



Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council
www.broomfieldandkingswood-pc.org.uk



Broomfield & Kingswood News

Winter 2022



**SEASON'S GREETINGS
FROM
BROOMFIELD AND
KINGSWOOD
PARISH COUNCIL**

Kingswood Remembers (see pages 14 and 15)



BROOMFIELD & KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Hayley Roberts
PARISH CLERK/RFO

Telephone: 07719 317702 or 01622 474190
Email: parishclerk@bandkpc.org
Website: www.broomfieldandkingswood-pc.org.uk

INCIDENTS AND ISSUES MUST BE REPORTED

If issues/crimes are not reported the Police cannot respond and the Parish Council has no enforcement capabilities.

You must report things on the reporting section of the Kent Police website which can be accessed via the following link or ring 101:

<https://www.kent.police.uk/ro/report/>

Please remember that our **PCSO is not contactable by phone and ALL incidences must be reported to 101 not to our PCSO.**

Highways issues including potholes, broken signs, damaged signs, blocked gullies, pathway issues

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>

COLD CALLING

Currently the village is not a no cold calling zone however one can be set up but would require volunteers. If you are interested please contact Hayley, Parish Clerk.

Even with a no cold calling zone in place it is not illegal to cold call and no cold calling zone areas are not enforceable.

Remember: keep the chain on the door; ask for their identity card; if you are not sure, do not let them in and NEVER hand over cash or your bank details to people who turn up on your doorstep.

If you do feel threatened dial 999 and for non-urgent calls call 101.

I do have a limited number of no cold calling stickers available, please feel free to contact me and I can provide you with one.

COUNCILLORS WOULD LIKE TO INVITE EVERYONE TO A CHRISTMAS GET TOGETHER!

Tuesday the 20th of December 2022

10.30am until 12.30pm

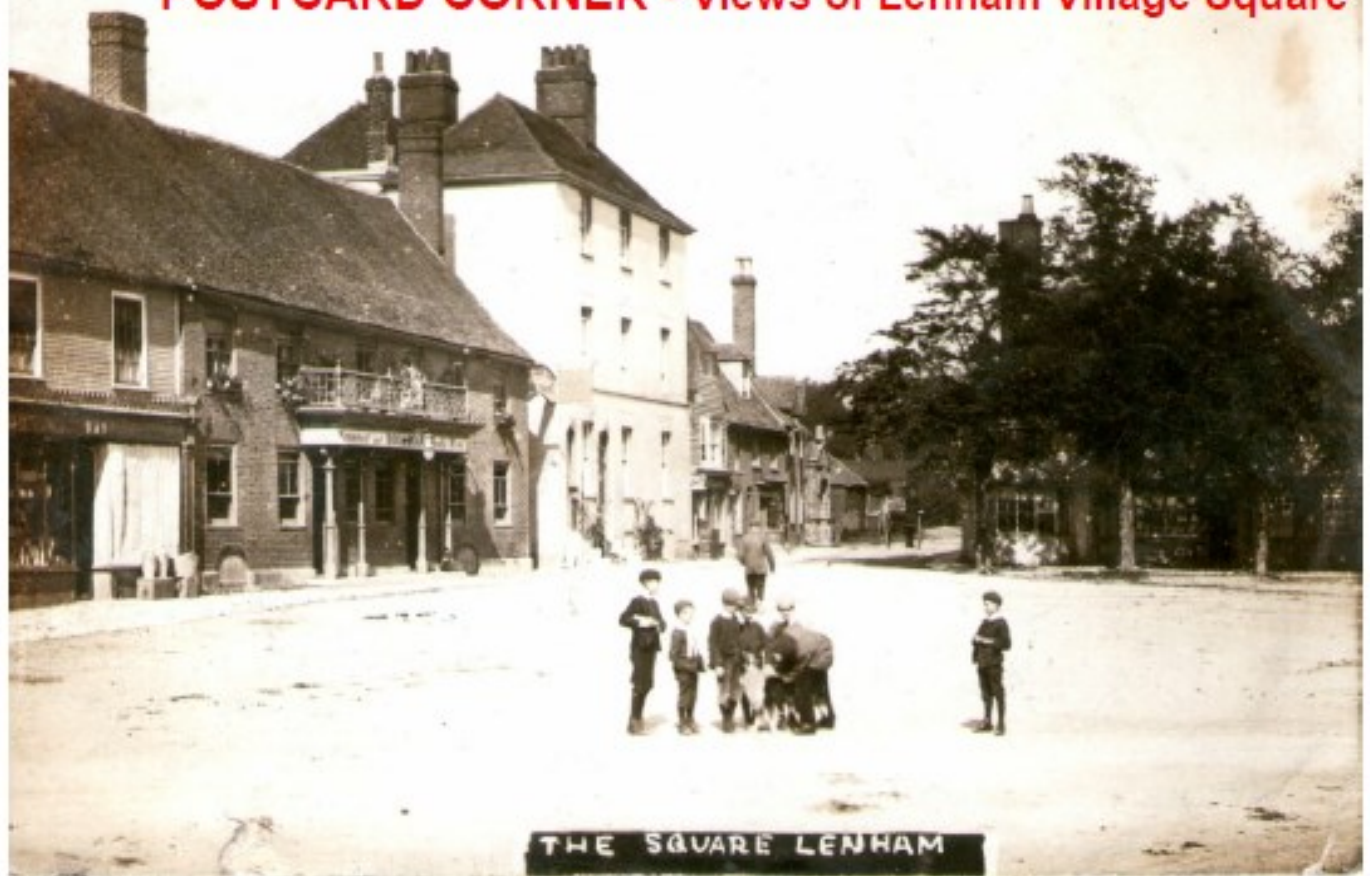
at Broomfield and Kingswood Village Hall

Tea, coffee and mince pies will be provided!

Please come along, everyone is welcome!



POSTCARD CORNER - Views of Lenham Village Square



The Village Square is the focal point of the small Kentish community of Lenham, and over the years the buildings have been home to a wide variety of businesses, including pubs, bakers, post office, butchers, antique shops, grocers and wine merchants to name just a few. These postcards show the Square at the start of the 20th century, where cars were rarely seen, and children could safely play in the streets with just horses and carts for company.

Children pose outside the Dog and Bear public house, which was a coaching inn since the turnpike road was constructed in 1780. The Lime trees are in full bloom outside the row of shops fronted by the cobbled walk.



Another view of the square with an early motor car parked outside the Dog and Bear, the lime trees again an impressive sight on this card dated 1926.



The Chequers Inn on a card c 1910 prior to it becoming a tea-room, with Mr A Palmer's shop trading as a Saddler and Harness Maker by the Limes.



The Limes, the beautiful cobbled and lime-shaded pathway on one side of the Square. The huge old trees have since been replaced by younger trees, but still provide a shady walk for the shoppers. Henry Burton's butchers' shop is nearest to the camera, and a horse and trap await their owner.

Ma Brown stands beside the door of her tea-shop in Church Square with her children Edward and Dorothy. She was in business from the 1920's to the 1930's.



A coloured postcard used in 1907 showing the Square and the Limes; a lady walks beside a horse and cart in Faversham Road.



A view of the Square taken from the Church Tower on a postcard used in 1909, when the Chequers was still a pub. Many years before, the Chequers was a court house. The view shows the road to Faversham well before the A20 bypass was built.

Ron Kemp

LEAD THE WAY DOG TRAINING

Wednesday evenings

We run Puppy training classes following the Kennel Club Puppy Foundation Course, after which you can continue with us and gain the KC Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. We are also experienced with rescue dogs too.

The trainers are Janet Tandy, who is a Kennel Club Accredited Instructor, City & Guilds and affiliated to the British Institute of Professional Dog Trainers, and Marion Street who is a very experienced dog trainer having a lot of understanding of rescue dogs. Together we run very popular dog training classes throughout the evening.

Many of the dogs have gone on to become Cynophobia dogs helping the children overcome their fear.

KENT CYNOPHOBIA ASSISTANCE GROUP

Monday evenings at 5.30

Cynophobia is a Greek word, Cyno is dog, Phobia is fear, so it simply means the 'fear of dogs'. We are now in our 7th year, having helped so many children overcome their fear of dogs. We have 12 dogs on our list, we have a rota of seven dogs each Monday, helping on average each week 18 children.

Our success rate is that 90% of children stroke a dog within the first hourly session, often to the amazement of parents. These children having had a lot of encouragement to even get out of their car.

Over the seven years, we are proud to say that we have changed so many families' lives for the better. We are all volunteers and it is a free group, we only ask for donations of sweets. We are always on the lookout for nice dogs for assessment, and even if you do not have a suitable dog we always need helpers just for an hour.

We have our own Facebook page 'Kent Cynophobia Assistance Group'.

KINGSWOOD SHORT MAT BOWLS

We meet every Wednesday at the Kingswood Village Hall, 2 – 4pm with a break halfway for tea and cake. We are a friendly group and welcome new members, even if you have never played before. We have spare bowls for anyone to try their hand. If you decide you would like to join us there is a one off joining fee of £5, and a weekly charge for playing and afternoon tea of £2.50.

Please either come along or give Mike Tandy a call for more information on 01622 842209.

SAVE THE DATE Saturday 6th May 2023 – CORONATION DAY

Kingswood Church will be hosting a Coronation Party
at Kingswood & Broomfield Village Hall.

All are welcome!

More information to follow in the New Year – Sonya Roberts 01622 843625



Kingswood Church article December 2022

Well it's that time of the year again and as we move into December and the expectation of Christmas is starting to increase with the children starting to get very excited! But what about us, are we feeling excited or already tired of Christmas shopping and looking forward to the traditional Christmas lunches and parties?

With all this hussel and bussel, we are in danger of missing the point of Christmas - Jesus born in Bethlehem in a stable of lowly parents. God coming to us in human form to save us from ourselves. The Gospel of Luke puts it like this, as an angel appears to the shepherds, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you **good news** that will cause great joy for **all people**. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord' (Luke 2:10&11). How we need this message of not being afraid and of good news for all people as we navigate the uncertainties of the world around us. Because of Jesus we can have hope, peace, joy and love not just on the earth but in our daily lives.

I invite you to pray this prayer, Dear Lord, thank you for coming to us this Christmas time. Thank you for the hope, peace, joy and love that you bring to us. Help us to respond to your love by showing kindness and goodness to all we meet. In Jesus name. **Amen.**

We look forward to welcoming you to our services in December and may I wish you on behalf of Kingswood Church a very Happy Christmas and New Year!

Peter Roberts

Kingswood Church is a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) supported by Anglican, Methodist and Baptist churches.

Kingswood Church calendar for December 2022

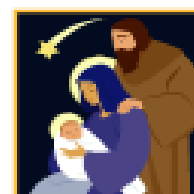
Sunday 4th December (Advent 2)

- **10:30am Refreshments/11am Cafe Service**



Sunday 11th December (Advent 3)

- **11am The Christmas Story told by the Climbers**



Sunday 18th December (Advent 4)

- **6pm Christingle Service in aid of The Children's Society**

Sunday 25th December

- **10:30am Christmas Day Family Celebration with Peter Roberts**



LUNCH CLUB

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HALL



TUESDAY 12.30-1.45

BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT; PAT LYNE 01622 843672

PAUL'S HANDYMAN SERVICE

Based in Kingswood Maidstone Kent

Fully Insured & Licensed Waste Removal

All Household Maintenance Jobs Undertaken

Electrical & Minor Plumbing

Garden Clearance

Mowing & Garden Maintenance

Fencing & Post Repairs

Pressure Washing

Painting & Decorating

Give Me a Call or Email

Contact: - Paul Beaney

Tele: - (01622) 844805

Mobile: - 07732 468047

Email: - paulalisonbeaney@gmail.com

THREE SUTTONS HELPLINE

The Three Suttons Helpline , after a pause during the worst of the pandemic, is now active again. The Helpline volunteer drivers give lifts to people to medical appointments, when friends or family are unavailable – and can occasionally help with other things, such as essential shopping or collecting prescriptions. The scheme is available to people who live in Kingswood, Broomfield, Langley, East Sutton, Chart Sutton and Sutton Valence – and to patients of the Orchard Surgery in Langley and Sutton Valence Surgery.

If this service may be helpful for you, please do telephone one of the numbers below. (Please do not contact any other numbers which you may have used in the past.) and, hopefully, the person who answers your call will be able to arrange for someone to take you to and from your appointment. Obviously, if you can give a reasonable amount of notice, the more likely it is that we can find someone to help you.

07425 582534. OR. 01622 844301

Please note that we are not part of the NHS or Social Services and that the drivers use their own cars and give their time for free; but that donations towards the cost of petrol are much appreciated, so that the volunteers are not left out-of-pocket. (Please do speak to the person organising your lift or to the person driving you if you are unable to offer a donation.)

We are very grateful to Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council for their support and their recent donation to the scheme, which will be used for insurance, leaflets, telephone calls, paying petrol costs if people are unable to afford a donation etc.)

If you have any other queries about the scheme – or if you think you may be able to consider being a driver, please do contact the coordinator, Christine Parkes (Tel. – 01622 842217 or email christineparkes@hotmail.co.uk)

Broomfield and Kingswood Birdwatching Group

We meet on a regular basis on a Monday approximately once every two months or once a quarter, depending on meeting venue availability.

Having moved to the area a few years ago now, I have come to realise how lucky we are to have such a rich diversity of habitat on our doorstep. I have also noticed from social media, a keen interest in nature from many local residents.

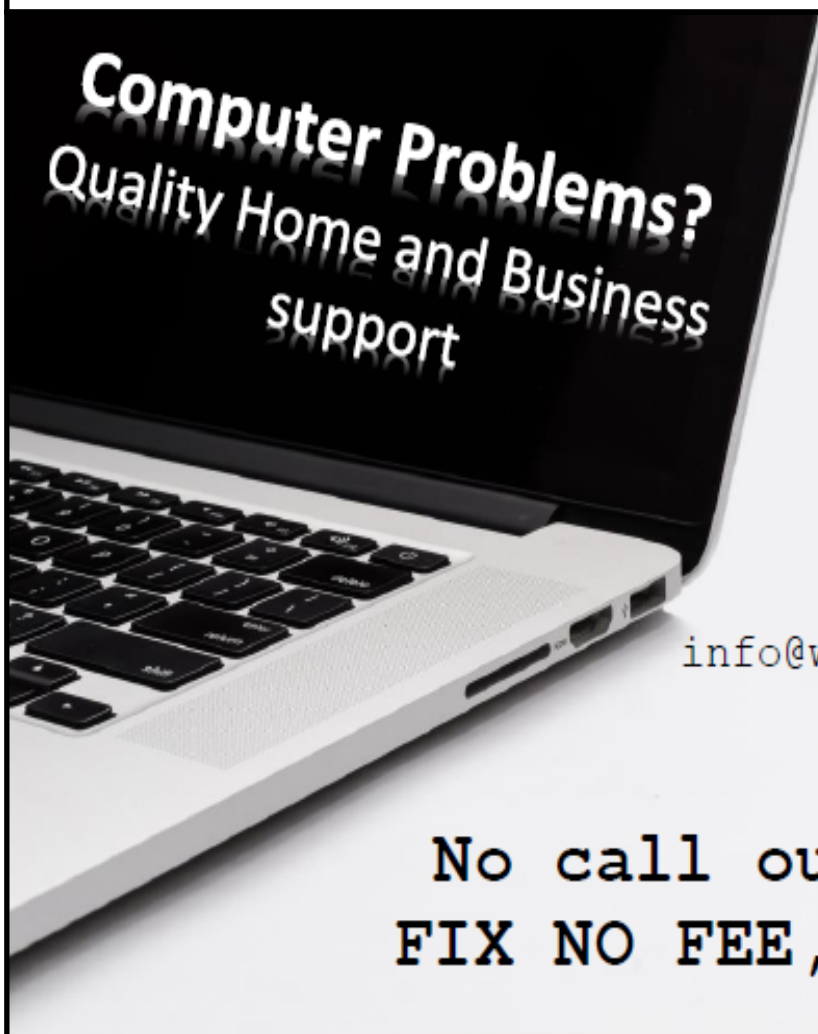
The aims of the group are (but not restricted to) as follows:

- To map (as far as possible) the breeding/migrating/wintering species in the parish
- To arrange group walks
- To share knowledge
- To hold regular meetings
- To note other forms of wildlife in the area.

The group is not restricted to residents of this parish, and we have members from as far afield as Headcorn, Ulcombe, Boughton Malherbe and Lenham.

If you are interested in joining please email me at:

mattmeek72@outlook.com



Any computer related
issues please do not
hesitate to contact
Dean:

Mobile

07722 293187

Email

info@warford-computers.co.uk

Facebook:

Warford computers

**No call out charge, NO
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www.kingswoodfencing.co.uk

Kingswood & Broomfield Village Hall

November 2022

Report for Broomfield and Kingswood News

The Village Hall Committee were pleased to allow the Poppy Cascade group use of the hall, free of charge, to enable people to contribute and work on the display which will be up for day of remembrance.

The pop-up cafe has finished for this year. Thank you to the two gentlemen who have run it during the summer. We hope to see them return in 2023. Meanwhile we are planning, with the Parish Council, to hold a drop in coffee morning in the hall at 10.30am to 12.30pm on Tuesday 20th December 2022, Thursday 16th February 2023 and Thursday 13th April 2023. These dates are during the holidays when Pre-School is not running in the hall.

Please can we make an appeal to all users of the hall to be aware of their gas and electricity usage. We are all aware of the rising costs of energy and making adjustments at home but the hall is also facing rising bills and we would hate to be in the position of some other village halls and have to consider closing the hall during the winter months. So please let's all do the best we can to keep the bills down.

Merry Christmas and a healthy new year to the village.

On behalf of Kingswood & Broomfield Village Hall Committee

Kingswood Community Speedwatch – We need some additional help from you!

Community Speedwatch (CSW) is a national initiative where, in partnership with the police, members of communities use detection devices **to monitor local vehicle speeds**. The volunteers report drivers exceeding the speed limit to the police with the aim of educating drivers to slow down.

If the data proves a driver is ignoring repeated warnings police can prosecute them. The aim is to:

- reduce death and injury on the roads
 - improve the quality of life for local communities
 - reduce the speed of vehicles to the speed limit
- increase public awareness of inappropriate speed



Kingswood Community Speedwatch was set up around 8 months ago and is a volunteer group run by members of the local community

We are a friendly bunch with an aim to reduce the number of cars speeding through our village and to protect our local community from serious accidents. We do rarely experience some negative behaviour towards us which is taken very seriously by Kent Police. We do wear a body camera to record all our speedwatch sessions and can and will report drivers that are unnecessarily aggressive towards the group members. We are all local residents trying to encourage a safer environment for all of the community.



Since we started in February 2022, the following numbers of vehicles have passed through our village, and the following number of letters issued to speeding vehicles.

Total number of sessions - 92

Total volunteer hours - 220

Number of vehicles observed - 9670

Number of vehicles reported to the police and letters issued - 406

Number of vehicles exceeding the limit more than once - 29

The highest speeder to date recorded at 49mph in a 30 zone!

It's also important to advise vehicle users that if a vehicle is recorded by any group in Kent and logged onto the system, and then is caught by another speedwatch group that will be recorded as an additional incident. Where these rack up, points do not make prizes, they make for letters hand delivered by the police and possible prosecution.

In the main, as a group we have noticed cars slowing down around the village so hopefully the number of speeders will reduce over time.

As with all volunteer groups, we could always do with more help! The more of us then the lighter the load for us all. If you could spare even an hour a month we would really love to have you in the group. All of the current members in the group all have work and commitments that we schedule sessions around, which means they occur on different days and times each week

Training is required and provided by Kent Police. It involves some online training that takes approx. 30-45 mins to complete and is really easy to follow and then some roadside training to learn how to use the camera and record data effectively.

It's a lovely way to meet other members of the community and to create a safer environment across Kingswoods roads.

If you would like more information or to be involved please contact us via email kingswoodspeedwatch@outlook.com and we will be happy to discuss the scheme with you, any additional support would be really appreciated.

The Kingswood Bluebells

The Bluebells is a ladies group who meet on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. We have a varied programme of events during the year as well as trips out, including China Painting, Afternoon Tea, Film night and of course Christmas Lunch.

We are very friendly and welcoming, so do phone for more details.

Beryl Andrew (843431)

Alex and I would like to say a massive thankyou to all the villagers that not only purchased some of Alex's many flowers that he grew for his now annual plant sale, but also for all the pots, seeds, plants and expertise that many shared with him during this time.

It's so lovely to see the different generations within the local community supporting each other.

We would also like to say thank you to Pleasant View Garden Centre as they gave us many trays and pots to help transport the plants to Alex's school summer Fete.

Alex raised £750 in total, much more than last year so the bar has been set for next years challenge. We may need a bigger garden!

With some of the money raised, Alex could purchase a leaf for the memorial tree at Demelza so he could remember the reason he does this each year. In loving memory of Zak Hammond x



Best wishes

Becky and Alex Smith



KINGSWOOD BADMINTON CLUB



We meet every Thursday afternoon from 2.00 to 4.00pm in the Village Hall.

We are very much social players, ranging in ability from fairly average to very average.

We only play doubles as none of us are good enough to play singles!

The session is punctuated by a well-earned cuppa and banter.

We are always looking for new players of any ability.

So do come along any Thursday or phone Sue on 843626 for further information.

You won't be disappointed.

KINGSWOOD WHIST GROUP

We meet every Tuesday afternoon from 2.00 until 4.30pm. The Group is ever expanding and we are now attracting players from neighbouring villages. Over 20 players come along and enjoy 24 games of partner/progressive whist. At half-time we have tea, coffee, cakes and chat! Of course we all try to win but the main objective is to have a really sociable afternoon with the opportunity to meet lots of new people.

We welcome new players of any vintage or ability and are delighted that several have now joined since the end of the lockdown. So do come along for some fun - all for just £2.50!! The members take it in turns to provide the cakes and modest prizes for the winner and the wooden spooner!!

In December we have an excellent Christmas lunch, last year it was at The Ridge Golf Club. The Group contributes to the cost. Several "significant other halves" also join us.

So don't sit at home watching *four in a bargain doctors hunt dine with me*. Do come along and enjoy a fun afternoon with ordinary folk who don't bite!! We will be delighted to see you.

For further information please ring Mike on 844272 or just turn up next Tuesday.



"ACORNS GALORE"

This Autumn we saw a proliferation of acorns in our local area. A very good crop of acorns only occurs approximately every 5-10 years, called 'mast' years from the Scandinavian word 'mat' (meaning food). They are welcome food for squirrels, wood mice, pheasants, wood pigeons and jays. Jays regularly carry acorns to open ground and bury them. When they forget where they have buried them and if nothing else finds them, a sapling may grow.

Pigs find acorns very tasty.

An Oak tree can produce approximately 2,000 acorns most years. But only one in one hundred thousand acorns is likely to grow into a fully-grown specimen. Oaks do not produce acorns until they are about ten years old.

Acorns and Oak leaves contain Tannin which is poisonous to horses and cattle. They can be toxic to dogs if they digest them. Please remember to keep an eye on your dogs when out walking.

Acorns have a number of health benefits to humans e.g. acorn coffee, which during WW2 was a substitute for real coffee (it is an acquired taste). Apparently, the benefits are to control blood sugar, digestion, energy and skin care. There is also acorn flour, which goes back 10,000 years.

If you should decide to produce any of the above always discard the green ones, also the ones with a little hole in the shell, which is infected by the larvae of the oak weevil. The weevil bore their holes like an alien from inside of the acorn. Moth larvae can also be in the acorn. Only use brown acorns. The Tannin must always be removed by blanching.

It would be interesting to know if anyone has produced coffee or flour from acorns.

D.L.



The Kingswood Community Poppy Display

Our Poppy display symbolises the respect and remembrance of our community for the sacrifices for our freedoms made by the armed forces in conflicts.

We also remember the animals lost in conflicts with purple poppies and we used white poppies to show our hope for peace.

We started work in August in the drought and we finished in November in a deluge. The display includes more than 50 stones painted by our young people, over 1000 plastic bottle poppies made by our children in schools and youth groups and over 1500 knitted, crochet, and sewn poppies made by crafters in Kingswood and the surrounding areas.

Remembering the sacrifices of others has brought our community together in the difficult times we face now.

These members of our community gave their time, ideas, suggestions, effort and enthusiasm as part of the Project Team. Many of them made poppies too and also donated materials and funds; Alyson Meek, Becky Godfrey, Beryl Andrew, Ceridwen Clarke, Cheryl Davis, Claire Jones, Colin Rawlings, Donna Rawlings, Kat Ross, Laura Ring, Matt Godfrey, Tracie Carlsund.

These members of our community made crochet, knitted, plastic and sewn poppies, helped with the assembly of the panels for the display and many of them also donated materials and funds: Alison Golding, Angela King, Ann Wilson, Barbara Moore, Barbara Robins, Barbara Worrall, Becca Mara, Becca Wright, Becky Smith, Carol Jones, Cheryl Howe, Chrissie Clements, Elizabeth Butler, Emma Austin, Georgie Simpson, Gill Johnson, Jane Eastwood, Jane Newsome, Judith Pelican, Julie Darke, Karen Day, Karen Tyler, Kathy Doughty, Kaye Kilgallen, Linda Doughty, Linda Turner, Liz Dolan, Lou Bailey, Martina Lakin, Marion Mellish, Maureen Barwick, Michelle Doherty, Michelle Mcilwraith, Nikki Sharpe, Pat Pocock, Pauline Baker, Pauline McShea, Rachel Giles, Rosemarie Bartlett, Su Mercer, Susan Burch, Sylvia Gausden, Tiffany Rookledge, Toby Giles, Tracey Brunton, Val Clarke.

Children and young people at youth groups in our community, the Leeds and Kingswood Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, Crusaders, CAN, the pre-school and in the Kingswood, Ulcombe, Platt's Heath and Leeds Primary Schools, made plastic bottle bottom poppies, and painted pebbles. Emeilia Swallow and Louise Smith painted stones. Many people in our community including Daz Moss and Chris Hopper saved and donated plastic bottles.

Local Businesses supported the project with publicity and money collection boxes:

Post Office and Avenue Stores Charlesford Avenue £120.00; Sports Injury Clinic Cayser Drive £6.00; Ken the Barber £19.55; Village Hall £11.00; Nicky's Beauty Services £4.20.

Local Businesses supported the project with work and materials, especially in the installation and fixing: Paul's Handyman Service, Martin Hilton, Kingswood Fencing, Challenge Fencing Maidstone.

The Village Hall Committee supported the project with use of the hall for meetings and assembly, free of charge. The Scouts helped with use of the Scout Hall for assembly.

These members of our community made donations either to our crowd fund appeal or in cash: David Stolton, Peter Sullivan, Terry and Tiff Ireland, Terry Clarke, Tracy Golding.

Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council supported the project with funds and with support, endorsement, advice and guidance.

We also owe thanks to everyone who popped their change in the boxes, who encouraged and cheered, who made a few poppies, who turned up to help with the assembly and handover, followed and liked us on social media and who, overall, made it happen. Thank you to Emeilia and Louise who represented the village for the Handover.

Thank you, Kingswood. Lest We Forget.

Trenches

As the sun splashed knives of gold,
Through lark-ridden skies,
Death rained down on the brave and bold,
Echoing screams and sighs.
As bees flit through fields of white
Boys, young and scared, must fight
Guns crack crack, bleaching minds with fear,
Blasting noise, deafening their ear,
Scarring their innocent mind,
Gas burning through eyes, making them blind
Blood, splashing through wounds,
Their names forever on rows of tombs.
We treasure their memory,
With many-a ceremony
However, will this ever make what happened right
The horror, the death and endless blight
Which those poor wretches
Found everywhere in the trenches?

By Adam LeI
Aged 11
Leeds and Kingswood Scouts

War Baby

It was casual and normal you didn't need to say
more
When bombs started to drop a shelter or shop or
flat on the floor
Oh no we don't forget
Lovely smiley faces how loudly they sang
A long and loud droning, all quiet and then a
loud bang
The small curly haired boy with the gauze on his
face
The glass and the rubble all over the place
Oh no we don't forget
A war spent with Nana's in Mitcham and Wales
Big smiles, a bear hug and read fairy tales
A wet afternoon on a Nana's lap
As she sat in her rocking chair taking her nap
To all of my forebears I give a big cheer
Thanks to you all we are still here
They gave courage and strength and a future to
live
They gave their all what more can you give
Oh no we don't forget

By Pat Pocock

The Kingswood Poppy Fair

Here's a huge Thank you to everyone who came to the Kingswood Poppy Fair on Saturday 12 November! The stall holders, the set-up crew and the visitors enjoyed it, so many people said they loved the friendly fair, with unusual and attractive gifts, art and crafts, and lovely Kingswood people. The Parish Council Raffle was a great success, raising about £300, and the entry fees from visitors and stall holders raised more than £250. The delicious bread and gorgeous cakes sold raised more than £100, the Village Hall Café kept us all refreshed and the total money donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2022 is expected to be more than £650.

That's fantastic! Thank you, Kingswood!



Winter Draws On by Cllr Malcolm Clarke

We're at that time of year again! After a summer that was far too hot for many, we now begin the decline into Winter. Let's hope that it won't be too cold, and, just to cheer us all up, we are now faced with the added trials of possible power cuts and higher costs for food and energy. What can we do to minimise these problems?

Let's not panic or become anxious about what this winter will bring. If we take some simple preparations, we'll keep cosy and warm.

There are four important points to remember to help get through a cold winter.

Stay warm and cosy – NEVER sacrifice warmth to save money.

Stay well fed – ensure that you don't go hungry.

Be prepared for power outages and keep an Emergency Kit for use when the power goes.

Be in contact with others – Make sure you know how your friends and neighbours are managing. Don't be afraid to talk to people or ask for help. It is always easier to manage when you're not alone. You don't have to be alone.

Many of us will be especially worried about the rising cost of fuel. How can we keep these costs to a minimum?

In the first instance, if you have trouble affording the extra costs, contact your fuel supplier and discuss what can be done. It is in their interests to give support to their customers. Never be afraid to talk to them, they may well be able to suggest ways of coping but remember, NEVER sacrifice your warmth and comfort to save money.

Keep one room warm and reduce temperatures in other unused rooms by a degree or so using the radiator thermostats. Keep doors shut so heating is maintained in each room. Wear a warm wristband and thick socks, if possible, buy some handwarmers that can be filled with hot water. It is important to keep your extremities warm. Keep your head warm. Wear layers of clothes.

Don't let the house get too cold. Never turn the heating fully off. A minimum temperature of at least 6 Degrees C is required to make sure that the water pipes don't freeze in really bad conditions. However, a temperature of around 20 degrees should be maintained if possible.

Stop draughts at the bottom of doors by placing a towel or rug against them.

Buy (or make) nourishing food which requires short cooking times e.g., thick soups and stews.

Make sure that you have adequate clothing to deal with cold spells.

Keep in contact with others around you. You may decide to share your house with friends and neighbours. You could provide the heating whilst another provides the food and then swap your share on a rota. If you have a small group of friends or acquaintances this will have the added benefit of reducing heating costs as well as sharing company.

If in trouble, FOR ANY REASON, call someone. Don't be afraid to ask and most people are only too willing to help if they can. Make sure that you have your mobile charged in case of power cuts so that you can make calls.

Power cuts will be programmed so be ready, boil the kettle and fill a thermos flask to make hot drinks later. Fill a hot water bottle to help keep warm. Make sure you know where everything you might need is.

Emergency Kit for use in Power cuts

Essential Items

Torch and spare batteries
Hot water bottle.
Small propane gas stove and gas cylinders (Could be a very good investment)
List of important telephone numbers
A stock of tinned meals and thick soups or a supply of prepared soups and stews)
Some dried noodles (quick and easy to cook)
Candles & matches
Thermos flask

Nice to have items:

Small stove top kettle.
Plug in telephone
Bundle of Solar Powered LED Garden lights (£10 - £15 Amazon)
Double GAZ burner stove and gas cylinders (£30 -£50 Amazon)

Please remember, there is a wealth of information on the internet about available help with costs etc., especially from your local council websites. Use these if possible and don't be afraid to ask.

This note cannot be considered a full list of what you can do but it can give you an idea of some of the things that you can try.

The most important message is to be prepared and communicate.

Wishing you all a Great Christmas filled with love and laughter.



We've all got to economise
I thought I'd give it a go
"Easy Peasy" Waver Jam
Only takes half an hour
How could I possibly say no.
One and a half hours later I still had runny jam
It wouldn't set, just lasts three weeks
I gave up like a lamb.
Next day we went out shopping
And there on a supermarket shelf
Were jars and jars of pure fruit jam
Half the price I tried to do myself.
I nearly lost my temper and shout for all to hear
But kept my cool, a learning curve
So I just said " Oh Dear".
By Pat Pocock

If you have a slow cooker, use it, it costs pennies to run. You can batch cook and make multiple meals and use the microwave to reheat which is also cheaper to run than a conventional oven for just one dish.

Change light bulbs to LED ones. If you are using old style, change them to LED or buy a few strategically placed LED table lamps.

Keep moving as much as possible, sitting still tends to make you feel colder.

USEFUL TIPS FROM RESIDENTS

Invest in thermal underwear.

Turn the hot water temperature a few degrees down on the hot water cylinder (Copper Tank). Turning down just a few degrees would save you considerable amounts of money. Changing your hot water timer. If your hot water comes on twice a day for 4 hours, change to 3 hours. This will potentially save you 25% off your gas bill.

Hot water bottle or hand warmers kept in a pocket warms the hands and the body.

Change your hot water timer. You may be running your hot water more than you need to.

cubs

NEW LEADER



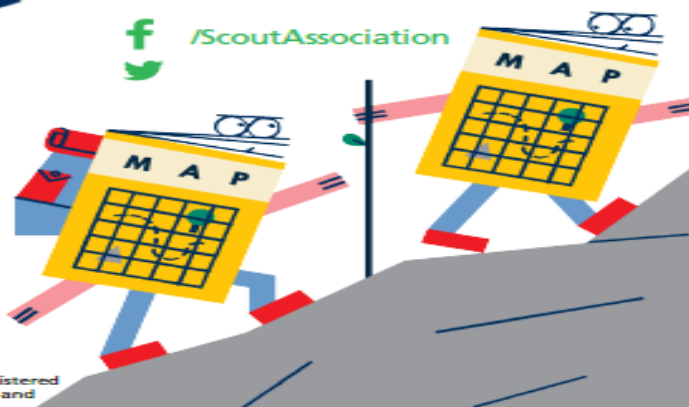
Volunteer Vacancy - Leeds and Kingswood Cubs are looking for a new leader to join the team and take the helm once a week, term time. We are a fab team!

No previous experience with young people? No problem! Whether you'd like to help out week on week or whenever you can, we provide training, learning opportunities and cups of tea every step of the way!

Please get in touch with our group chairman Alan Poulton:
01622 843019



/ScoutAssociation



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Leeds and Kingswood Beavers , Cubs and Scouts all took part in the Remembrance Service this year at Leeds Church. We are very proud of them all.

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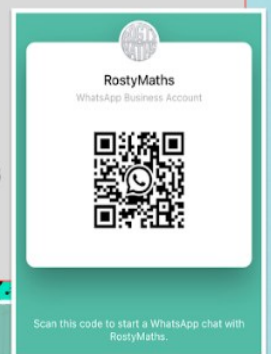
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We have now purchased and fitted new LED lighting in the scout hut, these will use less electricity

Over the Christmas period we are going to have the toilets painted.

The group will be at Remembrance Day at Leeds church where we will lay a wreath.

BEAVERS

We have 4 leaders and 18 beavers with one on the waiting list. 2 beavers have moved up to cubs and 3 of these have now been invested.

The outdoor activities this term they have been having scavenger hunts, attending Coastal Chaos at Samphire Hoe., Chatham Dock Yard in October and will do Winter walks in November at Trosley Park

Indoors we have been learning phonetics, about airplanes, world Peace Day and Porchlight. In November and they will be helping with the Poppy making. There are a lot of activities later on that I will let you know about in the next magazine,.

CUBS

There are 3 assistant leaders and 20 cubs, Linda Waring has been helping out as the cub leader until someone comes forward to replace her. If you would like to be a cub leader let me know Alan 843019

Cubs are working towards their badges, home help, Skills Challenge, Pioneering, Astronomer and Nights away

Over one weekend they stayed overnight in the scout hut, this was the first time for some who haven't stayed away from home. without their parents. Later on, cubs will be taking part in "AHOY" at Chatham Dockyard.

SCOUTS

We have got 13 scouts and 4 leaders, Scouts had a cooking night, hobbies night, Bin bag fashion night and will be taking part in Porchlight. If your child is between 10 and 14 and would like to join scouts call Alan 84301.

EXPLORERS

We have had to close Explorers through lack of numbers and also the leader's work commitments, we hope to start back up in a few years' time.

100 CLUB

We run a 100 club which is like a small lottery, we have four prizes a month and costs £12 a year, this helps towards activities and the running of the hut. If you would like to join call Alan 843019

The winners for July are

Miss Raffill £20, Mrs Castle £10, Mr Hadlow £10, Mrs Darke £5

August

Miss Kilgallon £20, Mr S Poulton £10, Mr Jury £10, Mrs B Turner £5

September

Mrs Broomfield £20, Mrs Tunbridge £10, Mrs Archer £10, Mr Merton

From the group we hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year

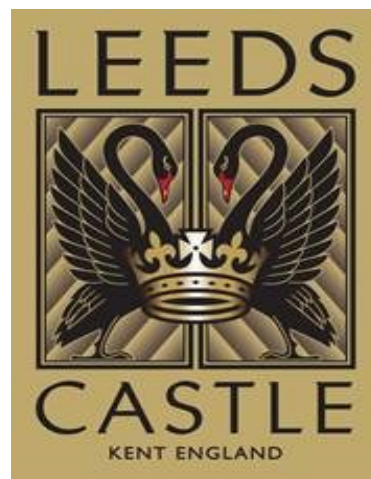
Alan Poulton Chairman

Parish Magazine – December 2022

And so, to winter.... After a very pleasant Indian summer, the fog, rain & cooler weather is now blowing in and December is not far away.

At the Castle, we have just completed a weekend of Fireworks Spectacular. It was a sell out and an amazing display, which everyone seemed to really enjoy. Sadly, we didn't have great weather at all, with Sunday, especially, seeing biblical amounts of rain. Huge credit to all of our staff, volunteers and customers for remaining positive and determined to have a good time, despite being somewhat soggy round the edges!

All of our focus is now turning to Christmas of course and much work is underway to install our first ever (evening) Christmas Lights Trail and to create the daytime experience, Christmas in the Castle.



We are running a new Christmas Lights Trail in the evenings from 25th November to 1st January, in partnership with light trail experts Raymond Gubbay/Sony, who already run the successful lights trails at Blenheim Palace, Kew Gardens and Bedgebury. We have worked closely with them to create a Light Trail that is specific to Leeds Castle and tells aspects of our particular story.

The light trail will run through the Princess Alexandra Gardens, up to the Castle, where there will be a fire garden on the Croquet Lawn and a stunning light show on the Castle itself. The trail will then continue back along main drive back to the visitor centre.

Over the past few weeks, we have been busy installing pontoons on the moat to enable a light show on the Castle, along with multiple light and sound installations around the gardens, including giant chandeliers and a dance floor, reflecting our 900-year history of being a glamorous retreat and a party house.

It will be an amazing experience & I hope many of you will visit to enjoy this stunning show. Tickets are still available online, but do hurry if you want to come, as many of the peak slots near Christmas are now fully booked.

Included in your annual ticket is our daytime offer, Christmas at the Castle. There are a number of different experiences. Firstly, the Castle will be decorated in its usual luxurious style, but with a twist, we are preparing the Castle for one of Lady Baillie's Christmases. Prepare to be dazzled by the glamour and seasonal splendour!

In the wider estate, there will be an activity trail to find candy canes and lollipops, a giant sleigh up at the Maze area for your family selfie (do share on social media) and a seasonally themed challenge in the Maze itself.

Children can post a letter to Santa in our post box and hang a Christmas wish on the trees in the Dog Collar Museum in the Stable Courtyard.

Please note that if you are coming to the Daytime Christmas Experience, we will be closing to day visitors earlier than usual due to the evening Christmas Lights Experience. We are therefore opening earlier in the morning than usual to increase the time you can visit.

From 25th November 2022 to 1st January 2023, the grounds and gardens are open 9am-3.30pm (last entry 1.30pm), the Castle opens between 9.30am and 2.30pm (last entry 2pm) and the adventure golf, playgrounds and Maze are open between 10am and 2pm.

Wishing you all a happy and peaceful festive season.

Helen Bonser-Wilton, Chief Executive

When you've gone from here to there

(your journey at Leeds Castle)

By Ken Pattison 15th October 2022

So much to do: 'where to start'? you say
At Leeds Castle wanting to have a great day.
The sun is out and there's no time to spare
When you've gone from here to there!

Take the Elsie train ride with a view to see
Both rabbits and squirrels and golfer's tee
Glorious views of castle; well worth the fare
When you've gone from here to there!

A stroll to the castle and your first free show
Queens with Means - you'll want a second go!
Be our guest, as many times as you care
When you've gone from here to there!

Lady Baillie's party retreat awaits you now
To get into the swing of things somehow -
Dance in the Salon with frivolous flair
When you've gone from here to there!

A Black Swan ferry ride across our Great Lake
To the other side and you'll see what's at stake
Navigate our maze: there's many who'll not dare
When you've gone from here to there!

You'll find our adventure golf course ever so cute!
Some holes can be a real nightmare
When you've gone from here to there!

Another free show: head to the Birds of Prey
Our free flying display will surely make your day
With owls and hawks whizzing just over your hair
When you've gone from here to there!

A treat for the kids, 'The Knights Stronghold' awaits
Such a buzz of pure excitement, it always creates
They'll climb, they'll zip and run around they'll tear
When you've gone from here to there!

Return via our beautiful gardens, a sight to behold
Colour, texture and form you'll not have to be told
Of some of our plants that are really quite rare
When you've gone from here to there!

Last, but not least another free show, so to speak
Our Dog Collar Museum: a collection really so unique
Your day has been filled; you've not had to ask where?
When you've gone from here to there!

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Grotto pre-bookable-see website

IT'S CHRISTMAS - KEEP IT REAL

USEFUL CONTACTS

Kingswood Church	Peter Roberts	01622 843625
KCC Councillor	Shellina Prendergast	shellina.prendergast@kent.gov.uk
Member of Parliament	Helen Whately	020 7219 6472
MBC Councillor	Gill Fort	gillfort@maidstone.gov.uk
Neighbourhood Watch	VACANCY	
PCSO	Shivon De Rose	101
Primary School	Lynsey Sanchez Daviu	01622 842674
Kingswood Pre-School	Aimee Springett	07729 499 508/01622 844334
Village Hall	Val Clarke	01622 843110

Village Clubs

Badminton	Sue Orchin	01622 843626
Bluebells	Beryl Andrews	01622 843431
CANS	Sonya Roberts	01622 843625
Dog Training & Cynophobia	Janet Tandy	01622 842209
Karate	Chris Simpson	07801 639052
Tuesday Lunch Club	Pat Lyne	01622 843672
Dance 4 Kent	Stephanie Wood	07898207973
Kingswood Whist Group	Mike Bean	01622 844272
Short Mat Bowls	Mike Tandy	01622 842209
Purple Yoga	Helen	07762 761905
Scouts, Cubs and Beavers	Alan Poulton	01622 843019
Birdwatching Group	Matthew Meek	mattmeek72@hotmail.com

Other

Three Suttons Helpline	07425 582534 OR 01622 844301
Involve	03000 810005
Kent Karrier	03000 41 35 67

Your Parish Council

Parish Clerk/RFO: Hayley Roberts; Email: parishclerk@bandkpc.org Tel: 07719 317702/01622 474190

Councillors:

Tina Clark (Chair)	tinaclark@bandkpc.uk
Gareth Davies (Vice Chair)	garethdavies@bandkpc.uk
Aimee Parker-Boyton	aimeeparker@bandkpc.uk
Chris Pink	chriskpink@bandkpc.uk
Simon Pearce	simonpearce@bandkpc.uk
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Steve Lakin	stevelakin@bandkpc.uk
VACANCY	
VACANCY	

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The entire poster is framed by a lush, festive border of Christmas decorations. At the top, a row of illustrations features a red cardinal, candy canes, snowflakes, and a central image of Leeds Castle in winter. The sides are decorated with green garlands, silver and gold baubles, white snowflakes, and small birds like robins and blackbirds. The bottom features more garlands, a large red and white striped bow, and various hanging ornaments. The background is a light blue with a subtle floral pattern.

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