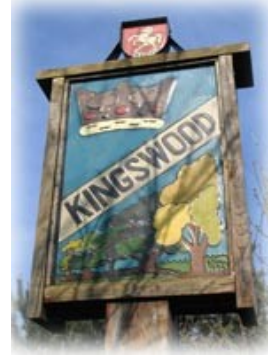




Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council  
[www.broomfieldandkingswood.pc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.broomfieldandkingswood.pc.kentparishes.gov.uk)



# Parish News

## Spring 2018

**Who's Missing?**

**Is It You?**

Are you passionate about your community and would like to stand in the local elections in 2019?

Make a change—become a Councillor

Contact your Parish Clerk, Pam Bower, for more information and copies of the relevant forms on:

07719 317702 or [parishclerk@bandkpc.org](mailto:parishclerk@bandkpc.org)

Closing date for applications: 4pm on 3 April 2019

## PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES



### Coffee Morning and PCSO Surgery

#### A chance to ask questions and raise queries.

The Parish Council and our PCSO are now holding a joint 'surgery' on the first Saturday of every month at the coffee morning in the village hall. Come and meet one of your Councillors and Shvon De Rose our PCSO between 10.30 and 11.30.

## PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY—15 JUNE 2019—

### SUMMER PARISH EVENT

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY—15 JUNE 2019

You will be aware that the Parish Council has previously organised a Pensioners Outing for the older residents in the Parish but the last two have had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers.

In place of this the Parish Council has agreed to organise some Parish Events which all residents will be able to attend. The first one will take place on 15 June in the Sports Field so mark the date in your diary and look out for further information.

### Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

#### As a Parish we are without a Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

The mission of Neighbourhood Watch is to bring neighbours together to create strong, friendly, active communities where crime and anti-social behaviour are less likely to happen.

The vision is that of a caring society that is focused on trust and respect in which people are safe from crime and enjoy a good quality of life. Neighbourhood Watch is about making sure that fewer people feel afraid, vulnerable or isolated in the place where they live.



### Residents Email Address list

The Clerk maintains a closed email distribution list for residents who wish to be kept up to date on road closures and other relevant information. If you are not already on that list and would like to receive information like this, please email me at [parishclerk@bandkpc.org](mailto:parishclerk@bandkpc.org) giving me permission to add your email address to the list.

## HOW TO REPORT ISSUES ....

Please report issues on-line using the following links:

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

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

**Police matters** – some residents have been phoning our PCSO. Please **DO NOT** ring her direct but ring 101 or report the issue on line

<https://www.kent.police.uk/services/report-online/kent-police-online-reporting/>

## PARISH NOTICEBOARDS

We are lucky to have 3 noticeboards in Kingswood and one in Broomfield but they get very full advertising all the fab activities that take place in the village, along with Parish Council information and other notice.

If notices were A5 in size then there would be a lot more space so please could we ask that anyone who wishes to advertise their club, society etc on the noticeboard provides the information on an A5 piece of paper. If you have difficulty doing this then please send you art work to the Parish Clerk

## UNSUNG VILLAGE HEROES

It would be great if, in future issues of the Parish News, we could sing the praises of our village's 'unsung heroes'.

If you know of someone who is an 'unsung hero' and undertakes tasks that are of benefit to the village, perhaps you could write a short piece for the news-letter and send it to your Parish Clerk (asking their permission beforehand of course).



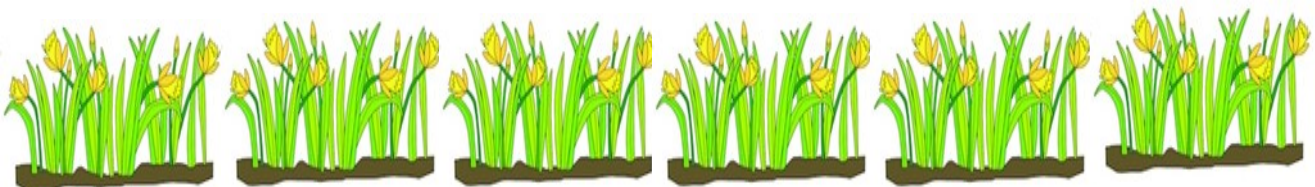
## RECIPES

Do you have a special recipe that could be included in future issues of the Parish News? If yes, send it to your Parish Clerk.



## INTERESTING INFORMATION

Would you like to write an article for a future Parish News? Do you have knowledge of something that residents would find interesting? If yes, contact your Parish Clerk.



## PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES cont.

### NEW SPORTSFIELD EQUIPMENT



The  
play  
equip-  
ment  
being  
in  
place



new  
is  
put  
as

we speak in the Play Area in the Sports Field. Bring your children to try and it out—we hope they will like it!

### DOG POO

There has been a significant increase in the amount of dog poo not being picked up in the village. Dog mess is a health hazard and is associated with various diseases including Toxocariasis, caused Toxocara Canis, a roundworm whose eggs are found in dog mess. It can cause upsets, sore throats, asthmas and even blindness.

**DON'T BE AN IRRESPONSIBLE OWNER—PICK UP YOUR DOG'S MESS AND TAKE IT HOME OR PUT IT IN ONE OF THE BINS AROUND THE VILLAGE**



	2			1	7		6	
6			8			7		5
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2		5	6		4		9	
3		6			9			2
	4		1	8			5	

**Pam Bower**  
**PARISH CLERK**

Telephone: 07719 317702/01622 843741

Email: [parishclerk@bandkpc.org](mailto:parishclerk@bandkpc.org)

Website: [www.broomfieldandkingswoodpc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.broomfieldandkingswoodpc.kentparishes.gov.uk)



## Kingswood Bluebells

The Kingswood Bluebells are a new Group set up in the Village, for ladies with a fresh outlook on life. We meet monthly on the second Monday at 8pm based mainly at the Village Hall. However our aim is also to go out for visits to gardens, places of interest etc. during the daytime, so we have evolved a varied programme for the year.



If you would like to come along or find out more details, please ring:

Beryl Andrew (01622 843431) or Val Clarke (01622 843110).

## KINGSWOOD MODEL RAILWAY GROUP.

Due to ill health over the last few months, regrettably Peter Brown has had to stand down as leader of the Group and has 'promoted' myself to now lead the way.

Our members thank Peter for his energy, enthusiasm and foresight over the years, putting together and maintaining the group as we know it today.



The Group will continue and strive to uphold and if at all possible improve upon the standards and aspirations that have always been central to the group ethics.

In the meantime we wish Peter all the very best for a speedy and happy resolution to his current health problems.

The group can be contacted via email at: [kingswoodmrg@btinternet.com](mailto:kingswoodmrg@btinternet.com) or by phone to me on 01622 843059.

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# Coming to Kingswood

## Pop-Up Café and Information Hub

### Village Shop Forecourt, Charleswood Ave

**Thurs 18 April**

**Thurs 16 May**

**Thurs 13 June**

**Thurs 11 July**

**Thurs 22 August**

**10.30—12.30**

**Thurs 19 Sept**

**Thurs 17 Oct**

Come and get together with old friends and new. Have a cuppa and a delicious slice of cake. We'll have all sorts of local information available or you can just come for a chat.

Please help us to spread the word. Everyone welcome ... see you soon!

Can't get there under your own steam? Call us and we'll see if we can help.

Liza: 07771 661871

Kathy: 07341 737041



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## **Shukokai Karate Academy**

### **Kingswood Karate Club**

Kingswood Karate Club, which is based in the village hall, continues to go from strength to strength. The club is now part of the Shukokai Karate Academy (SKA), a new organisation affiliated to the English Karate Federation (EKF) and World Karate Federation (WKF), and which was formed by Joint Chief Instructors Chris and Katie Simpson, both from the village, in October 2018.

In November 2018 the club held its annual championships, which were supported by nearly 100 students from the village and surrounding areas. The competition involved both individual kumite (fighting) and kata (forms) events, as well as team events in both disciplines. The teams consisted of children of different age groups and clubs, which encouraged students who had never worked together, to be part of the same team.

Sensei Chris (refereeing) and Sensei Katie (coaching) attended a training course in December with Sensei Chris passing the first part of his referee's exam and Sensei Katie gaining her EKF Coaches accreditation.

A senior grade grading took place in December, for those attempting to gain promotion to brown belt. This grade is only realistically attempted after a student has been training for upwards of 3 years with the club and is a very tough examination taking place over a two-hour period. The club then held a fundraising Christmas party in the village hall, which was well attended by a large number of the younger students. Also in December, one of the club's long-standing students Steve Pereira opened the SKA's first new club in Sutton Valence village hall, giving students another opportunity to train during the week.

Students hit the ground running from the beginning of 2019 with thirty-four members of the club attending their first big external tournament, namely the National Kyu grades competition, in Leicester. This competition, for all those below black belt, attracted over 1,100 competitors from all over the country and the club was pleased that Marie Worton and Joseph Wood, both from the Kingswood club, won silver in their respective events. This was the first event that students had attended where the rules of the WKF were operated and overall it was a great experience for everyone. Sensei Chris, as part of his training to become a fully qualified EKF qualified referee spent all day refereeing different categories at the tournament. The club were very fortunate to receive sponsorship from Medway Building Supplies which enabled all students attending this event to have a new club tracksuit.

In early January the club was visited by Sensei Alton Brown, a long-standing friend of the SKA who is hoping to compete at the 2020 Olympics in Japan. Sensei Alton ran an intensive training course at The Cornwallis Academy and gave an insight into some new sparring techniques and drills.

In February the club had nine members in attendance at the UK Karate Open Championships in Birmingham returning with 2 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze medals. Sensei Katie also attended the EKF National Kata squad open training session and Luke Carpenter gained his EKF Coaches accreditation.

To supplement their own teaching, Sensei Chris and Sensei Katie intend to continue to invite different coaches from around the country to run seminars at the SKA as they see this as a way for all students to obtain a broad training in the martial art.

It is also hoped that members of the club will be able to participate in an international competition later in the year and fundraising events will be taking place to help defray some of the costs involved.

The club runs classes for students age 4 upwards on Tuesday evenings at the Kingswood village hall and beginners are always welcome. They also run clubs at Lenham, Downswood, Maidstone YMCA, Marden and Sutton Valence. Anyone interested in coming along for a free trial lesson,

Full details can be found at [www.shukokaikarateacademy.com](http://www.shukokaikarateacademy.com) or by phoning Sensei Chris on 07801 639052 or emailing [kentkarate@gmail.com](mailto:kentkarate@gmail.com)

## **KINGSWOOD & BROOMFIELD VILLAGE HALL**

**(Charity Number 264838)**

Since the last newsletter we have held the Christmas Tree 'switch on' plus carols. Thanks to the people who helped on the day it was a lovely afternoon. We must thank Kingswood Christmas Trees for the magnificent tree they donated for the Main Hall and thanks to the men who erected it.

The next big Fund-raising event is the Summer Fair and Fun Dog Show on Saturday 6th July 2019 from 10am to 2pm. For the first time we are going to have a Scarecrow competition and are asking each group that hires the Hall to make a scarecrow, maybe depicting their group.

We shall also be running a scarecrow colouring competition for the children split into 4 groups.

Under 5 years old

5 to 7 years

8 to 10 years

Over 10 years

All the pictures will be displayed in the Hall to be judged on the day. First prize for each group

### **Please, please support us on the day**

If you can help on the day phone Val Clarke on 01622 43110

Stalls are free, just a donation to the Hall

### **Is it your child's birthday soon?**

**Why not hold their party in Kingswood & Broomfield Village Hall**

**Contact Val Clarke on 01622 843110**

## **What is The Three Suttons Helpline?**

The Three Suttons Helpline has been operating as a "good neighbour" scheme for about 20 years to make life easier for those needing to get to medical appointments, but who do not have their own transport or cannot easily be helped by family or friends and for whom public transport is infrequent and not a viable option. This scheme now arranges and gives over 400 lifts a year and covers the villages and surgeries in Sutton Valence, Chart Sutton, East Sutton, Kingswood and Langley.

The Helpline is operated entirely by volunteers who are not paid for their work: the three ladies who answer telephone requests and arrange the journeys and the 20 volunteer drivers. Donations from the users of the scheme pay towards telephone calls and petrol costs. A number of the local parish councils and a local charity have kindly donated money which goes towards insurance, publicity and other costs.

If anyone would like to use the scheme, please telephone one of the following numbers:

844301

842530

842346

If you have any other queries or if you feel that you may like to help, please contact Christine Parkes.  
( email: [christineparkes@hotmail.com](mailto:christineparkes@hotmail.com) or tel. 842217)



## KINGSWOOD COMMUNITY SINGERS

### THE VILLAGE CHOIR

The Choir goes from strength to strength with new members and a new repertoire for the summer. As the days slowly lengthen you might find that the lighter evenings tempt you out. Doctors are now prescribing group activities as a good way to deal with depression and loneliness. Our little Choir is a good place to start if you want to forget the pressures of the day and just concentrate on the music for an hour.



We are working, as a team, towards a few community events in the summer months. No member must sing solos, unless they really want to! There are no auditions and you don't have to be able to read music. It is amazing what you pick up over the months. What was once, "a load of black dots on sticks", suddenly make sense. Learning to breath and stand properly helps with a general sense of wellbeing.

"I can't sing!" you cry. Well, who comes to a class already knowing everything? Who says you can't learn to sing, or improve your singing? We never turn anyone away.

The Choir meets at the Kingswood Primary School, every Monday in term time, at 7pm for about 1 hour. There is a charge of £1.50 towards costs. We want both men and women members and would love to have some younger voices. (16 years and over)

Ring Sue Chambers (843622) if you want to know more about us, then remember our motto: SING YOURSELF HAPPY!

### VILLAGE COFFEE SHOP

Easter will be upon us very soon with some beautiful Spring weather and time again for our Grand Easter Raffle!

This takes place at the Village Hall on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April from 10am until 12 noon, whilst we serve our famed Big Breakfasts, Bacon Rolls and homemade cakes with fresh coffee and tea.

There is also an assortment of stalls selling crafts, fruit and veg, and of course, East Sutton Park with home-produced meats and sausages.

All profits from this morning will go towards the upkeep and upgrading of your Village Hall ----so it seems like a WIN—WIN situation all round!

The Village Coffee Shop opens on the first Saturday of every month, 10am until 12 noon.

If you are interested in having a stall, please contact Beryl Andrew on 01622 843431.



## Kingswood Church

Life is often a mixture of joy and sadness and we have recently experienced both at Kingswood Church.

Joy in the appointment of **Rev Mark Pavey** to be our Team Vicar starting on 14<sup>th</sup> March. There is a message from Mark elsewhere in this edition of the Parish News and we look forward to welcoming Mark to Kingswood Church after Easter.

Sadness with the passing of **Rev Steve Hughes** who was our Team Vicar until August last year when he retired to move to North Wales with his wife Mandy. There was a celebration of the life of Steve at Langley Church on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February where a packed church heard tributes from the Bishop of Dover and the Archdeacon of Maidstone.

We heard how Steve and Mandy travelled to Romania with a convoy of aid in 1990, when the economy of the country was suffering, and moved there the following year with the family to help those in poverty. He was a man who was sincere, compassionate and down to earth and put his faith into action.

Steve was well loved at Kingswood Church; we enjoyed his informal approach, and are thankful to God for the time he was with us. He will be sorely missed and we send our love and condolences to Mandy and the family at this time.

Our **Lent Course** this year is the Bible Society course which will help us understand the big picture from Genesis to Revelation. We meet at 7 Laurel Grove at 7:30pm for refreshments and start at 8pm every Wednesday from 6<sup>th</sup> March to 10<sup>th</sup> April.

Our **Easter egg hunt** will be at 12 noon after the Café Service on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April which starts at 11am with refreshments at 10:30am. We have a special service at 11am on **Palm Sunday** 14<sup>th</sup> April to mark Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. Our services over Easter are on 19<sup>th</sup> April at 10:30am for a **Good Friday reflection** followed by hot cross buns and at 11am on 21<sup>st</sup> April for an **Easter Day Family Communion**.

You are also most welcome to join us at any of our services which are held in the village hall every Sunday at 11am followed by refreshments except for the first Sunday of the month when we have refreshments at 10:30am before the **Cafe Service** at 11am.

May I wish you and your family on behalf of the Church a very **Happy Easter!**



Our new **Team Vicar** (for Otham, Langley, Leeds, Broomfield, Kingswood, Madginford, Downswood and the Sutton Road developments) the **Rev'd Mark Pavey**, takes up his position on 14 March, and writes:

Hi,

This is the first of what I hope will be many parish magazine articles. I thought it would be

appropriate to introduce myself and the family to you but before I do that, I'd love to ask you what your hopes are regarding a new vicar? I wonder what hope, that comes with a new vicar, looks like for



churches? For those in our churches, I suppose the hopes are that the churches will be welcoming new people of all ages and increase a sense of community. But I wonder what the hopes are for those who are not yet connected to the churches? It's quite possible they have no hopes at all because ultimately the Christian faith may be seen as irrelevant or the churches as intimidating places to visit for various

Regardless of the reasons and regardless of whether one attends church or not, I'd like to fill you with hope. First of all, hope is different to expectation particularly as expectation tends to be shaped by past experiences, but I'd like you to give me a chance to show you, whoever you are, that you should be hopeful. The Christian faith centres on good news for everyone. It celebrates and worships a God who refuses to give up on humanity, whether that's helping individuals overcome vices, or guilt. Whether it's rebuilding communities or families that have previously been fractured, whether it's supporting people who are facing illnesses or mourning loved ones.

This is what the churches should be about, they should be hubs of hope, they should be places where we can go to explore and wrestle with faith with the possibility of meeting with a God that surpasses all our expectations. That is my hope, that the churches will be centres where people can come to explore faith, to worship freely, and receive the love and support of a God who wants to be in a relationship with each of us.

My family and I are looking forward to being part of these types of churches. I'm married to Tansye and have two amazing girls who were both playing drums and singing in my previous church last Sunday. Time with my family is hugely important to me and we're all looking forward to the adventures ahead in our new churches.

To paint a picture of me. I taught myself guitar and a bit of piano and sing with a local function band, my latest quest is to teach myself sign language although I'm at very early stages at the moment. I'm big fan of football (particularly Liverpool FC) although please don't let that put you off! I also enjoy reading and playing a bit of golf. Before being ordained I worked as lay chaplain with young offenders supporting staff, families and the young offenders themselves. Prior to this I worked with a charity delivering Christian youth work, and working with various secondary schools around Maidstone and before this I was in marketing. Clearly, this is merely a snapshot of who I am, but I hope that through the church and/or work in the community I will get to meet you soon. It would be great to see you at any of the churches and I'm sure there will be a warm welcome awaiting you.

Mark Pavey  
Team Vicar for Otham, Langley,  
Leeds, Broomfield, Kingswood,  
Madginford,  
Downswood and the Sutton Road developments.



## **BROOMFIELD & KINGSWOOD TWINNING GROUP**

There is a busy year ahead for the Twinning Group. Last November Kingswood had 2 visitors from Denver, Colorado. Kevin Snow and Michael who work for a company called History Denver. They were here, in Europe, gathering together an itinerary for a trip taking place in November 2019.

Their aim is to bring together the “twins” from 5 places in Colorado and to visit their 5 “twins” in Europe. One of the visits will be to OUR Broomfield and is scheduled for SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup>. NOVEMBER 2019.

Just a fleeting visit as they have a very full programme to pack into 2 weeks. They are visiting such places as Portsmouth, Southampton and Ashby-de-la-Zouch!

Aspen, Colorado, is twinned with Chamonix, in France. So, they will be seeing some diverse scenery on their travels.

While here in Kent, they will be visiting Leeds castle. This will be followed by a carvery lunch, and a “meet-and-greet” event, with a light afternoon tea at our village hall. The Broomfield Twinning Group hope to raise funds for this throughout the year.

As this article goes to print, we do not know how many of the visitors will be from Broomfield, Colorado. Who ever comes we will make them most welcome and it might encourage them to keep in touch and visit Kent again. Next time spending more time here.

**LOOK ON NOTICE BOARDS FOR THE FORTHCOMING ANNUAL SPRING WALK.**

This year it will be on SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup>. APRIL

Starting just by the Library in LENHAM 11am.

A gentle walk with a PUB-LUNCH

**RING SUE CHAMBERS (843622) FOR INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE ITEMS HERE.**

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**Contact: 01622 890165 (Secretary)**

Visit our Website - [www.headcornbowlsclub.co.uk](http://www.headcornbowlsclub.co.uk)





8cubs, 9 scouts, 5 leaders and myself attended Hollingbourne church for Remembrance Day. The service was taken by the Reverend Paul Kite who invited all the cubs and scouts during the service to come up to the front of church and said these are our future people. This made them feel proud. Later in that afternoon they attended the opening of the avenue of 100 trees for the first world war.

### **Scouts**

We have about 16 scouts. They have been on hikes and doing a variety of out side activities. The scouts made a large mosaic of a war plane which was displayed in Hollingbourne church. If you would like to join phone Nathan 07866941688

### **Cubs**

We have 9 invested cubs and 5 to be invested and one new one.

Cubs worked towards their disability badge. cubs had been busy making felt poppies that were attached to netting to make screen of falling poppies. Also wrote names on poppies which were made in to wreaths from the first and second world wars, these were put on the memorial at Hollingbourne church.

They have also done the history of scouting and had a film night. To join cubs call Jane 862558

### **Beavers**

Good news, we have had Claire and Cheryl come forward to be leaders. They started at the end of January and have 17 beavers. They are all enjoying the games and want to come again. They are getting up a parent rota so they have four adults at the meeting. They start at 6pm on a Tuesday evening in the scout hut. If your child would like to join call Claire 07732056139.

### **100 Club**

We run a 100 club, this is like a small lottery. it works out £1 a month but collect £12 for the year. We have four prizes a month. If you are interested to join call 843019.

The winners for November are. Mrs R King £20, Mrs Mitchenson £10, Mrs Benfield £10, Mrs Earl £5.

December. Miss Docherty £20, Mr E Dixon £10, Mr D Poulton £10, Mrs Everden £5

January. Mr Copping £20, Mr Green £10, Mrs Veness £10, Mrs Schroeder £5.

Alan Poulton Chairman

## **LEEDS AND KINGSWOOD BEAVERS**

We are delighted to say we have started a new Beaver Colony. For many years this Scout Section has been unable to run without a leader. Kingswood Children were most certainly missing out on what Scouts can offer.

Beavers are our youngest Scout members aged between 6-8 years old. We meet weekly (term time only) at the scout hut on a Tuesday evening 6-7.15pm.

Our Beavers enjoy all that scouting has to offer, being introduced to outdoor activities, having the opportunity to be creative, explore our local community and experience day trips.

We have had a fantastic fun packed start already accomplishing new skills and challenges.

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

[www.lowergrangefarm.co.uk](http://www.lowergrangefarm.co.uk)

'Leeds and Kingswood Beavers' on Facebook

Our sessions are all planned in advance to help the children work towards achieving their badges.

We would like to say a special thank-you to Warmlake Nursery and Edmeds Farm Shop for their donations for next term activities.

Kingswood Beavers - Cheryl Davis [cajequine1980@aol.com](mailto:cajequine1980@aol.com)

Claire Jones [cdrylie@hotmail.com](mailto:cdrylie@hotmail.com)

Kingswood Beavers/Cubs/Scouts - Jane Newsome [jenewsome@btinternet.com](mailto:jenewsome@btinternet.com)



## Sutton Valence Tennis Club

With Spring just around the corner (we hope!) why don't you treat yourself to a bit of gentle exercise and come along to Sutton Valence Tennis Club.

Within two miles of Kingswood, there are three open-air tennis courts that members can use 365 days a year, weather permitting.

The courts, which are located at the back of the Memorial Recreation Ground alongside Sutton Valence Village Hall, are all marked out with nets up, and all you need is suitable footwear and a racquet. Tennis balls are supplied.

Club members meet on Friday morning for friendly matches and throughout the year, there are several tournaments organised.

The annual membership fee for a single person is £50, a couple £80 and a family membership under £100 and our year starts on 1 April.

Why not come along and give us a try without commitment?

For more information please e mail Jenny or David on: - [jennywaterman@btinternet.com](mailto:jennywaterman@btinternet.com) Telephone 01622 768654

[dgallafant@btinternet.com](mailto:dgallafant@btinternet.com) Telephone 07712 667757

### SUTTON VALENCE GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

2018 once again proved to be a successful year for our association in spite of, or perhaps because of, the very mixed weather that we experienced.

Our two shows (Spring and Autumn) were packed with a fantastic array of flowers, plants, vegetables, handicrafts and cookery.

In addition to the shows, there are three talks which this year range from Steve Edney, Head Gardener of The Salutation, Sandwich, through to Melanie Gibson Barton who will be speaking on Parks and Gardens of Flanders. Admission is free to members.

We also arrange an outing which this year will take us by coach to Pashley Manor for their very popular tulip festival (spaces are limited but still available). We are holding our annual dinner at The Weald of Kent Golf Club in June.

From this, you can see we have a very full schedule of events. Membership is only £5 pp and this enables members to obtain certain discounts at Rumwood Nursery, Warmlake Nursery, Millbrook Garden Centre and Homeleigh Timber. This year, Rumwoods are offering our members a 'Double Discount Day' on 23 March 2019

If you would like more information or to join please contact me on the following any committee member:-

Email [dgallafant@btinternet.com](mailto:dgallafant@btinternet.com) Telephone 07712 667757 or 01622 842439

## Guide Dogs My Guide service

We are looking to recruit volunteers in the area to help support our My Guide service. My Guide is a free service that helps people with a vision impairment get out of their homes and into the community with a volunteer as their sighted guide.

My Guide fully trains you as a volunteer, to provide confident sighted guide assistance, on a regular basis, to people living with sight loss, to help them achieve their goals, such as:

- Accessing services in your community
- Gaining confidence on public transport
- Engaging with your local community

### What will I get out of it?

Make a life-changing difference to someone in need in your community

An opportunity to build experience and knowledge of sight loss and develop your existing skills whilst doing something that you enjoy

Help a charity do more while becoming a valued and integral part of the Guide Dogs team meeting with other Guide Dogs' volunteers.

If you can spare a couple of hours a week and would like to know more information contact the Guide Dogs team at Maidstone on **01189 838711** or email [si-mon.cope@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:simon.cope@guidedogs.org.uk)

What a difference a year makes. A year ago the school was closed for a week due to heavy snow and the weather was still holding on to winter. This year the daffodils are already flowering, temperatures have soared and there is not a snowflake to be seen.



This will be my final article for the Parish News as I am leaving my post as Head of School at Kingswood after Easter to take up leadership of a larger school nearer home. I will always remember my time at Kingswood with fondness and have enjoyed working with the community to bring forth positive change.

### **What's Been Happening at Kingswood Primary School?**

#### **Terms 2 & 3:**

- Year 3 children took part in the Cave-Castle workshop in November; the Year 4 children took part in a Victorian Christmas Workshop in December and Year 5 & 6 children took part in an Artful Henry workshop - all the workshops were organised by Leeds Castle.
- We have played after-school football matches against several other local primary schools.
- We raised £267.64 for BBC's Children in Need.
- Warburton's came into Birch Class to run a healthy eating and practical food session.
- Bach to the Future roadshow visited to entertain the children with music from across the ages.
- A theatre company came in during the last week of term to perform the pantomime "Aladdin" for the children as a Christmas treat.
- The Kingswood Choir came in to sing for and with the children.
- Children in Year R enjoyed their visit to Kingswood Christmas Trees.
- The Year 6 children took part in a drugs awareness workshop.
- We had a music enrichment day in January.
- Some of our key stage 2 children KS2 were offered the chance to take part in the "Young Voices" event at the O2 arena in London. This was an excellent opportunity for the children to experience taking part in a large-scale music event which built on singing work done in school.
- Green Club visited the Potted Garden in Bearsted.
- We all brought our 20p's in for the NSPCC Number Day and raised £125.50.
- The Friends of Kingswood School raised funds for the school at the Winter Fair, Christmas Performances and the Spring Ball.

Our open mornings and afternoons were very well attended.

#### **Term 4.....so far!**

- Chestnut class have been enjoying looking after some chicks which they have observed as they have hatched from eggs in an incubator.
  - Oak Class have taken part in a Money Awareness Course.
- The children will be coming dressed as their favourite book character for World Book Day.

We continue to offer piano and guitar lessons to the children and other extra-curricular clubs including Lego Build It, Dance, Football, ICT, Science, Tri-Golf, Film, Green, Spanish, Magical Maths and Crusaders.

### **Future Events**

Year 5 & 6 are going to the Swattenden Centre for 3 days in March - our annual residential trip.  
Sports Day – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June

### **Storytime for Pre-School Children**

If you have a child aged between 3 and 5 years, and would like to visit our school for a story with our youngest children, we would be delighted to see you on a Thursday from 2.45pm-3.05pm. No need to book – just turn up on the day.

### **Thank You**

Thank you to Kingswood Christmas Trees who donated a Christmas Tree to the school and thank you to Kingswood Fencing for repairing the fence on the Cayser Drive boundary.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter!  
Darren Waters  
Head of School

We are a local OFSTED registered preschool running daily from the village hall in the centre of Kingswood. We are run by a committee of parents and we are also a registered charity. We frequently organise events to raise money for our little people, this includes an annual Summer Fair and raffles.



We are open five days a week during school term time – every morning 9am until 12/12.30pm, and Monday 9am until 3.30pm.

We have highly-trained staff including one qualified teacher.

We offer funding for children from the term after they are three, which can be up to 15 hours per week. There is also 30 hours funding available for eligible families. Two year old funding is also available for eligible families.

Children can join us from their second birthday up until school age.

Since September, children have been pumpkin picking, visited the local primary school to watch a nativity, performed a nativity themselves and every week we have a dance company attend the preschool which the children absolutely love.

New parents are always welcome to visit during any session, have a cup of tea, and get to know us.

Call 07729 499 508 or email us on [manager@kingswoodpreschoolgroup.co.uk](mailto:manager@kingswoodpreschoolgroup.co.uk) for more information, or have a look at our website [www.kingswoodpreschoolgroup.co.uk](http://www.kingswoodpreschoolgroup.co.uk).



**WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU SOON!**

## **Paul's Handyman Service**

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## **TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB**

**We are a very friendly group and meet every Tuesday from 12.15pm to 1.45 for a chat and cuppa.**

**Why not come along and join us for lively discussions.**

**(and if you feel like it we don't mind if you want to put the world to rights).**

**All ages more than welcome.**

**Contact Pat Lyne on 01622 843672**



# THE RIDGE

NEWLY-REFURBISHED  
CLUBHOUSE COMING SOON



Beautiful 18 Hole Parkland Golf Course

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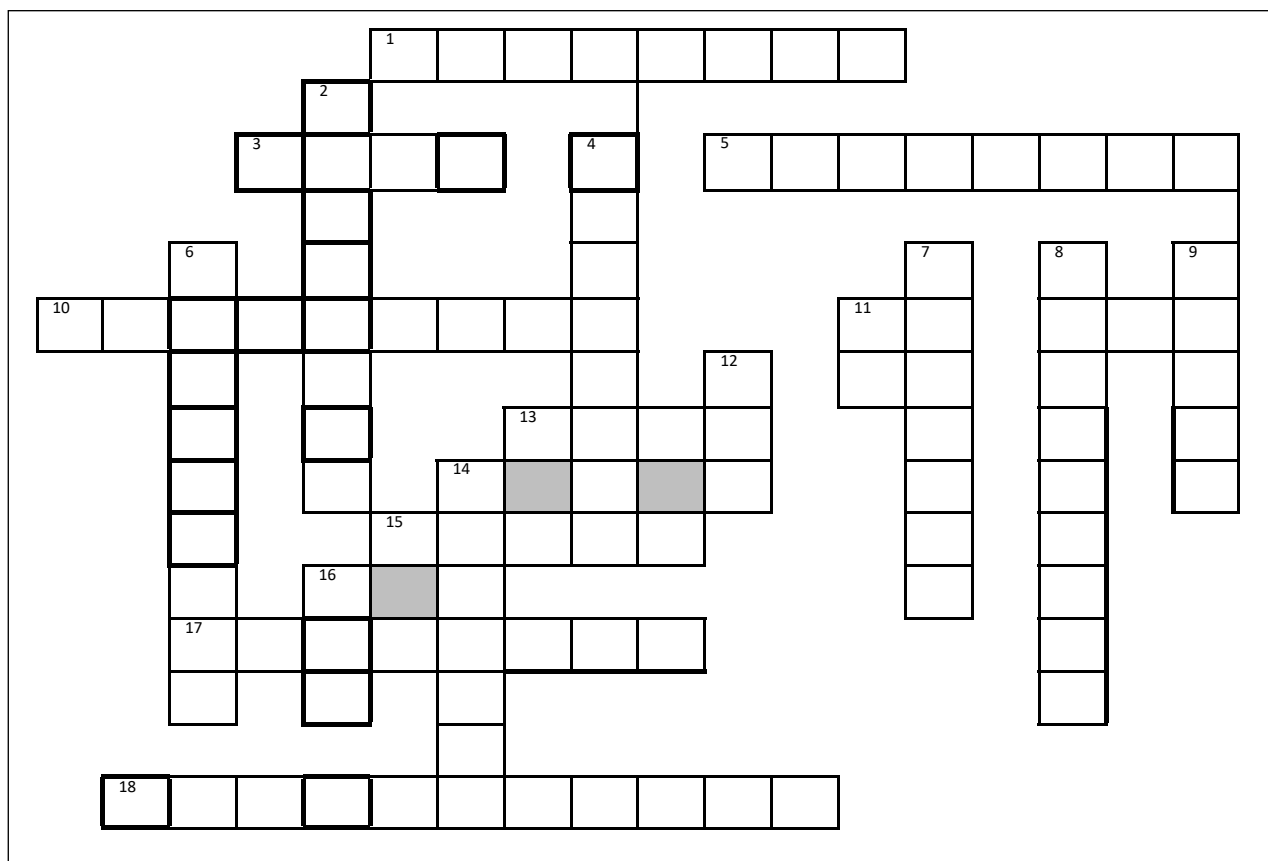
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Or Email [info@theridgegolfclubkent.co.uk](mailto:info@theridgegolfclubkent.co.uk)

Book online at [www.theridgegolfclubkent.co.uk](http://www.theridgegolfclubkent.co.uk)





### Across

1. Which lily is sometimes called the sword lily?
3. What colour is the flower speedwell?
5. What flower is named after the Botanist Dr Leonard Fuchs?
10. Which flowers can change colour from blue to pink accordingly to the amount of acid in the soil?
11. The love apple is the original name for what?
13. Which artist's late works include a famous series of paintings of water lilies?
15. The chrysanthemum is a national symbol of which country?
17. Who had a number 1 hit with the song Lily the Pink?
18. In which Gilbert and Sullivan opera does the character Little Buttercup appear?

### Down

2. Old Man's Beard & Traveller's Joy are names for a variety of which flower?
4. Which film musical of 1955 was developed from the play Green Grow the Lilacs?
6. Vice Hill had a top ten hit in 1967, with which song?
7. What is the name given to the technique of clipping trees and hedges into ornamental shapes?
8. What is the French Dents de Lion – the Lions tooth flower/weed, known as?
9. Harry Wheatcroft was a renowned breeder of what?
12. What colour rose did the Lancastrians adopt in the Wars of the Roses?
14. Which expensive foodstuff is obtained from crocus flowers?
16. In what month does the RHS Chelsea Flower Show take place?

## PEOPLE AND PLACES IN PROFILE

### A glimpse into Len Valley Lives and Locations

So successful was the eighteenth-century papermaking enterprise of James Whatman the Younger, he felt confident to commission celebrated landscape architect Humphry Repton to re-design Vinters Park, his imposing new estate near Maidstone. The Park comprised some eight-five acres; James' ambitious purchase was intended to reflect the importance of the Whatman name in the production of paper in Britain and beyond.

But the origins were humble: James Whatman's father (also James) was born in 1702, the son of a tanner in the valley head village of Loose. The River Loose which runs through the village supported a thriving papermaking industry during James the Elder's early years. His childhood friend Richard Harris was the son of a local papermaker, and it is possibly from this association that James first learnt his craft.

James and Richard remained firm friends, eventually becoming business partners. They emerge in records during the 1730's in a complicated arrangement of indentures and leases on land in the parishes of Leeds and Hollingbourne. Around this time the Wealden cloth-making industry was in decline, causing many of the fulling mills along the River Len (used for a cleansing method in the thickening of wool fibres) to be converted into paper mills. The two young men saw this as a golden opportunity to advance their business aspirations.

It was in 1733 that James Whatman secured his first lease on Old Mill between Leeds and Hollingbourne; he re-built the existing mill and promptly sub-let to Richard Harris. Harris spent the next three years producing paper at Old Mill, before acquiring the tenancy of Turkey Mill on the River Len at Boxley. On becoming sole owner of this mill in 1738 he embarked on an extensive re-build.

"All that now built messuage wherein I now dwell, and also the buildings now intended for a paper mill where the old mill was, which was called Turkey Mill..." so ran the wording in the Will of Richard Harris bequeathing his entire estate to his wife Anne. She inherited on his early death in 1739. But tragedy it seems provided opportunity, as whether for love or financial advantage, James married Richard's widow within a year. Their subsequent move into the adjoining seventeenth century house, Turkey Court, sealed the Whatman family's association with a mill destined to have a major impact on the papermaking industry world-wide.

Over the next twenty years James Whatman senior focussed on developing the highest quality paper. He invented the *Wove* papermaking process for printer and type designer John Baskerville's famous quarto edition of Virgil. His pioneering technique involved the use of a wire gauze mesh to achieve a uniform unlined surface. However, it was the son of James and Anne who was to establish the *J. Whatman* watermark on an international level.

Born in 1741, the younger James inherited the business aged eighteen when his father died in 1759. On turning twenty-one he took complete control with an entrepreneurial flair to match James the Elder. His development in the use of blue smalts (a pigment consisting of powdered glass and oxide of cobalt) to enhance the brightness of white paper, instantly increased the popularity of Whatman paper among artists and printers. Thomas Gainsborough and JMW Turner became enthusiastic customers and the poet William Blake used the paper for his illuminated books declaring it: "The most beautiful wove paper that could be procured."

When the Society for Antiquaries requested paper to print an image of Henry VIII meeting Francis I at the Field of the Cloth of Gold, James produced the large handmade sheets required. "The span of a vatman's arms" was the accepted maximum measurement until Whatman became the first company ever to make this larger size paper, naming it *Antiquarian* after the commissioning Society.

Whilst acknowledging the necessity to maintain his primary business location at Turkey Mill, James decided in 1783 to vacate the relatively modest proportions of Turkey Court in favour of far grander domestic arrangements at Vinters Park. Four years of extensive improvements to the property followed before he finally took up full-time residence in 1787.

Ten years later, despite having suffered a stroke in 1790, James followed the fashion of the aristocracy in contracting Humphry Repton to re-design the Park for a fee of fifty guineas. Repton, by now established as the leading landscape gardener in England, was renowned for presenting prospective clients with red Moroccan leather bound books, containing stylish explanatory text and concepts illustrated by maps and watercolour views. His *Red Book* for Vinters is preserved at the Yale Centre for British Art, Prints and Drawings.

James Whatman did not live to enjoy Repton's picturesque vistas from the windows of his Georgian salon; he died in 1798 before Repton completed work on the Park and was buried at Boxley church. The papermaking business was taken over by William Balston who, in 1805, moved the Turkey Mill operation to Springfield Park Maidstone – a thoroughly modern steam powered mill.

And so as a new century began Whatman father and son fell from view, leaving an iconic papermaking legacy which continues to this day. Over the next one hundred and fifty years their fine quality paper would be used by Napoleon Bonaparte to write his Will and chosen by Queen Victoria for her personal correspondence. During the 1920's Soviet leaders published their vision for a future USSR on Whatman paper, and at the end of World War II it was used by the authors of the Peace Treaty with Japan; awe-inspiring achievements for an enterprise which sprang from slender beginnings on the banks of the River Len.

Christina Wight

# The Kent Gardens Trust

SPRING LECTURE

HEAD

GARDENERS

**AMBRA EDWARDS**

The award-winning garden writer and historian looks at the vital role of head gardeners today and their role as artists, designers and engineers in Britain's social history.

**Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup> 2.30pm (doors open 2pm)**

**Egerton Village Hall**

**TN27 9DS**

Full details at [www.kentgardenstrust.org.uk](http://www.kentgardenstrust.org.uk)

All welcome. Tickets £15, available online via the website, or on the door

Queries: telephone 01322 861679 (9.30am-4.30pm)

## Your Parish Council

**Parish Clerk:** Pam Bower, Email: [parishclerk@bandkpc.org](mailto:parishclerk@bandkpc.org) Tel: 07719 317702

**RFO:** Gail Gosden, Email: [rfo@bandkpc.org](mailto:rfo@bandkpc.org)

### Councillors:

Tina Clark (Chair)	<a href="mailto:tinaclark@bandkpc.uk">tinaclark@bandkpc.uk</a>
Mike Darling	<a href="mailto:mike.darling@bandkpc.uk">mike.darling@bandkpc.uk</a>
Gareth Davies (Vice Chair)	<a href="mailto:garethd1@hotmail.co.uk">garethd1@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Tom Hoy	<a href="mailto:tom.hoy@btinternet.com">tom.hoy@btinternet.com</a>
Steve Lakin	<a href="mailto:steve.lakin@hotmail.com">steve.lakin@hotmail.com</a>
Paul Milton	<a href="mailto:paul.milton7@hotmail.com">paul.milton7@hotmail.com</a>
Peter Page	<a href="mailto:peterpage@aol.com">peterpage@aol.com</a>
Janet Tandy	<a href="mailto:janet@goodog.co.uk">janet@goodog.co.uk</a>
VACANCY	



### CROSSWORD ANSWERS:

#### Across:

1. Gladiolus
2. Blue
5. Fuchsia
10. Hydrangea
11. Tomato
13. Monet
15. Japan
17. Scaffold
18. HMS Pinafore

#### Down

2. Clematis
4. Oklahoma
6. Edelweiss
7. Topiary
8. Dandelion
9. Roses
12. Red
14. Saffron
16. May



Nearly two years ago, Ben Byfield and I arrived at Leeds Castle as the Estate Rangers. The CEO, Sir David, was keen to move away from pure forestry work, and to create a new department with an eye to conservation, development and education rather than just maintenance. And so we have set about our task, hoping to take this great estate to new heights in presentation, caring equally for the furthest woods as much as for the parkland surrounding the Castle.

February was rung in by the first drumming's of the Greater Spotted Woodpecker and, as the snowdrops pushed their way up through winters thaw, we are now seeing and hearing signs that spring is well on the way, despite the most recent March gales.

Over the last month we have found that a number of different birds have either passed through or taken up residence in and around the estate, one of which was quite a rare sighting for this part of the UK. *Cinclus cinclus*, commonly known as a Dipper, tend only to be found to the west and north of the UK, preferring the fast-flowing upland and lowland rivers, so it's no wonder then to find such a bird scouting out the babbling brook below the Barbican. Other birds of note to mention are the Great Crested Grebes that nest here each summer and if you head down to the moat in early spring you may just see their fascinating courtship dance.

As the end of tree felling season creeps ever closer we too are drawing to a close on our woodland work. As the Leeds Castle Ranger team our goal is to help nature across the estate through habitat management. One of the best ways to improve biodiversity in woods is to create wider tracks or rides, so with the help of our volunteers we set to work on Hawk Wood. Weeks and days of tree felling and brash stacking entailed. The increased space and light on the woodland floor will create a much greater diversity of vegetation and therefore niches for different plants and animals. Flowering plants will grow beside dense young saplings and then finally taller trees in the woodland behind.

Since working in Hawk wood we have carried out this same principle in many other woodlands, creating open space by coppicing and felling and opening access for future work. We're restoring our lost area of lowland heath, rejuvenating the wet woodland below Broomfield church and saving some amazing veteran oak trees that are being smothered by younger trees. We're also getting rid of invasive laurel and rhododendron that will take over a woodland if you let it.

Nature conservation projects are rarely profitable though, so back in April we applied for grant funding to make our woodlands work for us as a charity. The process was very long and drawn out with lots of office work, but in the days just before Christmas we received confirmation that Leeds Castle has now entered a 5-year, higher tier countryside stewardship scheme. This means we are committed to complete all the work agreed with the Forestry Commission and Natural England and we're on a push now to find more volunteers to help us to achieve this.

As this busy time of year draws to an end we are now gearing up for our spring and summer wildlife surveys. They'll act as our results day for our winter work, telling us whether we've had a positive effect or not. The first surveys start in early April with our Breeding Bird Survey. This must be carried out a little after sunrise and it means some very early starts- but it is worth it for this most spectacular time of the day. Also we will be monitoring Butterfly's and Bees and are ready to start a new reptile monitoring program across the sunnier spots of the golf course.

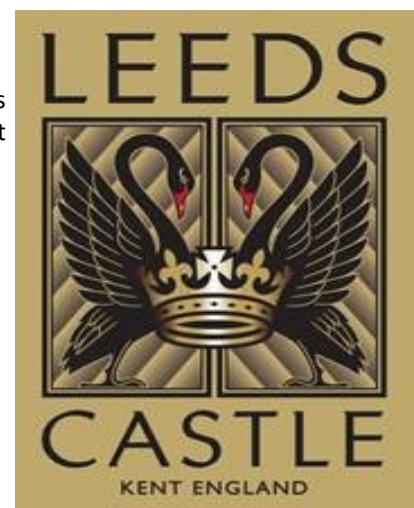
Other exciting news is that we are helping to facilitate the installation of three ponds on the estate to provide valuable sites for Great Crested Newts to breed. This is part of a nationwide project to help newt populations increase in numbers. For this we must thank the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership who are leading the project in this area. They help us with a number for conservation projects and surveys including our on-going Dormouse survey and the barn owl monitoring.

The spring months also prompts the start of our tree safety management where we assess each tree that could in pose a hazard to visitors and staff. This time of year is ideal as we can easily see up through the canopy due to the lack of leaves. This will then provide us a list of hazardous trees that have to be managed, but as we have already carried out work on over 200 trees in the past year we hope that this list will be quite small.

We hope that in the coming months we can say we have had a positive effect on biodiversity here at Leeds Castle, but only time will tell. We could not have done this work if it were not for the help of our dedicated team of volunteers that come out with us each week to help us make a difference to the estate's various habitats. If you want to help us with our practical work or biological surveys, then please do get in touch as we are always on the look-out!

All The best and hope to see you soon.

Rob Dixon



Parish Council Meeting—3rd Monday each month

Leeds & Kingswood Scouts - Scouts Wednesday 7pm; Explorers Thurs 7.15pm; Cubs Fri 6.30

Cynophobia Assistance Group Mon 5.30– 6.30—Village Hall

KCC Mobile Library Saturday (fortnightly) 12:50 - 14:20

Toddler Group (term time only ) Fridays 1.15—2.25—Village Hall

Pre-school story time— Thurs—2.45—3.05—Primary School

Village Coffee Shop—1st Sat each month—10– 12pm—Village Hall

Lunch Club—Tues—12.15—1.45—Village Hall

WI—2nd Monday each month—Village Hall

Whist—Tuesdays—2—4pm—Village Hall

Karate— Tues & Thurs—6.30pm—Village Hall

Short Mat Bowls—Weds— 2pm—Village Hall

Dog Training—Wed—6.45pm Village Hall

Badminton—Thurs—1.30pm—Village Hall



### USEFUL CONTACTS

Kingswood church	Peter Roberts	01622 843625
KCC Councillor	Shellina Prendergast	<a href="mailto:shellina.prendergast@kent.gov.uk">shellina.prendergast@kent.gov.uk</a>
KCC Community Warden	Dawn Riach-Brown	07773 397125
Member of Parliament	Helen Whately	020 7219 6472
MBC Councillor	Gill Fort	<a href="mailto:gillfort@maidstone.gov.uk">gillfort@maidstone.gov.uk</a>
Neighbourhood Watch	VACANCY	
PCSO	Shivon De Rose	101
Primary School	Darren Waters	01622 842674
Twinning Group	Sue Chambers	01622 843622
Village Hall	Val Clarke	01622 843110

### Village Clubs

Badminton	Sue Orchin	01622 843626
Bluebells	Beryl Andrews	01622 843431
CANS	Sonya Roberts	01622 843625
Choir	Sue Chambers	01622 843622
Coffee Shop	Beryl Andrews	01622 843431
Dog Training & Cynophobia	Janet Tandy	01622 842209
Karate	Chris Simpson	07801 639052
Kingswood Church	Peter Roberts	01622 843625
Kingswood Model Railway Society	Tony Doust	01622 843059
Kingswood Pre-School	Angela Chambers	07729 499 508
Lunch Club	Pat Lyne	01622 843672

### Published by Broomfield & Kingswood Parish Council

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