



Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council
www.broomfieldandkingswood.pc.kentparishes.gov.uk



Parish News

Summer 2019

THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD JUST LIKE TO SAY...

A BIG THANK YOU



To everyone who came to the Kingswood VILLAGE EVENT on Saturday 15th June and helped to make the day such a success.

In the past the Parish Council has held a Pensioner's

Outing and although this was initially very successful it was supported less and less as the years progressed and in the end it ran at a loss.

This year it was therefore decided to put the money towards a project that the WHOLE village could enjoy. Young and old.

People work and have busy lives and often miss out on what is going on in the village. The 'Party in the Park' allowed families with children, teenagers AND older people, to come together and enjoy being part of the community, despite the weather.

The Parish Council would particularly like to thank all those who gave their time to provide refreshments, entertainment and the loan of equipment.

Lots of positive feedback has been received and the Parish Council hopes to see you at future events. This is just the beginning!

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

USUNG VILLAGE HEROs

Thank you to the gentleman who takes his dog for a walk, with a carrier bag and a tool to pick up the rubbish. He just quietly picks up the litter (along Ashford Drive) whilst taking his dog for a walk he doesn't "tut tut", just picks the rubbish up and moves on!

Thank you to the committee of the village hall, headed by Val Clarke - the hall is only as good as the people who run it



There is a little Superhero in all of us!

REMEMBER:

Coffee Morning —A chance to ask Questions and raise queries.

Don't forget that 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 Shivon De Rose our PCSO between 10.30 and 11.30.

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.

Please contact your Parish Clerk if you would like to take on this role.

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 giving me permission to add your email address to the list.

How to report issues

It is really important any issues are reported on-line. If issues/crimes are not reported the Police cannot respond and the Parish Council has no enforcement capabilities. Please use the following link or ring 101:

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

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

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

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES –cont.

Permissive Footpath

Did you know that there is a permissive footpath that allows residents to walk to the Sports Field from Charlesford Avenue.

Permissive Footpaths are not public rights of way but paths that the land owner has kindly granted permission for people to walk along.



IS YOUR GARDEN HEDGEHOG FRIENDLY?

Hedgehogs are now one of the 10 most endangered animals in Britain.

Are hedgehogs able to cross your garden into another one? If not why not make your garden Hedgehog friendly by ensuring you have a small gap at the bottom of your fence that hedgehogs can get through.

DOG POO

I am pleased to report that following our Community Warden coming round the village and putting the fluorescent markers on the pavement, things seem to have improved in terms of dog fouling around the village. Long may it continue.

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

BUS PILOT

Residents have been asking what has happened to the 59 Bus Pilot.

Sadly this has been delayed as the work to install a layby at the bus stop along the Sutton Road, opposite Morrisons, has had to stop as UKPN power cables have been found directly underneath the proposed location.

UKPN have been contacted and chased to relocate the cables as work on the new layby cannot commence until this is done.

KCC advise they will keep Parish Councils updated and have confirmed that the improved bus pilot will still go ahead and will operate for 12 months, irrespective of the delays. In the meantime the 59 bus will continue on its current timetables until the improvements have been successfully registered.

Pam Bower

PARISH CLERK

Telephone: 07719 317702/01622 843741

Email: parishclerk@bandkpc.org

Website: www.broomfieldandkingswoodpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

DOG SHOW



SATURDAY 6TH JULY

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HALL

10 – 2PM

Supported by Burns Dog Food

**PRIZES: PRETTIEST BITCH
ROSETTES
MOST HANDSOME DOG
BEST PUPPY
FUN RUN**

KENT CYNOPHOBIA ASSISTANCE GROUP

We are pleased that now the good weather is with us, we can spend most of our time outside in the grounds of the hall. It is a much more natural environment than in the hall, and we can let dogs off lead in the enclosed area. We have on average 22 children each Monday evenings. I still have over 20 children on the waiting list.

We were pleased to receive a donation from a local dog club, and we took the opportunity of purchasing new shirts, replacing the worn ones we have had for three years. We were delighted to welcome some new dogs who passed the assessment, and all have proved very popular with the children.



LEAD THE WAY DOG TRAINING

The next new puppy course is on 10th July following the Kennel Club Good Citizen Scheme puppy foundation course. Once completed, you can progress into the beginner class, bronze, silver and gold. We also have a top class.

Lead the Way will be hosting the Dog Show at the village fete on 6th July. Burns Dog Food have kindly let us have some prizes and there will be rosettes for the winners. All the proceeds will go to supporting the village hall.

Please contact Janet Tandy on 01622 842209 for more information

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Kingswood Church

Kingswood Church article 14 June 2019



I wonder what your plans are for the Summer? For many years Sonya and I have been to the New Wine Christian Celebration which has been held at the Bath and Wells Showground at Shepton Mallet for nearly 30 years. This year the venue has changed to the East of England Showground, Peterborough and I am convinced that someone will go to Shepton Mallet by mistake, hopefully it won't be me! This is one of a number of Christian festivals which includes Spring Harvest earlier in the year which you may have seen on Songs of Praise around Easter.

It's good to get away and have time to relax and refresh. We read in Matthew's gospel that Jesus immediately after the feeding of the 5,000 'went up on a mountainside by himself to pray' to His heavenly Father. In the account of creation in Genesis we see that after God had made the world in six days he rested on the seventh day. Here God is showing us, right from the beginning, that the pattern of life should include rest. Someone once said that we should work out of our rest not rest from our work; making Sunday a day of rest at the start of the week not at the end.

That's alright but what about those with children and little time and space to be with God? I know of one Mum with four children who has made a small space in her bedroom to be with God, with a table, candle, Bible and a cross. When she is in that space the children know not to disturb Mum!

So what do we pray? When the disciples asked Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray" he taught them the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6). In his response, Jesus gives us a model to follow, acknowledging God as our Father in heaven before we ask for the things that we need in our lives, like daily bread and forgiveness for the wrongs we have done.

So whether you are going up a mountain, relaxing by the sea or having a staycation, have a great Summer!

You are most welcome to join us at our services. The Climbers prizegiving this year will be on 7th July at 11am during the Cafe Service. Our Bar-B-Q will be on Sunday 21st July at 12 noon after a Songs of Praise at 11am (come and choose your favourite hymn or song). Our Summer term of activities also includes the Well Blessing at 3:30pm at Broomfield Church on Sunday 14th July.

We look forward to welcoming you at any of our services in the village hall and meeting over a cup of tea/coffee.

Peter Roberts, Kingswood Church

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.

Things are happening at St. Margaret's!



The traffic on Broomfield Hill is such that it is difficult to take your eye off the road for even a moment, be you a walker, rider or driver. If however you have risked a glance at the church as you pass you will have realised that for some time the tower has been cased in scaffolding.

This is because the long-awaited refurbishment of the tower stonework is at last in progress. The ragstone tower is classed as "late medieval" – it was probably built in the 13th Century – and its stones, which are predominantly Kentish ragstone, have in places worn away under the years of weather. Many Kent churches suffer in the same way and

Canterbury cathedral is undertaking a multi-million restoration for the same reasons. As well as replacement of badly worn stones the work will include replacing external iron reinforcing bars on some of the tower windows with internal bronze supports; this is because as the iron rusts it splits the surrounding stonework. Another factor is the pointing between the stones; this was renewed as part of major works in 1879, but with a rather soft mix which is crumbling away, so the whole tower needs re-pointing. Finally, to avoid water damage due to blockages in the long Victorian gutter downpipes, these are being replaced with spouts to keep rainwater away from the walls – much as the original builders would have designed it.

The project is costing a lot, over £72,000, and the residents of Broomfield, Kingswood and Leeds have played a major part in raising the funds. The Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches contributed £20,000 and The Friends of Kent Churches (whose funds come from the annual "Ride and Stride" efforts of you all) gave £10,000. Grants also came from The Cobtree Trust and Allchurches Trust and the rest – some £25,000 – came from funds the church had put aside for the purpose and local fund-raising efforts (sales, concerts, books, donations, etc.). Well done to you all!

The work started in April but it will probably be well into July before it is finished, partly due to long delivery periods on the special replacement stones. But that is not all! As soon as the stonemasons are off site, we will be installing a new lamp at the church gate, to make the church path safer for church activity on dark Winter afternoons. This is a separate project, with which Leeds Castle are helping, and to which The Friends are again contributing financially.

St.Margaret's has always been a beautiful church; when the current projects are completed it will also be a safer place for worship and to visit. We love to host weddings and baptisms - weddings can be arranged most times, and baptisms we like to take place during our regular services, which are held on the second Sunday of each month at 3.30pm – but note that the second Sunday in July (14th) will be the annual well-dressing service. Do come along! Our new team vicar Rev. Mark Pavey (tel. 01622 394757) is keen to ensure a welcome for all ages at all our services – why not try St.Margaret's and see?

FRIENDS OF LEEDS AND BROOMFIELD CHURCHES Curry and Soul Evening

Well, what a night! 120 guests in Leeds Village Hall enjoyed an evening of wonderful food from Kashmir Kitchen (a big thank you to Yousef, Sarah, Yas and Cat for looking after us so well).

Music was by Sold on Soul, who sang and played their hearts out magnificently all evening. They got everyone up dancing (nearly). Thank you to all of you who made the event go so well. We raised £1,400 towards the repair and restoration of St. Margaret's and St. Nicholas churches.

Our next fundraising event will be Plum Picking. More on that next time.

KINGSWOOD & BROOMFIELD VILLAGE HALL

The next big event is

THE SUMMER FAIR & FUN DOG SHOW

to be held on SATURDAY 6th JULY commencing at 10am until 2pm.

PLUS: FOR THE FIRST TIME A SCARECROW COLOURING COMPETITION FOR THE CHILDREN

DIVIDED INTO FOUR AGE GROUPS

Under 5 years old

5 to 7 years old

8 to 10 years

over 10 years

FIRST PRIZE for each group

All the pictures will be displayed in the Hall to be judged on the day.

Write your name, age and address on the back of each entry and if your child/children attend either Kingswood School or Kingswood Pre-School then make sure the pictures are taken into School or Pre-school by Wednesday 3rd July

If your child/children do not attend the Kingswood School or Pre-School, but would like to take part then telephone

Tracy Brunton on 01622 298917

The Village Coffee Shop will be open from 10am to 2pm serving coffee, cakes and breakfasts.

The BBQ will be open from 11am providing burgers and hot dogs.

If you would like a stall there is no charge, we just ask for a donation on the day to Hall funds. These will go towards the refurbishment/upgrading of the Hall, which is continually on going and can only be achieved by raising funds at the main events. which includes the Village Coffee Shop and the Summer Fair & Fun Dog Show.

If you are able to help in anyway on the day, or even before the event your help will be more than welcome, please telephone Val Clarke on 01622 843110

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE HALL

To book the Hall for children's parties, quiz evenings, meetings etc.

or, for further information,

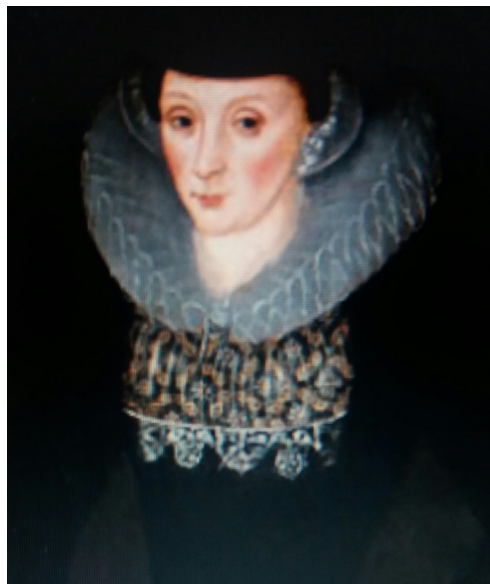
please telephone Val Clarke on 01622 843110.

PEOPLE AND PLACES IN PROFILE

The Len Valley and Beyond

At the age of just twenty-six, Mary Honywood of Lenham became a heroine to English Protestants persecuted for their faith during the reign of Mary Tudor. From the start of her five year reign in 1553, this Catholic queen was determined to reverse the Protestant Reformation established in England by her father King Henry VIII. Many hundreds were arrested and incarcerated in the high-walled gaols next to the City of London gates; citizens of higher rank were held in the Tower of London. Of those who refused to renounce their faith some 283 men and women were confirmed as burnt at the stake, although the actual number is thought to be much higher. Mary Honywood risked apprehension herself when she bravely defied the authorities by visiting and sustaining prisoners condemned to die.

As a young wife, mother and woman of high standing during these turbulent years, Mary could easily have enjoyed a peaceful existence with her husband Robert, living between the family seats at Royton Manor Lenham and Pett Place Charing. Instead her devout piety led her to show active compassion towards Protestants suffering torture and threat of death through the tyranny of a ruthless monarch.



Born at Lenham in 1527 Mary was the daughter of Robert and Katherine Atwater.

One of fourteen children, her childhood years were shadowed by the tragic deaths of twelve siblings in infancy. Robert Atwater was a man of property and as sole survivors, Mary with her sister Joyce were joint-heirs to their father's substantial legacy. The extent of his fortune was partly revealed when the manors of Royton, Pett Place, Down Court Doddington and Newcourt Charing were assigned to Mary as a portion of her dowry. On her marriage in 1543 to Robert Honywood, the manors passed automatically into his name endowing the couple with considerable wealth and influence. Mary's deeply religious convictions led her to use her privileged position to relieve the plight of Mary Tudor's Protestant victims, known as the Marian Martyrs.

The village of Lenham is over fifty miles from the City of London and travel in Tudor England was both difficult and precarious. When visiting prisoners Mary almost certainly made the journey in a four-wheeled coach, but it remained an immense

undertaking for a woman to travel distances alone by this physically challenging mode of transport. Her strength, courage and stamina were further tested during the endless hours she spent in dank, squalid dungeon conditions, comforting the misery of those branded as heretics for practicing their faith.

One notable Protestant Reformer held in the Tower, John Bradford, became a close friend. Bradford trained as a lawyer before becoming a Scholar of Theology and Fellow of Pembroke College Cambridge. He was arrested for the seemingly trivial offence of 'stirring up a mob' – deemed a serious crime against the Queen. During his two year imprisonment Mary visited and wrote to him regularly. On the morning of 15th July 1555 she attended his execution at Smithfield; a great surge

in the crowd caused her to lose her shoes – on retrieving them Mary cast both into the flames as a mark of solidarity. Pregnant with her eighth child Grace, she then walked for several miles barefoot before acquiring replacement shoes – perhaps a further acknowledgement of John Bradford's sacrifice. Mary continued her compassionate prison visits until Protestant persecutions ended with Mary Tudor's death in 1558.

At home in Kent her family continued to grow and by 1571 Mary had given birth to sixteen children, with fourteen surviving. Around this time she began to suffer a severe depression. Diagnosed then as Religious Melancholia the condition lasted for twelve years. During her illness she was visited by the Historian and Martyrologist John Foxe, noted for his publication *Acts and Monuments*, more commonly called Foxe's Book of Martyrs. The book commemorates martyrs throughout history with particular emphasis on the Marian Martyrs, linking Foxe closely to Mary Honywood.

Finding her one day in deep despondency, John Foxe attempted to console her by saying that she would recover and lead a long life. Her response was to hold up a Venetian glass with the words, "Sir, I am sure to be damned, as well you might have said that if I should throw this glass against a wall, I might believe it would not break to pieces" – she then threw the glass and it failed to break. This incident appears to have divined her longevity, as she did recover and lived on to the remarkable age of ninety-three.

In 1605 Mary's son Robert purchased Marks Hall in Essex. By then a widow, she moved with him to spend the last fifteen years of her life there. Her grandson Michael Honywood, Dean of Lincoln, recalled attending a Marks Hall banquet at which, "Two hundred of my grandmother's descendants sat at table." On her death in 1620 she had 367 living descendants.

Although Mary died at Marks Hall, she is buried close to her husband Robert at St Mary's Church Lenham. The life of this exceptional woman is recalled today at locations associated with her and her family: a portrait in Lincoln at the Cathedral's Wren Library founded by Michael Honywood, a plaque at St Peter's Church close to where Marks Hall once stood and a richly carved pulpit at St Mary's Lenham, gifted by Mary herself in 1574. A half-timbered house in the village of Lenham bears her name and was built just a year after her death by her grandson, Anthony Honywood.

But the most enduring commemoration of her life is not represented in stone or paint or carved wood – it is written and remembered forever in the annals of martyrdom where she holds a deserved place for the courage and compassion she showed unstintingly, at grave risk to her own freedom and personal safety.

Christina Wight

KINGSWOOD WHIST GROUP



We meet every Tuesday afternoon at 2pm in the Village Hall. We play 24 games of Progressive (Partner) Whist with the winning lady moving clockwise and the winning gentleman going anticlockwise. We usually have 5 or 6 tables on the go so you do get to play with everyone else.

The session usually lasts about 2 hours 15 minutes, only interrupted at half time by tea, coffee, cakes and plenty of chat!! There's a token prize for the highest scorer and, of

course, a booby prize!!

All this for just £2.50 with any surplus funds going towards an excellent Christmas lunch.

Members take it in turn to provide the cakes and prizes.

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Contact: 01622 890165 (Secretary)

Visit our Website - www.headcornbowlsclub.co.uk



We had a good turn out from the scouts, cubs and beavers at the St Georges day parade in Maidstone town centre. They met in Week Street with the other troops from the Maidstone area. They marched from Week Street past the Town Hall where they saluted The Mayor who was standing out side and on to All Saints church for the service

Beavers

Beavers are going from strength to strength with the help of Claire and Cheryl as leaders. They only started at the end of January this year and have already got 17 beavers.

They have been busy with their activities and have earned 'Creative' and 'Builder' badges in group sessions which they will receive these at the end of term badge ceremony.

For Easter they made paper mache Easter eggs. For Mothers day beavers decorated pots and planted pansies in them.

They also entered the KM Charity walk competition to make scarecrows.

The scarecrow will be displayed on the walk where public can vote on the scarecrow they think the best. Pictures will be published in the KM.. At the moment beavers have a waiting list.

Cubs

Currently there are 8 cubs, two habving moved up to scouts.

The cubs are moving towards their communications, scientist and Artists badges. They have made paper flowers, boxes of sweets for Mothers day and chocolate Easter eggs. If you would like to join cubs call Jane 862558

Scouts

There are 18 scouts with 2 leaders and 2 occasional helpers. After Easter they had a welcome back night and a games night. They had an excellent turn out at St Georges day. They have been busy building survival shelters in the woods. If you would like to join scouts call Nathan 07866941688

100 club:

Winners for May Mr Masters £20, Mrs R King £10, Mrs Archer £10 Mrs Earl £5

Winners for June: Mr Gallafant £20, Mrs Aldous £10, Mr Fairman £10, Mr Skinner £5T

The 100 club has four prizes a month and costs £12 for a full year

If you would like to join call Alan Poulton on 01622 643019

Alan Poulton Chairman



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KCC Community Wardens

Kent County Council Community Wardens are able to assist with any issues or concerns you may have. Wardens can offer support, advice and can refer to many partner agencies to help you. Wardens work closely with Kent Police and can also assist in tackling low-level crime and anti-social behaviour (such as graffiti, littering, fly tipping and vandalism). Wardens encourage communities to work together to build stronger and safer communities.

Your area warden

Dawn Riach-Brown - 07773 397125

Area supervisor - Janet Greenroyd - 07773 397131



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KINGSWOOD SHORT MAT BOWLS



meets every Wednesday afternoon, in the Village hall and we are happy to welcome any new comers,

if you wish to have a go, there will always be someone there to help. And we have spare equipment for anyone to try.

Please contact Mike Tandy 01622842209

KINGSWOOD BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Kingswood now has an exciting new Baby and Toddler group.

The group meets at the Primary School in Cayser Drive and is fully compliant in terms of Insurance, policies and risk assessments.

The group runs term time only every Friday opening 10.30am - 11.45am with babies from birth upwards.

You can contact the group via their facebook page, on email at kingswoodbabytoddlergroup@aol.com or via mobile number 07857 121160

It is with sincere pleasure that I am writing my very first article for the Parish News and introducing myself as Head of School at Kingswood Primary School. 'Hi, I'm Mrs Sanchez Daviu'.



It has been a lovely first couple of weeks settling into the Summer Term, where the family here at Kingswood, as well as the surrounding community, have been very welcoming. I am looking forward to the forthcoming weeks, especially as the school calendar is full of exciting upcoming events.

I look forward to meeting more of you, as together we strive to ensure every pupils' experience at Kingswood is an engaging and enjoyable one.

What's Been Happening at Kingswood Primary School?

Term 4:

- Year 1 children went to Leeds Castle with the other schools in the Federation to take part in The Swan Princess workshop.
 - Year 5 & 6 children across the Federation went to the Swattenden Centre for our annual residential visit for 3 days.
 - We raised £328.24 on Red Nose day
 - FOKS raised £377 from a sponsored read which was spent on books for the school.
 - FOKS raised £97 at the Mothers' Day secrets room where children can choose and wrap a gift.
 - The Federation schools took part in a Cross Country competition.
 - Birch Class took part in the Recorder Festival at Roseacre Junior School.
 - FOKS arranged an Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Bonnet competition which raised £202.47.
- The Key Stage 2 children played a football match against Oaks Primary School.

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

Saturday 13th July: Summer Fair

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.

Lynsey Sanchez Daviu

TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB

We meet weekly from 12.15pm to 1.45pm at Kingswood Village Hall.

Occasionally we meet up at the Ridge Golf Club, or other places.

All ages are welcome to come along for a bit of a social and a cuppa.

We have a laugh and you are even allowed to discuss last night's TV, local, or serious issues and even berate the Government if we want to.

Pat Lyne - 01622 843672

KINGSWOOD COMMUNITY SINGERS

THE VILLAGE CHOIR

Apparently, it's summer. As I write you would not think it as it is pouring with rain and, decidedly, chilly.

On Saturday 6th. July we will be singing at the Village Hall Summer Fayre, around mid-day.

We have been practicing a selection of songs and are busy "polishing" them. We need all the POLISH we can get!

We are always looking ahead to the next season and when we get back after the summer break, sometime in September, we will be working towards....CHRISTMAS. Who doesn't like a Christmas Carol or seasonal favourite? The Choir always enjoy the "Switch-On" Event at the end of November and usually sing along at the school before they break up at the end of the year.

We don't want to wish the time away but, IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT LIKE TO SING A FEW CAROLS WITH US, then look out for posters in September or call Sue Chambers, 843622, for more information. She will take your number and call you back with a start-up date in September.

The Choir meet at the Kingswood School every Monday in term time @ 7pm and there is a £1.50 charge per week towards costs.



A PLEA FROM A VERY CONCERNED RESIDENT

I would like to plead with the residents and regular users of the recreational field in Kingswood with their dogs that they are kept under control and on leads.

Please listen to why.....

I am a resident of Kingswood and have been for more than 25 years, I am a dog owner myself, I've been brought up in the village and am looking forward to bringing my children up within the village too as I have a young family. One of my children is severely Autistic. Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental disorder that affects communication and behaviour. ... Difficulty with communication and interaction with other people. Restricted interests and repetitive behaviours. He lives with this condition and struggles on a daily basis, there is no cure, no way of him being rid of the many things he struggles with- we can only monitor and maintain them.

He loves the park, why wouldn't he? It has new spinning equipment, roundabout and swings. These are his favourite because he craves vestibular activity (movement of the head in different planes e.g. head positioned forward, downwards, tipped back, turning side to side, head tilt etc.) This is because he isn't satisfied like another typical person with for instance just walking- like many of us are, even without knowing. He will spin or swing for long periods of time. If he is unable to seek this activity and be satisfied it can be extremely distressing for him. He is unable to understand why- due to his development delay. But this is why the park is fantastic for him, he is able to spend time there letting his senses receive the feedback he needs to be able to relax, calm or just have fun.

Unfortunately with his condition he also suffers with sensory processing disorder, this can have many effects on his daily life from feeling the rain fall on his skin, the wind blowing in his hair or the roar of cars driving past him. They can be painful and unbearable for him. They can be triggers to what is called a meltdown, it's not a tantrum a tantrum is something someone can control. A meltdown however is something they can not. This may lead to head banging (self harm), screaming, running, thrusting of the body or inconsolable crying the list can go on for it differs from individuals whom are on the Autistic Spectrum. This is linked to his restricted interests you see he loves animals- dogs especially. He loves to touch them but doesn't understand he can't, he doesn't understand why he can't. Along side this he is unable to respond to simple instructions like stop or even his name.

I have been in the park with my children many occasions on my own playing and supervising them when dogs have arrived from cars, the woods entrance and others off their leads with no owner in sight. This is extremely distressing for me as he will run try to these dog/s – he is fast (small but fast). On some occasions dogs have come to the railings at the play area not under control or even tied to the railings themselves. I have had to leave my other children unattended and chase him whilst he makes a run for it to get close to dog/s. I have been able to catch him but I have also had to restrain him. This is absolutely heart breaking for me to do but I have to do it for his protection. He doesn't understand that! He in turn has a melt down- these can last anything from 2 minutes to 3+hours. It's devastating!

BROOMFIELD & KINGSWOOD TWINNING GROUP

Our Annual Twinning Spring Walk was on Saturday 13th. April this year and the starting point was Lenham Square. About 20 people set off in lovely spring sunshine. The route took us, through the church gate and out across the fields.

Like most of our walks, they are not too strenuous, and we had time to admire, not only the sheep in the fields, but also the amount of building work going on in the Lenham countryside.

By the time we were on the return part of the walk, the sun had disappeared behind some very black clouds. The wind had got up and the hail stones had come down. At times like this we have only one plan of action. Cut straight to the pub!

We chose to have lunch at the Red Lion and had pre-ordered our meals. Mostly, these were good and eating as a group is very enjoyable. Some people, who cannot manage the walk, just meet us at the venue. And this is open to anyone who would care to join us. We do talk about the Twinning and it helps to keep it alive. Photos of us, in various hostelrys, have been sent to Broomfield, Colorado, to our various "pen-friends".

Our next walk will be in October, and like most of the previous walks, will end up in a watering hole of some description. Everyone is welcome, even if you only come for the lunch.

Look out for us at the Village Hall Summer Fayre. Once again, we will be after your pennies. Please come and try this year's offering. We also love to talk about the Twinning to anyone interested.

KINGSWOOD PRE-SCHOOL GROUP



From September we can now offer two full days Monday & Friday from 9-3pm for 3 & 4 year olds. We still have some spaces available for children to start next term.

We offer a lunch club for children aged 3-4 which finishes at 12:30 on a Wednesday and Thursday. Children are offered a healthy snack and a range of exciting activities during the week.

We use electronic journals to share achievements with parents and keep them updated

Your Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Pam Bower, Email: parishclerk@bandkpc.org Tel: 07719 317702

RFO: Gail Gosden, Email: rfo@bandkpc.org

Councillors:

Tina Clark (Chair)	tinaclark@bandkpc.uk
Mike Darling	mikedarling@bandkpc.uk
Gareth Davies (Vice Chair)	garethd1@hotmail.co.uk
Tom Hoy	tomhoy@bandkpc.uk
Janet Tandy	
Laura Hubbard	
VACANCY	
VACANCY	



Many of you reading this, I'm pleased to say, are regular customers at our shops at Leeds Castle. This month I have been invited to write about our Retail operation. I am Bob Needham and have been the Buyer and Retail Manager for Leeds Castle since November 2011. In that time we have changed and evolved what we do many times as we seek to keep up to date with, or slightly ahead of, what our broad range of local, regional and international customers want to buy from us.

Before I worked here, I was very fortunate to have a career with for Oxfam for ten years. I was a number cruncher and a buyer in the new products department at Oxford, after having managed a large Oxfam Shop in Tunbridge Wells. I have always loved retail, having experience at The Gap and Marks & Spencer too. Both at Oxfam and here, I have been very fortunate to be in a creative role where a brand and its values are expressed through products, appealing to a diverse audience.

The more I have learned about Retail in the visitor attraction world, the more I have understood the elegance and legendary history of Leeds Castle are completely unique. As a charity, Retail is a vital part of our fundraising. We are answerable to our customers and trustees, which allows a freedom, and a substantial responsibility, that few other places enjoy while they have private owners.

My number one aim, and that of my fabulous retail team, is to raise as much money as possible for Leeds Castle, and to do that in keeping with our values and themes here. We have been gradually building the business successfully, despite what the weather throws our way sometimes. We are now at the point that our end of year contribution has been equivalent to the complete project cost of the restoration of the Yellow Drawing Room! Sometimes I like to pick out a slice of the newly refurbished Castle stonework from across the moat, and think 'our work paid for that'. It is enormously gratifying to be part of preserving and developing the place for the next generation, and I hope you understand the impact your custom makes in a similar way.

Recently consumerism is rightly getting a re-examination as the impact it can have becomes rapidly more apparent. Our volumes are not that big as retailers go, with three shops on one site, but I am ever mindful to be responsible and find alternatives to the usual where we can. Often sites like ours are looked at by bigger chains looking for new quirks and to see what trends are emerging so we are also a role model of sorts.

We have had recycled, unbleached paper bags for many years, and currently researching compostable bags to substitute the few reusable plastic bags we currently use for heavy bottles and in inclement weather. We introduced a range of re-cycled milk bottle toys last year and they have been strong enough fundraisers for us to keep them year round.

We also have Fair Trade products that support small communities in developing countries such as our bespoke olive wood decorations from Bethlehem.

Buying local products is a great way to reduce carbon footprints, keep finances in the region, and reflect our area to distant travellers. It has been a range we have increased well over recent years as we seek out excellence from our geography. I am very happy to say we have been able to have successful long term trading relationships with Nip from The Hip fruit liqueurs, Blue Bell Hill Honey, Kent Cider Company, Kent Crisps, and O'er The Moon Fudge to name a few. It is terrific to be able to create win-win situations through this. Our visitors get a great product, we raise much needed funds, and local producers benefit from the income brought to the area as well as the association with a place of prestige.



Most recently we introduced Paula's Handmade Soaps last month, which are gorgeous, and have been well received by our visitors already. The sales could make quite a change in building her fledgling craft business if it works out long-term.

Seasonal sales have been increasingly important for us. The Christmas Market has become a well reputed and established event in our calendar, and decorations we sell in the shops for a certain have become a very important income generator for us. We have grown sales year on year in our shops and at the marquee we run at the Market. I was a little bit proud to be told our range was better than a large London shop famous for its design work last year!

Looking forward, I am hopeful that the incredible work that has gone into the reinvention of the woodland walk as a Royal Garden, will continue to grow out to the entrance area to give us a new Visitor Centre. It will be some years off as costs will be high, but is certainly not something to be rushed as it will need to be appropriate and last for the next generation. So in Retail we continue to discover, and even invent our own, new products and ways of selling. We look forward to seeing you as customers to help us raise funds towards the Castle's future.

GLUTEN FREE CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

INGREDIENTS – MAKES APPROX 20 (depending on their size!)

450gms icing sugar
90gms cocoa powder
Pinch of sea salt
5 large egg whites at room temperature
225gms dark chocolate (at least 55%) chopped into small pieces
1 tsp vanilla extract (optional)



METHOD

Pre-heat oven 190c/170c FAN/Gas mark 5.
Grease and line baking trays with baking parchment paper.
Combine icing sugar, cocoa powder and salt in a bowl.
Add the unbeaten egg whites and beat the mixture until it combines to a stiff batter. (We beat mixture in mixer for approx. one minute.)
Fold through the chopped chocolate and vanilla extract.

Drop small dessert spoons of the mixture onto the lined trays, leaving enough space between them for the cookies to expand to at least double their size during baking. (We did five cookies to each tray.)

Bake in approx. centre of oven, or just above for 10 minutes until they look like flat meringues. They will be cracked and chewy.
If cookies are not of cracked appearance, please leave for another 2 minutes in oven.
Allow to get cool on the tray, otherwise difficult to ease cookies off.
Store in an airtight container.

THESE COOKIES FREEZE WELL.

Parish Council Meeting—3rd Monday each month

Kingswood Pre-school—Mon 9.00—3.30 (9.00 — 3.00 from Sept 2019)

Tues 9.00– 12.00

Wed 9.00-12.00 (Lunch club 12.00-12.30)

Thurs 9.00-12.00 (Lunch club 12.00-12.30)

Fri 9.00—12.00 (9.00—3.00 from Sept 2019)

Leeds & Kingswood Scouts - Beavers, Tuesday 6.00—7.15pm: 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

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

Whist—Tuesdays—2—4pm—Village Hall

Karate— Tues & Thurs—6.30pm—Village Hall

Short Mat Bowls—Weds– 2pm—Village Hall



USEFUL CONTACTS

Kingswood church	Peter Roberts	01622 843625
KCC Councillor	Shellina Prendergast	shellina.prendergast@kent.gov.uk
KCC Community Warden	Dawn Riach-Brown	07773 397125
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
Baby & Toddle Group	Aimee Parker	07857 121160
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	Katherine Ross	07729 499 508
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
Parish Council	Pam Bower	07719 317702 / 01622 843741

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PROSECCO THURSDAYS
Free glass of prosecco with
every main meal



CASTLE VIEW RESTAURANT

— LEEDS CASTLE —



"The Loveliest Castle in the World"

The oak-beamed setting of Castle View Restaurant at Leeds Castle offers delicious meals served in a relaxed atmosphere enjoyed with spectacular views across the terrace to the magnificent Castle. Parking is free and an entrance ticket to Leeds Castle is not required to dine in the evening.

To book a table online visit
leeds-castle.com/restaurant or call 01622 767777

