



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



Broomfield & Kingswood News

Summer 2022



BROOMFIELD & KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

The Queens Jubilee Celebrations

The Parish Clerk Hayley and Councillors wish to express their thanks for making this event such a success! Local band Legacy, The Harrow by Smoke & Cured, Olive & Pickle Grazing, Shukokai Karate Academy, Beryl and Sonya for providing tea and coffee on the day, Murray Drylie for being our bagpiper, Ceridwen and Terry for the fantastic treasure hunts, Claire Jones and team for being our designated first aider, Leeds and Kingswood Cubs and Beavers groups, Kingswood School for making bunting, residents for volunteering their time to help set up and clear up, all the stall holders, everyone who entered their fantastic craft and cake creations (we have some very talented people in our village) and last but not least all of you for coming!!

We have so many lovely photos and we have only been able to share a handful here however we hope you all enjoyed the day as much as we did!



Hayley Roberts
PARISH CLERK/RFO

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

COLD CALLING

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

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

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

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

I have included a copy of the stickers that I have available for residents, please feel free to print this and put it in your window. Alternatively I do have a limited number available, please feel free to contact me and I can provide you with one.



INCIDENTS AND ISSUES MUST BE REPORTED

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

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

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

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

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

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

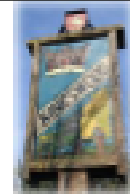
Congratulations to all of our Tom Hoy Award 2022 nominees and the winners
NISA Local—Kingswood Convenience Store!
See page 8 for a list of nominees and the reasons why they were nominated.





Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council

<http://www.broomfieldandkingswood-pc.org.uk/>



ANNUAL REPORT

This year Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council said a fond farewell to Joanne Gosden who resigned from her position of Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) to extend her family. Hayley Roberts continues to be our Parish Clerk and has taken on the additional responsibilities of the RFO.

Social Media

The Clerk continues to maintain a private residents email distribution list and regularly forwards relevant emails such as road closure notifications, public consultations and useful local information to residents on that list. If you would like to receive these emails please email the clerk at parishclerk@bandkpc.org granting permission for the Clerk to add your email address to her list.

The clerk also posts relevant information on our Facebook page. Please search for 'Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council' on Facebook and follow or like our page.

What else has the Parish Council been doing?

- Installation of replacement multiplay unit in the play area.
- Installation of a disabled swing in the play area.
- Organisation of a fortnightly shopping bus service to Maidstone.
- Upgrade of The Sports Field Height Barrier.
- Purchase and placement of extra salt bins around the village.
- Organisation of Tom Hoy Award 2022.
- Organisation of litter picks around the Parish.
- Stenciling of 'pick it up' dog poo signs around the village.
- Management of repairs to the playground equipment.
- Updating and improvement of the Parish Council website.
- On-going management of the Sports Field and the noticeboards in the Parish.
- Approving or refusing planning applications in the Parish.
- Action as a liaison between the community and other local organisations and Councils on anything related to the local community.
- Production of the Parish News three times a year.
- Purchase and placement of wreath at Broomfield Church on behalf of the Parish for Remembrance Sunday and purchase of lamp post poppies in aid of The RBL.
- Liaison with our local PCSO re issues within the Parish.
- Helping to resolve residents' issues and concerns.
- Progressing of a community building or Village Hall extension in the Parish including the holding of a Public Consultation.
- Attendance at the Rural Kent Coffee and Information Project Pop Up Café.
- Organisation of an afternoon for local clubs and groups to promote themselves.
- Coordination of the Teddies for Ukraine collection.
- Provided assistance and support for the Parish Speedwatch group.
- Creation and submission of a bus petition for local residents in relation to the bus service.

Budget 2021/22

The Council's accounts are prepared in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 (amended 2006). They are subject to external and internal audit (by an independent auditor).

Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council Annual Finance Report 2021/2022

Statement of Account

Opening balance 31/03/2021 £103,353

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Precept	54,696	Administration Expenses	5,883
Parish Service Scheme	3,205	S137	4,666
Rent	313	Publicity	1,756
VAT Refund	13,051	Parish Costs	1,129
Advertising	1,065	Sports Field	8,540
Bank Interest	267	Staff Costs	25,001
Additional Income	1,719	Subscriptions	1,213
		Miscellaneous Expenses	53,960
		VAT Paid	13,831

Closing balance 31/03/2022 £61,690

This is an overview of the income and expenditure for the year 2021/2022.

The Internal Audit will be taken place on Friday 20th May 2022 and the audited accounts will be published shortly. The complete figures will then be audited by the government appointed external auditor PKF Littlejohn and will be available upon request to the Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer.

Please remember to register on the electoral roll with each and every revision; MBC uses these numbers to decide how much to give the Parish Council each year through our annual Parish Service Scheme Grant, we need every penny to prevent further increases in our precept.

Donations and Grants 2019/20

Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council awarded the following charitable donations and grants in 2021/22:

Royal British Legion	£50
Air Ambulance	£500
Heart of Kent Hospice	£500

Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council's Chairman's Annual Report 2022

This year has been quite a busy one for the Parish Council as life gets back to as normal as possible. Things in the village have started happening again with the various Clubs and groups all starting to open again. The Parish Council tried to help there by organising an afternoon at the Village Hall for the Clubs to introduce themselves and maybe enroll new members. It went well and I even found a new club to join in the Birdwatching Group which is new to Kingswood.

The Pop-Up Café was back and extremely popular and it is a shame that they can only come during the summer months. It is a chance to meet up with old friends and make new ones so if you get the chance and have not been along yet do try to make it, the company is good and the cake even better. The dates are posted at the Post Office, on the PC website and in the Parish Magazine, which I know you all read avidly.

Some of you may have noticed the new equipment in the Play Area at the Sports Field, the old equipment had reached the end of its safe life and we took the opportunity to upgrade the multi-play set and to install a swing for our less able children to enjoy. From reports we have heard these have been extremely popular over the last few months and will without doubt be very well used during the school summer holidays to come.

Local firm Petron Welding installed a new height barrier at the Sports Field, the old one was damaged and difficult to open and close when needed. Martin Worrall, who lives in the village refurbished the Broomfield Noticeboard which had been showing its age but now looks as good as new.

Of course, there have been the usual irritants of dog fouling and litter. The dog-fouling gets worse in the winter when it is dark, and the culprits feel they can get away with it without being seen. Just because you cannot be seen does not make it ok.

As for litter, well that is not happening within the village to any great extent, although you still get some people who do not recognise what a litter bin is for. The main problem is those passing through our lanes who seem to think that once they have finished their snack or drink the appropriate place for the rubbish is our beautiful countryside. I must say I am a bit surprised at the amount of wine bottles that turn up on Gravelly Bottom Road, obviously some quite well-off litter louts.

We have arranged three litter-picks over the last year. One was very successful with quite a few turning up to help, one had to be cancelled because of the appalling weather and the latest one only had two volunteers, Alison, and Bruce, but we still managed to collect 10 bags of rubbish between the four of us, so not a bad day really. Unfortunately, this is going to be an ongoing problem and we will be arranging more litter-picks in the coming year.

As you know the Arriva bus service got less and less reliable so the PC decided that we would try to help those who could not access their own transport to get to Maidstone by providing a 16-seater shopping bus once a week, this was eventually changed to once every two weeks, but was and is regularly used by several villagers. Nu-venture have now taken over the regular bus service and users tell me that it is running very well, with friendly, efficient drivers who turn up on time and are extremely helpful. Unfortunately, there is a chance that we might lose our bus service altogether as KCC are having to make cuts in their budget and are targeting the less commercial bus routes, those they subsidise. The Parish Council organised a petition that was signed by a lot of villagers, we also contacted our local MP and wrote to KCC expressing our concerns and putting forward as many arguments as we could think of for maintaining the service which is essential for quite a few of our villagers. We wait in hope that they will see sense.

The new salt-bins were installed in October 2021 and have already proved how useful they are by keeping the snow away totally this year, let us hope they keep on being as efficient in the future. Every year Broomfield and Kingswood Parish donate to the Poppy Appeal by buying a wreath to be laid at the Broomfield Church during the Remembrance Day Ceremony. This year the PC decided that we would, like other villages, start to put Poppies up around the village. It is a little

more difficult for us as we do not have streetlights, so no lampposts, to attach them to. But we did put up a few and hopefully over the years we will build on this, and they will spread.

As you know the additional houses being built in the borough have meant an increase in the traffic that passes by and through our Parish, quite a few of those vehicles do not appreciate that people live here and drive through without lowering their speed which makes it dangerous for those of us who live here. A group of Parishioners were so concerned about this that they decided to set up a Speedwatch group to help the police monitor the number and speed of vehicles in the hope that we can achieve some kind of traffic calming measures before someone is seriously hurt or killed. These are all volunteers who are giving up their time to help the Parish and help make it safe for all of us, so if you see them about, please do not abuse them, give them a friendly wave, they are trying to help you.

Our Village Hall is so popular that it is over-subscribed most of the time and therefore it is difficult to open new Clubs or Groups that need space. We held a public consultation in September to discuss viable solutions to the problem which was quite productive. Unfortunately, Covid then reared its ugly head again and progress was stalled. Hopefully now that things are getting back to normal, we can once again focus on the project and with your approval find a solution that will please the majority of people.

We had hoped to have a Christmas get-together so that people could meet us and each other over a seasonal beverage and mince-pie but Covid put an end to that too as it did to so many other things. But now it seems that we have decided that life must go on and with due care we can live with Covid so this year we will be able to do all those Christmassy things we enjoy (fingers crossed).

I would also like to say a word about how caring the people of Broomfield and Kingswood are, whether it be donating to a food bank, sending treats to our troops overseas, knitting teddies for the traumatised children of Ukraine, helping a neighbour keep their independence or any of a hundred ways both big and small you can be sure that at any one time there is someone making a difference.

We have been able to hold our meetings in person again and for me it is a much better way of getting business done. We have even on occasion had Parishioners come along to a meeting and talk to us about issues that concern them, and we have tried to do our best to help within the limits of our powers.

I would like to take this opportunity again to thank my fellow councillors, both current and past, for all their hard work and dedication over the past year. We had some changeover in councillors this year, Ron Kemp, Ken Patterson, Laura Hubbard, and Katherine Ross left us for family or health reasons but we are lucky enough to have been joined by Malcolm Clarke and Steve Lakin.

Jo Gosden's growing family meant that she had to leave us too. She will be missed, and we wish her all the best for the future.

I also must thank Alison and Paul Beany for all their hard work around the village and for their care of our planters which, despite being vandalised quite often by someone who is obviously not a plant lover, look beautiful.

Last but by no means least I would like to thank Hayley Roberts, our fantastic Parish Clerk, for being the caring, efficient, approachable, and friendly person who makes being Chair of the Parish Council a real pleasure.

Being a Councillor, can be challenging, sometimes a little frustrating but ultimately enjoyable and fulfilling. We bring a diverse mix of talents to the council, and we all wish to contribute to making life in Broomfield and Kingswood a pleasure. We have vacancies so if you feel you have something to contribute why not come along to a meeting, see how we work and what a nice bunch we are and join in.

Take care, Tina Clark, Chair May 2022.

Since I wrote the above, we have had our Parish Annual Meeting, attended by several members of the Parish who enjoyed a glass of wine while listening to the reports from our local representatives from Maidstone Borough Council, Gill Fort, and Kent County Council, Shelina Prendergast. The Tom Hoy Award Certificates were presented, and we had an informative presentation by the Speedwatch Group. Overall, a very enjoyable and relaxed occasion, maybe one or two more of you might consider attending next year!!!

We also had the Jubilee Weekend celebrations which I personally enjoyed very much. The afternoon fete was fun, and it was amazing to see the level of talent, sporting, musical, artistic, and culinary, that is living right here in our village. It was lovely to see so many people come along, and I really hope you all had as good a time as I did.

We all had a good time at the party in the evening too, the bar and the food were great, and the band never seemed to run out of energy. The music covered all the generations so there was never any excuse not to get up and strut your stuff (I've still got my moves!!!). It was a long, exhausting day but one I was more than willing to do all over again and one I won't forget for a long time.

Hayley will be thanking everyone elsewhere in the Magazine, but I would like to add my thanks too. Not only to those who helped make it work but also to everyone who came along determined to have fun and did.

Take care
Tina Clark
Chair
July 2022.

Tom Hoy Award 2022

Please find details below of the nominees and the reasons why they have been nominated this year.

ROY ROYER – for your hard work and help with getting a fibre internet connection for the village.

THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE – for giving up your time and your hard work with the village hall.

CLAIRE JONES – for her fantastic work and dedication to the community.

TRACY GOLDING – for being a caring and helpful member of the community, always cheerful and willing to help others and for her fundraising efforts.

PAUL BEANEY – for always having a smile, being cheerful and for your support with maintaining and enhancing residents homes.

AIMEE PARKER – for services to the local Beavers group, without your help the group would not be possible.

TINA CLARK – for commitment, imagination and time given to help Kingswood and its residents be a better place.

ALICIA – ZERO WASTE ON WHEELS – for providing an eco friendly service to the village with a huge range of products to help reduce waste.

PRABA SELVARAJAH – for going above and beyond for many of the elderly residents and for keeping everything stocked up and available during the COVID pandemic.

NISA – KINGSWOOD CONVENIENCE STORES – for their service to the village and always with a smile on their faces and for stocking everything and anything, there is nothing you cannot find at the shop!



Shellina Prendergast – Kent County Councillor for Maidstone Rural East Annual Report May 2022

Dear Residents,

This time last year we were all, Parish, Borough and County Councils, meeting virtually and recognising how important those restrictions still were despite the successful first few months of the vaccination programme roll out and continuation of the very comprehensive testing programme put in place by Kent County Council. As many of you will know, support for residents and businesses impacted by Covid and lockdowns continued throughout the pandemic with schemes such as Kent Together and Helping Hands designed to support the most vulnerable amongst us.

The May 2021 elections for the County Council took place under some very challenging circumstances due to the restrictions, and I am immensely privileged to have been re-elected as the County Member for Maidstone Rural East – as a local resident myself, I know first hand that not only are we so fortunate to live in one of the most beautiful rural areas of the County but that we are a resilient community who can support each other through the most difficult times – something that fills me with great pride and for which I thank each and every one of you. Following the election, I was delighted to be asked by the Leader of Kent County Council to take up the post of Cabinet Member for Education and Skills – an immense responsibility for the education of our children and young people in Kent and for those post 16 and beyond in acquiring the skills which will be needed for the future to rebuild the economy after some turbulent times.

Looking ahead, there is much work being done at County Hall – far too much to detail in this report but I have highlighted below the areas that many of you have raised with me in the past and those that might be of interest:

UKRAINE

KCC continues to work closely and effectively with our District and Borough colleagues to deliver the Homes for Ukraine scheme. As of 20 May there were 3,062 matched applications of Ukrainian nationals to 1,235 sponsors in Kent; so far 1,281 have arrived in Kent. Tunbridge Wells, Sevenoaks and Maidstone have the largest numbers of applications. DBS checks, home checks, welfare visits are all going ahead though there is significant pressure on the capacity of both KCC and of Districts and Boroughs. Whilst a huge amount of progress has been made in the last couple of months, there are major concerns (across the Country) concerning the interaction of the Family Scheme with the Homes for Ukraine scheme, the scope for rematching when placements break down, funding arrangements and more; and we continue to raise these with the government minister. There is growing interest in the need for school places for Ukrainian children - 331 school age children have been notified to our in-year admissions team, of whom 226 are known to have arrived in the county and 90 have accepted places. Places are generally being found within 2-3 weeks, but one of the biggest challenges is that the Schools Admissions Code still operates and so a place has to be found in the nearest school with a vacancy. Over time, numbers may well increase substantially, which will present very different challenges.

COST OF LIVING

With many of our residents experiencing severe pressures from the rising cost of living, KCC received a further grant (announced by the Chancellor in his Spring Statement in March) of just over £11m from the Household Support Fund Extension, which we are allocating to Free School Meals for the May half term, as well as a £50 flat rate assistance for the summer holidays, along with support for vulnerable residents' energy and water bills and other help to those experiencing financial hardship.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The Queen's Speech - on 10 May included a number of Bills of importance to KCC, most notably the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill and the Schools Bill (which I will address further down). Provisions within the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill give substance to February's Levelling Up White Paper, through the scope to create Combined County Authorities (CCA - bringing together one or more counties and/ or unitary councils).

The Bill also sets out proposals for an Infrastructure Levy to supersede CIL and (except in the largest and most complex developments) S.106 agreements. Proper funding of infrastructure where development takes place is of vital importance to us and there is a lot still to play regarding the Levy, since the vital detail will be established, after consultation, through regulations rather than primary legislation.

EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CHILDRENS SERVICES

The Schools Bill - continues the drive for all schools to become academies and encourages them to join MultiAcademy Trusts - but also strengthens the regulatory framework for academy trusts and enables local authorities to establish Multi Academy Trusts. As the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, and knowing how important our small rural schools are to us, I have worked closely and effectively with the DfE and ministers and we have expressed an interest in piloting work concerning a local authority MAT.

Independent Review of Children's Social Care - The report highlights problems of the sector across the country, and it is welcome to see that many elements of its programme for change reflect KCC's existing focus and priorities, such as early help and development of a family hubs model. Sticking with children's services, over the last few weeks, Ofsted have been conducting a routine inspection of our Children's Services under the ILACS (Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services) framework. When we were last inspected, in 2017 (under a different framework), we were rated Good. The outcome of the inspection will be announced on 5 July.

We continue to develop longer-term plans in key policy areas. On 28 April, we launched our 16-19 review and action plan, developed in close collaboration with schools, colleges, training providers and others to enhance opportunities for our young people. This complements the work of our Employment Task Force and reinforces the council's focus on skills and on building partnerships that can deliver in this area.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE

People at the Heart of Care White Paper - On the adult social care reforms set out in the white paper, KCC continue to have concerns, in particular in relation to the adequacy (or otherwise) of the government financial support for the proposed scope for self funders to access care on council buying terms. Both the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care are working tirelessly to address these issues with government and I hope to be able to report progress in the near future.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Operation Brock - The Kent Resilience Forum confirmed recently that Operation Brock will remain in place until the end of the Platinum Jubilee weekend. I and my colleagues at KCC have long argued that current arrangements are a sticking plaster at best and that much more significant changes are needed and are working with local partners - including our Kent MPs - on proposals for change.

At its meeting on 19 May, Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee (ETCC) endorsed the recommendation to the Cabinet Member for a three year pothole blitz programme of £7 million per year. The same meeting considered the feedback on the bus subsidy reduction consultation. A fuller, more route-specific paper will go to ETCC's meeting in July. Without knowing the outcome of this decision, I want to assure residents that I am fully sympathetic to the need for adequate transport infrastructure for our rural communities and will continue to work with you, the parish councils and the Council on this matter.

WASTE AND RECYCLING

The new Household Waste Recycling Centre at Allington opened on 5th May. Less than a fortnight later, Allington – a state of the art facility - won the Best Use of Design & Technology in a Waste Management Facility award from Letsrecycle Awards for Excellence.

Finally, the Platinum Jubilee holiday is approaching fast, and KCC has been vigorous in supporting the celebrations across Kent. We were one of the first authorities in the country to waive fees for road closures to facilitate street parties; we have received 595 applications and have approved 575 of them. There are many other ways in which KCC are supporting the Jubilee, including the 70 hours of volunteering by Members. I have a number of volunteering activities in the pipeline but please do let me know if there is anything within your local area that I can help with.

I hope this report has been of some help in identifying some of the key issues facing Kent residents and how they are being addressed. Please do let me know if there is anything else I can help with – I am always happy to hear from you.

All the best wishes

Shellina Prendergast
Maidstone Rural East
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07970 461160

Annual Ward Members Report 2022 - Gill Fort, MBC councillor for Leeds

Annual Report for 2021/22

During covid Maidstone Borough Council, MBC, set up and administered various funds that helped businesses and vulnerable people. The past 2 years have been very difficult for so many however we are grateful to be returning to some sort of normality.

Local Plan Review. During the autumn the Local Plan Review draft went out to public consultation. Following on from that the plan was submitted on 31/3/22 to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

Whole Council Elections. Currently MBC hold elections "by thirds" meaning that in 3 out of 4 years one third of the seats will be up for election. Residents were asked for feedback on the current situation and a proposal to have 4 yearly elections. 4 yearly elections were supported overwhelmingly, and this has now been formally adopted. This will start in 2024 however before then there will be one more election in 2023, this includes Leeds ward. Whoever gets elected will be borough councillor for a year and then the new system will start.

New Political Map for Maidstone. A new pattern of wards is being developed for MBC. The boundary commission is reviewing this and has already reduced the number of councillors from the current 55 to 48. Public consultation ended in April 22. Under the new proposals submitted to the boundary commission Leeds ward will consist of Leeds, Broomfield and Kingswood and Otham.

The Town Centre. MBC is proposing to embark on a transformation of the town centre. Focus will be on the arts, retail, shopping culture and leisure. We need to breathe life back into the town following the pandemic.

Archbishops Palace. KCC have been leasing Archbishops Palace from MBC, that lease is coming to an end. The owners of Hush Heath Winery in Staplehurst have been given permission to develop plans to convert the palace into a boutique hotel, wedding venue, restaurant etc, subject to formal approvals.

Maidstone Bus Station. The bus station underwent a major refurbishment and reopened in October 2021. It is more welcoming, brighter and safer.

Mote Park. The construction of a new café started in June 2021 and this should be completed by this summer.

Gill Fort, MBC councillor for Leeds. 11/5/22

2 0 2 2 S U M M E R

INDIANA JONES

HYPO HOUND NEWSLETTER 5



Indie Won 'Best Dog 2021'!

We are so happy to have won this brilliant award! It was announced live by Dominic Littlewood who is an ambassador for Hypo Hounds.

We had such a fantastic evening at the Hypo Hounds awards ceremony and we thank everyone who came to support us. Go Team Indie!!! Next years theme is 50s Rock and Roll and we can't wait!

Thank-you!

Thank-you very much for all of your support for Indie! Indie is alerting every day and even beats the tech by up to 20 mins! Please follow Hypo Hounds online and on Facebook they are an amazing charity. Indie is also on Instagram and TikTok! #Indianajoneshypohound Follow for latest updates!

This year started with a super event at the Hypo Hounds awards! It was great fun! We will also be out and about over the Summer doing various events, the first of which is 'Big Step out for Carers' at Bewl Water. Indie also has to pass his yearly tests to stay accredited and he will mark his 3rd Birthday in July!

Indie's alerting is going from strength to strength and not only does he alert when Evan's levels are above 10 and in the 4s, he

also alerts when Evan's sugar levels are rising and dropping quickly. Living with Type 1

Diabetes takes constant monitoring and sometimes the technology that we have isn't quick

enough to catch the rises and falls. Indie's nose is the most accurate! Evan wears an Omnipod Dash Pump insulin management system and has a Freestyle Libre 2 Glucose Sensor.



Hypo Hounds

Hypo Hounds are based in Smarden. 'Giving Type 1 Diabetics Freedom and Independence'
www.hypohounds.co.uk

Quarters of Sussex

Quarters of Sussex have sponsored Indie and have provided him with wonderful leads and collars. We are so grateful :) Thank-you!



The Well Blessing

The Well Blessing was held at St Margaret's Church in Broomfield on Sunday 10th July, the service was taken by Reverend Mark Pavey and Peter Roberts played the guitar. This service is held every year to celebrate the Blessing of the well that was the village water source many years ago..

This years theme was 100 years of the BBC Broadcasting. Corporation. The flowers were arranged by Derek, Beryl and Alan



St. Margaret's Well is located in the entrance of St Margaret's Church and has been remembered locally, being identified as the village dip well, and is denoted by a white cross. The well is enclosed in a square rubble stone chamber, with a considerable depth of clear water. A black metal grille has been placed over the large opening to prevent accidents.

Since 1990, the well has been dressed on the Sunday after the Twentieth of July: the Feast day of St. Margaret. The colourful custom was transported down from Derbyshire by a Mr. Bill Withers, although the technique differs as plant oasis is used rather than puddled clay. The small community attends a service in the parish church, after which prayers are said at the well with the children leaving baskets of flowers.

LEAD THE WAY DOG TRAINING

Wednesday evenings

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

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

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

KENT CYNOPHOBIA ASSISTANCE GROUP

Monday evenings at 5.30

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

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

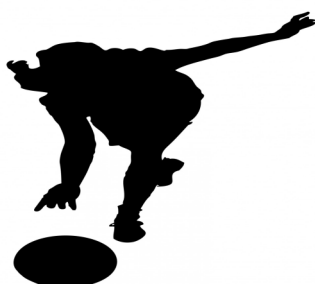
Over the seven years, we are proud to say that we have changed so many families lives for the better. We are all volunteers and it is a free group, we only ask for donations of sweets. We are always on the lookout for nice dogs for assessment, and even if you do not have a suitable dog we always need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

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

KINGSWOOD SHORT MAT BOWLS

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

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





Shukokai Karate Academy – Kingswood Karate Club.

Now in its sixteenth year, the Shukokai Karate Academy's karate club continues to flourish in the village, with new students joining the various classes. More new places will become available starting in September on both Tuesdays, (for our Littler Ninjas class ages 4-6 between 5.30-6.15pm), Primary school class (6.30-7.30pm) and Secondary school class 7.30-8.30pm), Thursdays Family class 6-7pm. Other classes run at Lenham, Sutton Valence, Marden, Maidstone YMCA and Downswood, (see website for details www.shukokaikarateacademy.com).

The year so far has been extremely busy with students attending many competitions both locally and nationally. In the British Championships, Jake Worton won a silver medal in his fighting category and then followed that up with a gold medal in the English National Championships. Jake has now been selected for the full England team to compete in September's Commonwealth Games to be held in Birmingham. Jake will be joined in the England team by Millie Knight, who will compete in the visually impaired kata category, having also won gold in the English Championships. This is the first time the club have had anyone selected for the full England team and we are extremely proud of their achievements and wish them well for the Championships. Several other students from the club will be competing in the Commonwealth Club Championships, to be held immediately after the full Games; a long Summer of training lies ahead for all those involved.

Harishan Pirapakaran and Jake Worton have also been selected to represent the South-East Region in the Lion Cup, a prestigious tournament to be held in Luxembourg late in September.

As well as the British and National Championships, students have competed in the Central England Open, Meopham Open, Shito-ryu National Championships, Shito-ryu Kids Competiton and the Aurora Open in Sandwich winning many medals.

In July, after an examination, Sensei Chris and Sensei Katie Simpson were extremely proud to be awarded their 5th Dan Black Belts by Sensei Terry Pottage 9th Dan, a living legend in Shukokai karate. Sensei Chris was also promoted to Judge A by the English Karate Federation's Referee Commission and Sensei Katie qualified as a Judge B to add to her Regional Assistant Kata coach position. After several training session at the village hall, several adult members of the club also qualified as Association judges, giving the Academy a solid group of officials for competitions.

For those who do not wish to take part in competitions we have a solid syllabus of training for students to follow and pass up through their belt tests. This all helps them keep fit, gain confidence, learn respect for themselves and others, learn about control and discipline whilst becoming more aware of their surroundings. As well as their karate training, our Little Ninjas class incorporates games to help our youngest students with their balance and hand/eye co-ordination.

For further details of how you or your family members can become involved with the club please call Sensei Chris on 07801639052, Sensei Katie on 07763780006 or email kentkarate@gmail.com.

New members of whatever age or ability are always welcome.



LUNCH CLUB

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HALL



TUESDAY 12.30-1.45

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Tele: - (01622) 844805

Mobile: - 07732 468047

Email: - paulalisonbeaney@gmail.com

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:

01622 844301

01622 842530

01622 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 or tel. 842217)

Broomfield and Kingswood Birdwatching Group

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

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

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

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

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

If you are interested in joining please email me at:

mattmeek72@outlook.com

Did you know?

A furniture restorer in Cornwell has found in the back of a cupboard the RAF logbook of Peter Pease pilot lost in WW2 15th Sept 1940. This logbook was sold in Truro at an auction on June 8th. The Logbook was sold for £12,000!

Thank you to Tony Skinner for this information.

MARMALADE DUCK – recipe provided by:

Peter Bainbridge

- + Duck Breast Fillets
- + sea salt flakes and
black pepper
- + 2 tbsp. orange marmalade
- + 1 tbsp. water
- + dash of red wine vinegar

1. Score in a diagonal pattern the breasts by running a sharp knife in diagonal lines across the skin and into the fat of each fillet.
2. Cook in a dry pan, skin side down, on the lowest heat for 10-12 minutes. After about a minute, lift the fillets with a spatula, just to ensure they don't stick to the pan. Here, the object is not to cook, but to gently render the fat.
3. Now, turn up the heat to medium-high and colour the skin for 3-4 minutes. Meanwhile, season the flesh side with a pinch of salt flakes and a turn of black pepper.
4. Turn the fillets to skin side up, and again return the heat to low. Cook for a further 8-10 minutes. Gentle, gentle hardly a sound from the pan.

5. Next increase the heat to medium and cook for further 1-2 minutes to colour the meat. Remove the pan from the heat and leave fillets inside to rest while you make the marmalade sauce.
6. In a small pan warm the marmalade, add the water and dash of vinegar. If the sauce is too thick add a little more water. Taste and season with the salt and pepper accordingly.
7. Spoon the sauce on to a warm serving platter. There are now two ways of serving the fillets: either whole or, or carve them and lay the slices on top of the sauce. Retain the duck fat from the pan and store it in the fridge – best for sautéing.

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My Contact Details

Tel: 07856204192

Email: HJM@talisifa.com

HEAD OFFICE

Stoke House, Church Road, Ashford, Kent TN23 1RD

Dear Kingswood Village,

We hope this finds you all well!

It has been an exciting couple of terms with the children visiting Forest School in Bearsted, where they have learnt to explore, build dens, make fires and whittle. We are looking forward to making the most of our own outdoor learning environment and our new sensory learning areas on site here at Kingswood. Year 5 and 6 were the first to experience this over this term, where they thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon of being outdoors in nature.

This term also sees our leavers performing their end of year performance and it is so lovely that we are able to invite our parents and carers into watch. We are really excited to finally have the roof renewed on the school, which should be finished by the end of the summer holidays. We apologise for any disturbance this may cause, but we have been assured from the builders that they will be as quiet as they can be!

We were also so pleased to be able to be a part of the Kingswood community and visit the pop-up cafe in the village. Our House Captains surprised those having a tea, coffee and chat by delivering our 'happy coasters'. The children wanted to support the local community's mental health and wellbeing, as we have been learning about 'loneliness'. The children have been exploring how making connections with others helps us to feel a part of something and in turn supports everyone's wellbeing.

With this, the children wanted to support our community by designing coasters with positive messages to let people know that they are not alone and thought of. They hoped the villagers would see the messages daily, when placing the coasters under their tea and coffee. The aim being for the messages to be read whenever they enjoyed a cuppa.

We are looking forward to our end of year awards ceremony and celebrating a successful and exciting year! Thank you for everyone's support in and around the village.

Have a lovely summer and we will see you in September.

Take care,

Kingswood Children and staff



Kingswood Speedwatch Group

A Speedwatch group has recently been established in the village. The group's aim is to make our village roads safer for all residents, by trying to ensure speed limits are respected and improve the quality of life for everyone. Training is provided by the police, and they have loaned the group some equipment, the parish council is also supporting the group with further equipment.

There is a useful web site which gives more information about Speedwatch nationally

www.communityspeedwatch.org

The intention is to share data with the village through the monthly parish council meetings.

If any one is interested in volunteering in to help the group make our village safer, it only involves a few hours as and when you have the time, please contact the Parish Clerk for more details.



The Kingswood Bluebells

We are a group of friendly, like- minded Ladies who enjoy the variety that life brings.

We meet on the second Monday of the month at the Village Hall at 7-30pm, although we do sometimes go out to enjoy events. These include a Strawberry Tea, China Painting, a Hollywood evening and of course a Christmas Dinner to look forward to later in the year!

To come along and join us please contact Beryl Andrew on 01622 843431.



Calling all the Kingswood Crafters

Lest We Forget

Would you like to get involved in a Community Craft Project
in Kingswood for Remembrance Day in November 2022?

We're asking people to help to make a Poppy installation, for display in the village, maybe a cascade of poppies, or a giant poppy, or a field of poppies?

Individual poppies could be knitted or knotted, sculpted or sewn, carved or crochet, painted or potted, fashioned or fabricated and would then be assembled together into a large symbolic display to show how Kingswood respects and supports those who served and serve our freedoms?

At this stage, please just let me know of you would like to be involved in the project, maybe with the design, the thinking, donating materials, making the poppies, assembling the installation or organising it all.

Please drop me an email or a message

Thank you

Ceridwen

07925 508050 ceridwen@anotherway.one



KINGSWOOD BADMINTON CLUB



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

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

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

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

We are always looking for new players of any ability.

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

You won't be disappointed.

KINGSWOOD WHIST GROUP

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

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

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

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

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



Lemon Layer Cake—Ceridwen Clarke

Ingredients

225g butter +100g extra for the buttercream filling	75g natural yoghurt
225g caster sugar +150g extra for syrup	3 lemons zested and juiced + 2 lemons for syrup
4 large eggs	1 tsp vanilla paste or extract
225g self-raising flour	50g lemon curd
1 tsp baking powder	

Method

Preheat oven to 180°C/160°/Gas 4, grease and line 2 x 20cm sandwich cake tins

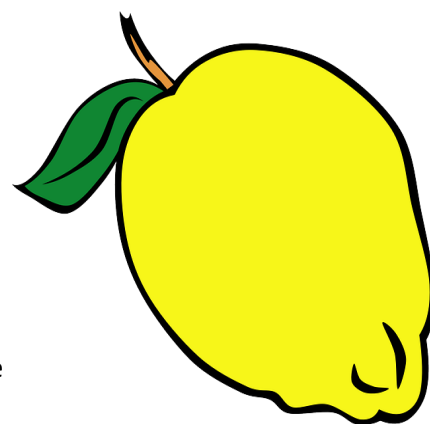
Beat butter and sugar until smooth and fluffy and then add eggs one at a time beating well between each egg. Fold in the flour and the baking powder, then fold in the lemon zest, the yoghurt and vanilla. Divide the mixture between the 2 tins and bake for 30 -35 minutes.

Make a syrup with 150g sugar, 100ml water and 60ml of lemon juice, heat and stir until the sugar is dissolved. With a sharp peeler, pare the skin of the 2 lemons (not the bitter white pith) and cut into fine strips. Bring the sugar syrup to the boil and add the lemon parings, boil for 3 or 4 minutes until the syrup had thickened and the lemon strips are soft. Remove the lemon parings and turn off heat.

When the cakes are cooked, let them cool in the tins for 10 minutes, then turn out and anoint with the warm lemon syrup, reserving a little for decoration.

For the lemon buttercream, mix 100g butter with 100g icing sugar, until soft and smooth, then add lemon curd and lemon juice to taste. Use the buttercream to layer the cakes, decorate the top with syrup and the lemon parings.

Using the lemons grown in Kingswood made my cake very special, but bought lemons will be fine! I adapted this recipe from a BBC Good Food recipe.



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I am a local maths teacher with over 20 years experience.
Classes will run from Sunday to Thursday and will cater for
Year 6 to Year 11, Resits and anyone looking for a maths
qualification.
These sessions will be in groups of around 10 students.
Email/WhatsApp/call for further details or to secure your
place.
Classes start on 10th July 2022

Curriculum

- Year 6 - Transition for Secondary School (only for July and August)
- Year 7&8 - KS3 Curriculum and Problem Solving
- Year 9 - GCSE Transition
- Year 10 - GCSE Curriculum
- Year 11 - GCSE Curriculum and Exam Practice
- Resits - Exam Practice

Contact us

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9am - 8pm

Friday & Saturday

Closed

Email: rostymaths@gmail.com

WhatsApp or Call: 07487304927



The group attended St Georges day parade in Maidstone. They met in Week Street and marched to All Saints Church for the service.

Beavers

We have 18 beavers with one on the waiting list. Mandy Roper is the new beaver leader who has taken over from Claire. She has 3 assistant leaders. Simon Drew, Aimee Parker and Sheona Drew, and Debbie Edmed as parent helper.

The beavers have been busy, they have been on woodland walks, fishing experience, building dens, celebrated the Queens birthday

and Jubilee.

Recently the beavers went to Lydd, there they were shown around the rescue helicopter which they all enjoyed.

CUBS

Jane Newsome has just left the cubs as leader for over 25 years, she is helping out with the scout district covering most of Maidstone

There are 24 cubs, with the warm weather they are having a lot of outside activities. like games and water fights, as well as their badge work. We have got 3 assistant leaders but are asking any one who would like to be a main leader. If you are interested call Alan 843019

SCOUTS

There are 10 scouts, we are restarting scouts as numbers were low. Christine Price and her son Robert has offered to help out with scouts until a leader steps forward. There again if you would like to be a leader, ring Alan 843019

100 CLUB

The winners for the 100 club;

April.

Mr Moore £20

Mr Dann £10

Mr Berry £12

Mrs Robins £5

May.

Mrs Newton £20

Mrs Leandro £10

Mrs Newsome £10

Mrs Murton £5

June.

Mrs Jones £20

Mrs Gaulsdon £10

Mr Wooldridge £10

Mrs Archer £5

If you are interested in joining our 100 club, we have four prizes a month and is £12 for a year. This is one of our main fund raisers that goes towards the running of the scout hut.

If you would like to join call Alan 843019

Alan Poulton Chairman

NEW LEADER

cubs

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

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

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

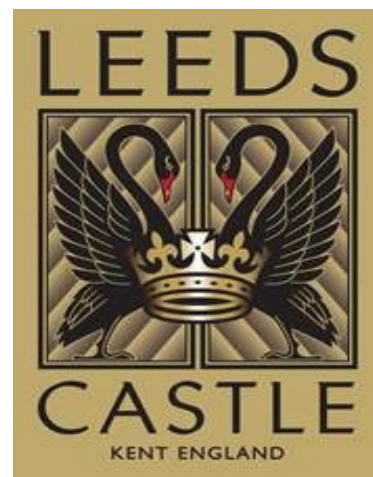
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Summer is here and the gardens are in full bloom, with stunning hollyhocks and roses out en masse in the Culpeper Garden. It is lovely and cooling to be by the water during these hot July days.

The annual Concert has just taken place, with conductor John Rigby, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and a number of fantastic soloists. It really was inspiring to see so many of you enjoying the gorgeous sunshine, wonderful music, Spitfire flyover and stunning fireworks.

We are now in peak visitor season and awaiting the arrival of families, as the school holidays start imminently. We have lots going on this summer, including Rapunzel Children's Theatre, Luna Outdoor Cinema for three nights from 29th July and all of the usual summer holiday fun.



After the success of last year's 50 Leeds Castle-y Challenges trail booklet, we have refreshed the challenges and this will be available throughout the summer holidays.

Also new this summer is Queens with Means. This 6-minute projected experience in the Gatehouse will bring the lives of our six medieval queen owners to life, telling their individual stories, with the key events of their lives playing out in the background.

Henry VIII's first wife, Katharine of Aragon acts as narrator and explains her role as Queen over 24 years, above and beyond the well-known story of her being replaced as Queen by Anne Boleyn, when she could not produce a living son as heir to the throne.

It is great to be able to share stories about these women who were remarkable in their time with what they achieved during their reign. This launches from 30th July and is included in your annual ticket price.

If you are buying tickets, do book 48 hours or more in advance to benefit from a ticket discount.

It has been encouraging to see groups and international visitors starting to return again, albeit in limited numbers. Previously 20% of our visitors were international and market specialists are saying that they won't be back in usual numbers until 2024, but it is good to see some returning.

In hospitality, we have started to see an increase in conferences booking, with lots of companies keen to get their staff together again during the good weather. We have also hosted a large number of weddings during June and it has been lovely to see so many happy couples enjoying their special day at the Castle.

At the Birds of Prey Centre, Baby Norris the Tawny Owl, is now 12 weeks old and is growing into his adult plumage and is starting training. We are also delighted to confirm the imminent return of the famous Leeds Castle Black Swans. We undertook fundraising to raise the money to buy these wonderful birds and ten cygnets, aged between five and eight months will be arriving with us during August.

After getting used to their new surroundings, we will then release them out onto the Moat and Great Water, so expect to start seeing them from September onwards.

Hoping you have a lovely summer.

Helen Bonser-Wilton, Chief Executive

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I belong to a yoga class
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 And no more sudden noises
 Our bodies bend as they should do
 I thought we were lost causes
 But he's brought us back to life
 He really is a treasure
 I move with grace and ease and not by numbers
 It really is a pleasure
 My body's getting on a bit
 But keep your sticks and frame
 I'm very happy as I am
 But help me with my name



Poem supplied by Pat Pocock

Alex Smith's Garden Fundraising

Green fingered gardener Alex, age 9 has been very busy (with mummy) growing sunflowers again this year to raise money for Demelza House in memory of the awesome Zak Hammond who sadly passed away from cancer in 2021.

In true Alex style, we have to go bigger and better! So he has a stall at Sutton Valence Primary School Summer fair on Saturday 9th July from 12-3pm. Please come along if you can. He will also be selling them outside our house on the Lenham Road after this so pop along and say hello to him.

He is running a competition for the tallest sunflower grown too!

The village have been so supportive already donating spare pots, seeds, seedlings and expertise to help Alex with his efforts. Alongside some large beautiful dahlias that he has been kindly donated from a lovely villager. So a huge thankyou to everyone that has helped him..

He has 3 different types of Sunflowers (both red and yellow), Pansies, Dahlias, Sweet William, Sweet peas, Hollyhocks, and Begonias.

Vegetables - Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Beetroot, Broad-beans, little Gem lettuces, and Garden Peas (which come from plants that Zak himself planted)

House plants - Spider plants and Succulents.

Thankyou in advance.





Kingswood Church article for the Summer Edition of the Parish News



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee was a great four days of celebration. At Kingswood Church we marked the occasion with a special service on the Sunday followed by Afternoon Tea when Rev Mark Pavey and the children cut the cake. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Service coincided with the Celebration of Pentecost, sometimes called the Birthday of the Church, when the Holy Spirit fell on all who were gathered in Jerusalem. So we had a double celebration!

The Queen in her Christmas Address in 2015 said, 'He knew rejection, hardship and persecution: and yet it is Jesus Christ's generous love and example which has inspired me through good times and bad'. May we also be inspired by Jesus Christ's generous love and example in our daily lives.

We shall be holding our Church BBQ on 3rd July after the Service when the children and young people will receive their prizes. The Well Blessing/Dressing at St Margaret's Church, Broomfield is on 10th July and provides a great opportunity to see the well which will be decorated once again by Derek Hadlow, the Verger.

Church Services at **Kingswood & Broomfield Village Hall** and **St Margaret's Church, Broomfield**, for July and August 2022, are as follows:

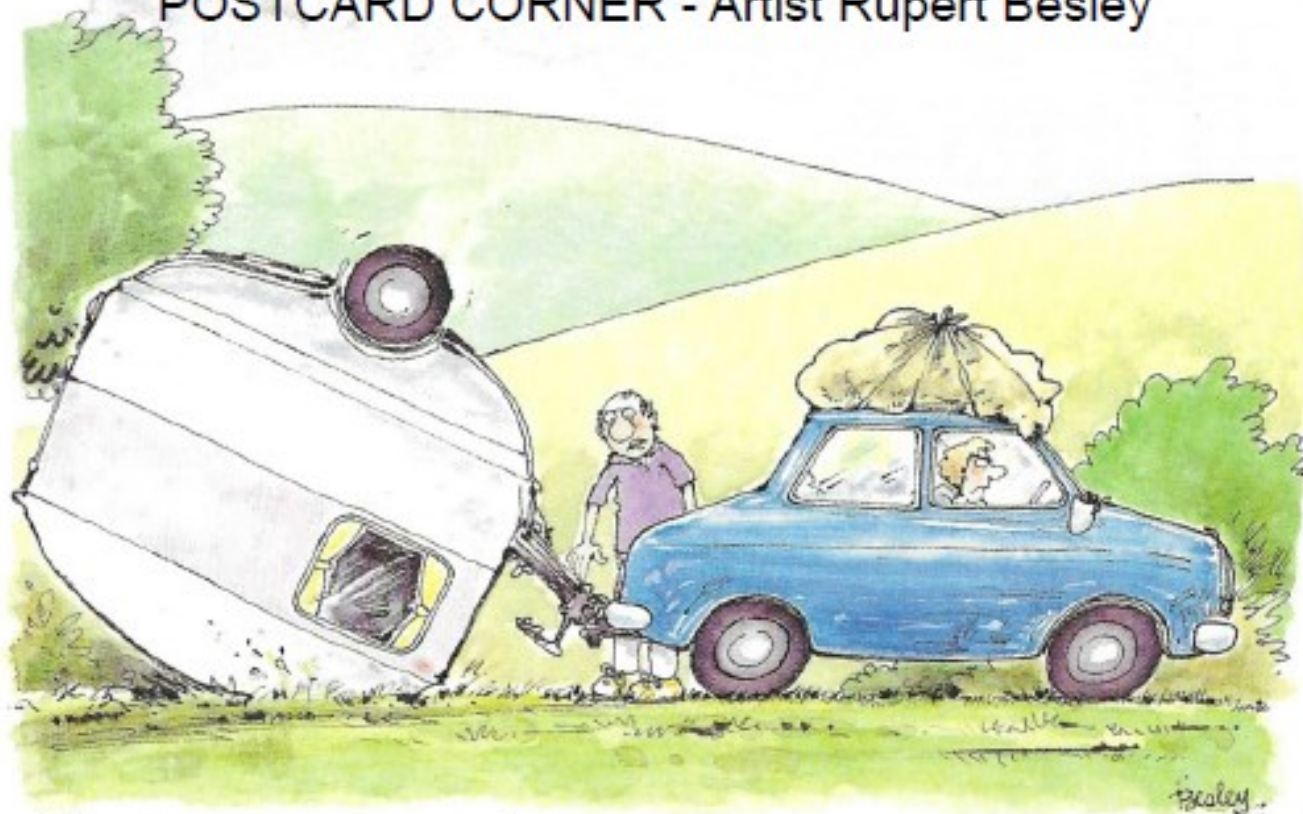
3rd July	11:00	Celebration Service & Prizegiving
	12:00	BBQ
10th July	11:00	Morning Worship
		Eddie Vincent (Methodist)
	15:30	Well Blessing/Dressing,
		Broomfield Church
17th July	11:00	Morning Worship
		Baptist
24th July	11:00	Communion Service
		Rev Mark Pavey
14th Aug	15:30	Communion, Broomfield Church
21st Aug	11:00	Morning Worship
		Peter Roberts
28th Aug	11:00	Communion Service
		Rev Mark Pavey



On behalf of the Church, may I wish you all a very pleasant Summer!

Peter Roberts, Kingswood Church, 16 June 2022.
peterjohnroberts@hotmail.com

POSTCARD CORNER - Artist Rupert Besley



"YOU KNOW, I STILL DON'T THINK I'VE GOT THIS
BLOOMING THING ON RIGHT -"

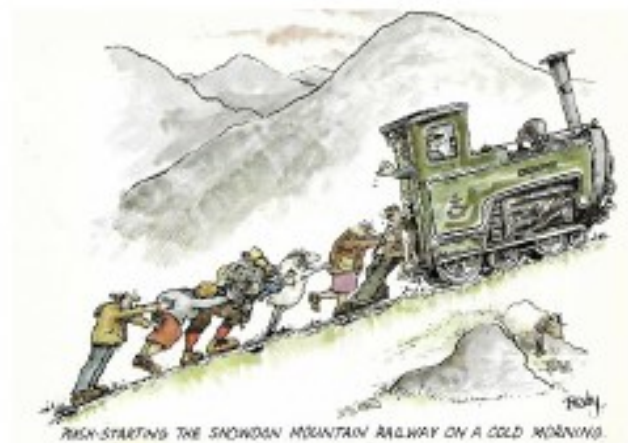
Rupert Besley lives in Newport on the Isle of Wight, and has worked full-time as a freelance cartoonist for 40 years. Much of his work has been with book illustration and postcards, but his cartoons have appeared in other places - from bus timetables to beermats and death-by-PowerPoint presentations.

Since going full-time in 1980, he has provided cartoons on a regular basis to a variety of outlets, including postcards (Dixon's, John Hinde and J Salmon), school books (Macmillan and Longman), magazines (Country Talk, Country Life, The Oldie), and newspapers (Isle of Wight Weekly Post and Isle of Wight County Press). He has also written and illustrated a number of books of his own, including Scotland / Ireland / Skye for Beginners, The Cannae Sutra, and several cartoon collections.



ENJOYING A BIT OF PEACE AND QUIET
BY LOCHNESS.





RISK-STARTING THE SNOWDON MOUNTAIN RAILWAY ON A COLD MORNING.



"THAT REMINDS ME - HAVE WE SENT YOUR MOTHER A CARD YET?"



Can't think why they ever gave up using Steam!

This short article shows his incredible talent not only as an artist, but also an observer of everyday life!

Many of his cartoons feature the Isle of Wight, and he is always ready to get a laugh from some aspect of life on the Island.

Quite a character!



The local cider seems very innocuous at first but then it begins to...



YOU CAN PARK ON CERTAIN PARTS OF THE BEACH

Provided by Ron Kemp

A SOUTH AFRICAN JOLLY IN A JOLLY NICE WARRIOR

One or two of you may have enjoyed my article about flying in the Caribbean, so I thought you might like to read about another of my adventures, this time in South Africa.

Just before the end of the last millennium my wife, Jean, and I jetted off to South Africa. It had long been on our list of places to visit, not least because of adverts in *Pilot* and *Flyer* magazines extolling the virtues of general aviation way down south.

We decided that Cape Town was to be our base as a trawl through the aforementioned magazines came up with the name of 'The Good Hope Flying Club'. An exchange of emails secured a booking of a PA28 for a couple of three hour slots towards the end of our stay.

On arrival in Cape Town we collected our hire car and found our way to the Monkey Valley Nature Reserve, about 20 minutes south of Cape Town on the Cape peninsular. A phone call to the club established that they were actually based at Cape Town International Airport and our arrangements were confirmed.

However, before our flying jollies, we did lots of sight-seeing activities including Table Mountain (by cable car), The Cape of Good Hope which, contrary to popular belief, is not the southern-most tip of South Africa, the whales at Hermanus and the Western Cape wine region around Stellenbosch and Franschhoek.

Come the glorious day we persuaded airport security that we weren't urban guerrillas and found our way to the club, which was housed in a hangar in which several old RAF planes were being refurbished, including Lightnings, Buccaneers and Sea Venoms, all owned by Mike Beachyhead. Surely they weren't going to fly those things, goodness me what on earth would our CAA say about that? As we were chatting there was a tremendous roar. We rushed outside to see a jet-black Lightning hurtle down the runway and then point, literally, vertical. Apparently Lightnings can climb at some 20,000 feet per minute.

Pieter Wesselman was the club Chief Flying Instructor, administrator and unofficial chief tour guide. His services were quickly enlisted in those various capacities. It really wasn't worth trying to get a South African licence conversion for such a short stay. Anyway he offered to do the radio as well, saved me trying to understand the local accents.

It was decided that we would head out in a westerly direction, over the city of Cape Town and aim towards Robben Island where Nelson Mandela spent 27 years in prison. After that Peter would multi-task (who says men can't?) and act as navigator, radio operator and tour guide.

We walked out to meet a really nice Piper Warrior, reg ZK-KBK. Jean was safely settled in the back, we completed our walk-round and climbed aboard. I think Peter was speaking English to Air Traffic Control - how can there be so many different accents for just one language?

Peter said we would be in controlled airspace for virtually the whole trip. Controlled airspace is much more preferable than uncontrolled and I appreciate someone else "looking after" me under radar surveillance. Take off was on the 3200m runway 19 so with a right turnout we headed off to the west. Table Mountain was clearly visible on our left and we flew right over the Groote Schuur Hospital where Christiaan Barnard performed the World's first successful heart-transplant operation in 1967. Over the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront and then out to the South Atlantic.

We turned south and ran down the west coast towards Chapman's Peak. This mountain range creates considerable turbulence with winds meeting from the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. Peter therefore urged caution when passing. In fact, a couple of days later a Cessna 152 had to make a forced landing on the beach after being caught by the turbulence.

On towards the Cape of Good Hope and then easterly towards Cape Point, which is the southern-most tip of the African continent. It was then northwards past Boulders, a natural beach habitat for thousands of penguins. Shortly after, we passed Simonstown which was a Royal Navy base for nearly 200 years. We rounded False Bay and headed inland to Stellenbosch. Having already been there by road it was incredible to see the extent of the vineyards from the air.

A quick call to Cape Town Radar on 124.50 to advise our intentions, a change to Stellenbosch ATC on 119.30, then a right-hand circuit to land on the 760m southerly runway 19. Brakes off to brakes on: 1 hour 35 minutes. This must be one of the world's beautiful airfields. Unfortunately we weren't able to sample the local produce that day, although we certainly made up for it during the rest of our stay!!

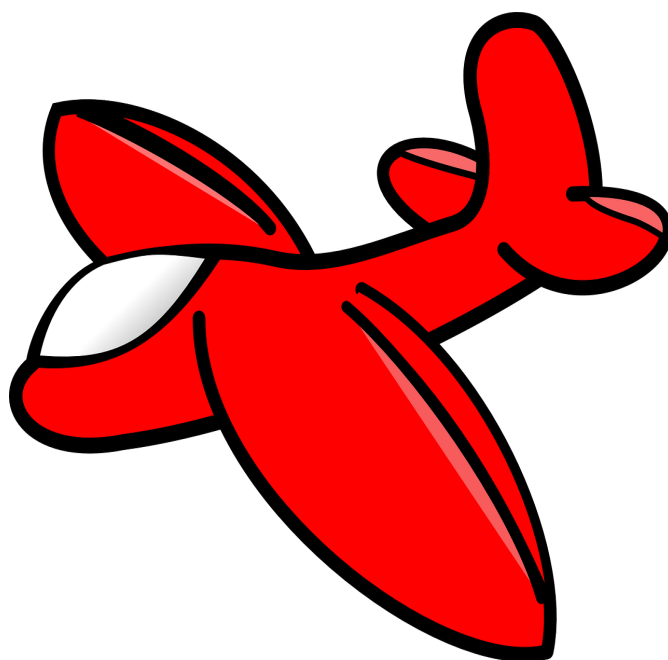
Next leg was to Fisantekraal, near Paarl. This was a direct route, courtesy of Cape Town Radar, over much of the wine growing country. We called up Fisantekraal Traffic but got no answer so we announced our intentions "blind" and landed on the massive 23 runway. "Blind" calls are quite common in large countries where remote airfields are often unmanned. Another 45 minutes for the logbook. Sadly there was no one around – Incredible for such a large airfield. No point in hanging around so Peter suggested we head back to Cape Town.

As soon as we were airborne we called C.T. Radar to announce our intentions. It was only a relatively short hop back to Cape Town so we were soon transferred to Approach on 120.05. They positioned us for a left-hand circuit for runway 19. Just as we were approaching the base leg turn we were given the option of an immediate expedited landing or to extend downwind in view of commercial traffic on long finals. Peter thought we could manage an immediate so we went for it. I retracted the flaps and throttled up. Peter was still talking to Approach as I turned onto finals at about 120 knots (about 40 knots faster than a normal final approach) – so much for a nice comfortable BUMPFICHH landing. BUMPFICHH is a mnemonic used to run through the pre-landing checks. We had a Comair Boeing 727 catching us fast so had to maintain speed until over the numbers (the start of the runway). Then it was throttle off, wait for the Air Speed Indicator to reduce to flap lowering speed, two stages of flap and a landing about two-thirds the way down the runway. Wow! That was interesting!! We cleared the runway and watched the three-engined, noisy Boeing 727 pass behind us. Another 35 minutes in the logbook.

Back at the clubhouse, Peter stamped and signed my logbook. Sadly we didn't have any time left to go out another day and I can't recall the cost but it certainly compared favorably with UK costs.

So this was another brilliant way to expand my flying experience. As I said in my earlier article, I have been so lucky to have flown in several foreign countries. The General Aviation community is so friendly and accommodating. The fact that English is the international language of aviation (and a lot more, much to the annoyance of the French) certainly helps, although the English used by Air Traffic Control in Barbados, Cape Town, California and New Zealand doesn't necessarily sound the same!!

Article by Mike Bean.



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KCC Community Warden	Dawn Riach-Brown	07773 397125
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