes include an arrangement in a wine glass.

Please come along and enter your homegrown flowers and vegetables. Schedules will be available at several venues in the village and from myself. **Denise Allen chairman.** 01635297966. denise.allen47@icloud.com

Kingsclere Tennis Club

Our Summer Season started with a bang on 1st May! Lovely to see such a great turnout for our open day on Saturday! We had all ages on the court, from 3 years old, all the way up to 80+. Lovely to meet up with our new members too. Thank you everyone who helped make the day happen in some way - organising, baking, donating, lending, carrying, setting up, taking down. It's teamwork that makes it all happen!

We will be continuing with a social tennis evenings starting on Monday 19th May at 6.30 pm when all members are welcome. Just sign into our App to let Ian and Pam know you are coming, get your racquets out and head for the courts!

Don't forget our tennis sessions on Thursday mornings from 9.30 to 11.00. Just contact Daphne Snook on dsnook339@gmail.com to let her know you would like to join in.

And finally, our ball machine is ready for you to play against at any time! With or without a partner, it's good fun and good practice! www.facebook.com/kingscleretenniscub



Kingsclere Rugby Club

Women's Walking Rugby – Now that the evenings are getting lighter and warmer, why not join us and enjoy some camaraderie as well as exercise. You can either come along on a Wednesday evening and join the men for a mixed game or turn up on a Thursday evening for a women's only game. Both the Wednesday and Thursday evenings are held at The Fieldgate Centre between 7-8 pm. The game is suitable for women from 18 to 70 +. Walking Rugby is a very easy game to learn, no experience of rugby is needed and can be played with just 4-a-side. It's a great way to exercise, walking as fast or as slow as your body allows with low impact on all your joints. You don't need to be fit to play. The main aim is to enjoy yourself, make some new friends and get a little bit of exercise at the same time.

For more information, please contact Joanna Reed – Moreton [Secretary-Kingsclererfc@outlook.com](mailto:Kingsclererfc@outlook.com) or Geoff Curtis Youth-coach-Kingsclererfc@outlook.com

Charity 10's Tournament – The club held a 10's tournament on Saturday 26th April to raise money for charity. This year the nominated charity is St. Michael's Hospice The winners were Alresford. A big thank you to Jamie Knight and Stefan Morsley for all their hard work and also Catherine and Nicky Peach for collecting prizes and organising the raffle on the day.

Men's Walking Rugby – Please come and join us on Wednesday evenings between 7–8 pm.

Walking Rugby Festival – This was also held on Saturday 26th April as a precursor to the 10's tournament. Teams from Didcot, Reading and Thatcham joined Kingsclere which managed to field two teams. The festival concluded with an all-women's game which is quite unique. All the participants enjoyed themselves. A big thank you to Geoff Curtis for his hard work doing all the organising.

Summer Touch Tournament – This started on Wednesday 28th May and runs every Wednesday evening until 3rd July. The tournament is open to males and females from 15 years old and upwards. The event will run from 7–8.30 pm. It is not too late to come along and join in. To find out more information about the club please visit our Facebook and Instagram pages.



The Parish
@kingsclerepc



facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil

website www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk

Kingsclere and Headley Woodlands WI

The May Annual meeting of Kingsclere and Headley Woodlands WI saw myself re-elected as President and we had a member join our committee following the resignation due to ill-health of our secretary.



June sees the start of our new WI year with a new set of speakers, and this month we hear from Sharon Chapman telling us about the Newbury Community project, 'Growing Together.' They have a plant nursery on the A339 just before the Cottesmore Business Park.

Our next WI meeting is on **Wednesday, 11th June at the Village Club**, 35 George Street. The meeting starts at 1.45pm and we would very much like to welcome any visitors who care to come and hear Sharon telling us about this community project.

The competition letter for June will be M

All our members love meeting potential new members and guests, chatting and having a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits during our refreshment break. Hope to see you there.

Margaret Geary President 01635 297197

Kingsclere Youth Club

Where: The Fieldgate Centre

When: Mondays 5.30pm-7.30pm

Entry fee: £3.50 First session is free.



This past month at Youth Club we tried our hand at rounders on the sports pitches. We also managed to burn our cherry chocolate popcorn but they were salvaged with lashings of icing sugar and served up in style in the Fieldgate bar.

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to one of our youth workers, Charlotte, this month. We will miss you, Charlotte. Thanks for all your amazing work with us.

Youth Club welcomes **all** young people aged between 7 and 14-years-old. We host a broad range of activities including craft, sports, cooking and games. Come along to try it out - the first session is free!

Lydia Harley-Tomlinson

lydia.harleytomlinson@gmail.com

Kingsclere CE Primary School News!



We were incredibly proud to take part in Kingsclere's VE Day Service, marking 80 years since the end of World War II in Europe. Our Year 5 children represented the school with pride and maturity. They read the Wartime Prayer and laid a wreath in memory of those who served. The service was completed with a moving rendition of *Flanders Fields* performed by the children. It was a truly special occasion, bringing our school and community together in a shared moment of reflection and gratitude for peace.

We are also pleased to share a few highlights from our recent Lead Learning Partner (LLP) Hampshire school report. Each maintained school in Hampshire participate in a yearly audit with county advisors. Our advisor recognised the many strengths in our school. The report praised the "*high quality outcomes for all children*" and celebrated how our teachers "*bring learning alive*" through purposeful, engaging and well-planned tasks. Inspectors noted the "*high levels of engagement for all pupils*". All leaders, including subject leaders, senior leaders and governors, were recognised for their strong evaluations and effective leadership.

It has been a wonderful time for us – celebrating both our history and our progress! We are looking forward to the summer term and the children using our heated school swimming pool over the next half term.

Jo Messenger Headteacher

Kingsclere Pre School



This month at Kingsclere Preschool we have been doing lots of outside play, enjoying the lovely warm weather. The children have been creating dens out of various large materials. This has encouraged working together and has built their physical development. We have enjoyed making bird feeders and have also been bug hunting!

The children have had a visit from their new school teacher in preparation for their transition to school in September. We will be working really hard over the next couple of months to ensure the children feel ready for this next step in their journey.

As always, thank you to all of our families for your continued support and the staff for their hard work. If you are looking for a childcare space, or ways you can support the Preschool, please contact admin@kingsclerepreschool.co.uk or visit our website www.kingsclerepreschool.co.uk.

Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby and Toddler Group



Where: The Village Club

When: Tuesdays 9.00am-11.00am

Cost: £2.50 for 1st Child (including snack for child and hot drink and biscuit for adult), 50p per extra child, £1 per extra adult

The Bunnies have been having lots of fun outside in the beautiful weather, including lots of water play to keep cool. We also welcomed Suzanne from the Basingstoke Health Visiting Team who was on hand to talk to the Bunnies about brushing their teeth.

The library will be opening especially for Bunnies on Tuesday 27th May. We won't be opening in June this time, as our very own June will be taking a well-deserved break.

Our regular Swap Table will be on Tuesday 3rd June. Bring any baby or child items that you no longer need and hopefully take something home that will be useful for you and your little ones.

Thank you as always to Swan Street Stores for their continued support of a weekly donation of fresh fruit snacks for the Bunnies. For information visit our Facebook page, or regular visitors can join our WhatsApp group for weekly updates.

Lydia Harley-Tomlinson

lydia.harleytomlinson@gmail.com

Basingstoke Choral Society

Basingstoke Choral Society present



A summer evening of Mozart

Saturday 5th July 2025

7:00 pm

All Saints Church Odiham

Conductor: Ben Cooper

Accompanied by professional soloists and organ

Mozart Requiem

Mozart Solemn Vespers

To book: <https://www.basingstoke-choral.org.uk/events-all>
Strawberries and glass of wine or soft drink included in ticket price available from 6pm

St Michael's Hospice

Big Wheel

Get ready to be part of Basingstoke's most iconic cycling event – The Big Wheel! After a four-year break, Big Wheel returns – bigger, better, and more exciting than ever! Now it's your chance to join in, make a difference, and enjoy an unforgettable day.

Summer Memories

Come together to celebrate the memories of loved ones by supporting St. Michael's Hospice Summer Memories appeal. Summer Memories is a beautiful remembrance event taking place on Sunday 13 July at Worting House, Basingstoke. You can make a tribute to the family and friends you wish to remember and it's a poignant way of supporting the Hospice.

Cuddle Bed Appeal

We need to raise enough to buy three more cuddle beds for our patients staying on the In-Patient Unit of our Hospice. Cuddle beds are crucial in giving families closeness when it's needed most. No one should have to say goodbye from a distance. Help ensure we never have to choose which families can use our cuddle beds..



Winchester's 3½ Cathedrals - Part 2



Their Histories. Their Bishops. Their Treasures.

This is part 2 of Andrew Negus's Historic Guided Tour.

We all really enjoyed Andrew's Part 1 talk and look forward to hearing further how bishops, architectural style, religion and historic events changed Winchester's two Saxon Minsters into the magnificent cathedral that we now have.

In doing so, we get the chance to look at some of the fabulous artistic treasures that are present today.

Join us for this talk on Wednesday 18 June at 10am.

St Mary's Hall, Overton

Free to members - Non-members £3 on the door

June in the Garden



As the weather warms up, the garden will be awash with colour. Roses should be at their best. Remove the faded flowers to encourage further blooms. There are a few varieties that only bloom once but those will still need to have their old flowers removed. I like to cut a few inches (centimeters) below the old flower head, just above a leaf as this keeps the rose plant tidy and encourages new growth.

Green fly has appeared early this year and roses are a favourite. Spraying with soapy water help, if you can't bear to rub them off with your fingers. Pinks flower this month. These super plants are a bonus if you have a well drained spot in the garden, as they like a hot sunny site. They also dislike organic matter, preferring a poor soil. I'm sure most gardens have just that location. They have a long flowering period plus perfume. They are worthy of space in a rock or gravel garden.

As I write this we have had little rain for several weeks and many plants have needed watering and feeding. I fear when it does rain, the ground is so dry it will be difficult for the rain to penetrate. The trees and plants seem to be doing well, regardless of the lack of rain.

The blossom was exceptional this year, no doubt because of the absence of heavy frost. Hopefully we will not have any late frost to spoil the tender plants.

With the weather warmer, if you are fortunate to have a greenhouse, keeping it well ventilated is a must. I have read recently it is best to keep the temperature to 20°C (85°F). Sometimes plants shut down and stop growing when dry and scorched. Pests can also be a problem in the greenhouse. I use the yellow, sticky, fly traps, hoping to catch the white fly. I feel that this is better than using chemicals..

There is still time to plant hanging baskets and tubs. Any bare spaces in the flower beds can be planted with summer bedding plants; bulb leaves can be cut back now, Hellebore flower heads and seeds should be removed and general deadheading needs to be done to encourage a longer flowering period. Cut back any shrubs that have finished flowering as this will keep them tidy. Ponds need attention, thinning out any excessive growth of aquatic plants. If the plants are three plus years old, they may be lifted and divided. In the vegetable garden, peas will be ready to harvest, plant out runner beans, and outside tomatoes. Some seeds can still be sown, e.g. oriental vegetables, salad, vegetables, turnips, and herbs.

Not cutting the grass in May that has been encouraged to help the insects, has been a good idea this year as there has been so little rain. Plants to enjoy this month, paeonies, hardy geraniums, tree lupin, lavender, achillea, honeysuckle, bearded Iris, weigela, mock orange, and the Rock Rose

Denise Allen

THE KINGSCLERE TOWER DIRECTORY

POLICE, FIRE or AMBULANCE

Police Enquiries/Information

Emergency 999

non Emergency 101

Kingsclere Health Centre: 0333 034 1033
North Hampshire Hospital, Basingstoke 01256 473202

Parish Council: 37 George Street (see page 2) 01635 298634
Kingsclere Charities Clerk: Jan Pearce 01635 269184
 kingsclerecharities@iname.com

Dial-a-Ride 01256 462101

CHURCH CONTACTS

St. MARY'S CHURCH:

Vicar Peter Williams vicar@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk

Church Warden:

John Price johnsaprice@hotmail.com 01635 297780

Administrator:

Emma Rivers 01635 299528
 administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk 07422 687125

METHODIST CHURCH:

Minister: Rev Rachel Borgars 07889 905753
 Rachel.Borgars@methodist.org.uk 01256 895878

Secretary & Hire of Hall Jeanette Billington 01635 297585

ROMAN CATHOLIC: Rev Patrick Tansey 0118 9814572
 tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Bas & Deane	01256 844844	Swan Street P O	01635 297035
Buses	0345 8101000	Kingsclere Vet	01635 896330
Trains	0845 7484950	Berkshire Vet	01635 896333
Gas Emerg.	0800 111999	Dentist	01635 299981
Chemist	01635 298419	Age Concern Local Agent	0800 3287154
Kingsclere Library	01635 297464		

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

David Conquest 07887 871105 cllr.david.conquest@basingstoke.gov.uk

Mike Bound 07833612735 cllr.Mike.Bound@basingstoke.gov.uk

Kerry Morrow 07422 651172 cllr.Kerry.Morrow@basingstoke.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Tom Thacker 07712 695468 tom.thacker@hants.gov.uk

MP for N.W. Hampshire:

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

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