



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



# **Parish News**

## **Spring 2022**

Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council invite you to

# **CELEBRATE THE QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE**



**SATURDAY 4TH OF JUNE 2022**

**PLEASE SEE PAGE 5  
FOR FURTHER DETAILS**

## BROOMFIELD & KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Finally we are seeing a little bit of sunshine and the flowers around the village are beginning to bloom. The Parish Council wish to welcome our new co-opted Councillor Malcolm Clarke who joined in February 2022. We do still have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor, if this is something you may be interested in please contact your Parish Clerk Hayley Roberts for more information.

### SCAMMERS—PLEASE REMAIN VIGILANT



Recently we have been contacted by various residents to advise of scams that they have come across. We wanted to remind residents to be mindful about who they pass information to. Scammers are contacting residents by post, text message, phone calls and sometimes on doorsteps. They often pretend to be someone they are not or offer misleading services or investment opportunities.

These scams may be someone asking for donations for causes such as Ukraine, someone contacting you regarding coming into contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID or even someone impersonating your bank. Scammers come in all shapes and sizes.

Below are some tips on staying safe..

Ask for ID. If they are who they say they are then they will carry some form of ID.

Never give out your bank card PIN number (not even your bank will ask for this).

Charity Collectors will always be able to supply a registered charity number that you can check.

Never let strangers into your house, even to use the toilet.

If you receive a letter you think is a scam, ignore it, throw it in the bin and never reply.

If in doubt hang up and call the organisation back using a number from a statement or letter that you know is genuine .

Be wary of text messages from strange numbers and never click on links unless you have checked them.

Some good advice from age UK is;

You don't have to open the door to anyone you don't know. If you do, always think:

#### Stop, Lock, Chain and Check



- Stop – Are you expecting anyone?
- Lock – If not, lock any other outer doors before answering the front door, as some scammers do work together.
- Chain – Put the door chain on (but remember to take it off again or people with a key, like home help, won't be able to get in). Look through the window or spy-hole to see who's there.
- Check – Ask for an identity card and examine it carefully. If you're still unsure, phone the company the person says they're from. Get the number from a bill or your phone book. Don't worry about leaving someone waiting – if they're who they say they are, they won't mind. If you're being pressured or feel unsafe, contact friends, family or the police

**Hayley Roberts**  
**PARISH CLERK/RFO**

Telephone: 07719 317702 or 01622 474190  
Email: [parishclerk@bandkpc.org](mailto:parishclerk@bandkpc.org)  
Website: [www.broomfieldandkingswood-pc.org.uk](http://www.broomfieldandkingswood-pc.org.uk)

**DOG FOULING IN THE VILLAGE AND THE SPORTS FIELD**

Sadly many dog owners are still not picking up their dog mess around the village and the sports field.

Information on dog foul offences you witness can be reported to Maidstone Borough Council using the following link:

<https://maidstone.gov.uk/home/other-services/campaigns-and-projects/tier-2-primary-areas/rk9>

Or forwarded directly to

Jack Orwell, Maidstone Borough Council's Waste Crime Team Officer so that he can investigate and take enforcement action.

Jack can be contacted via email at [jackorwell@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:jackorwell@maidstone.gov.uk) or by phone 01622-602232

**BROOMFIELD AND KINGSWOOD  
PARISH COUNCIL  
THE TOM HOY AWARD 2022**

Nominations have now been received and the winner will be announced shortly.

The winner will be presented with a certificate at our forthcoming Annual Parish Meeting in May.

Date to be confirmed.

**INCIDENTS AND ISSUES MUST BE REPORTED**

There has been a lot of incidents of antisocial behaviour and crime in the village lately.

It is really important any issues are reported on-line. The Police, including our PCSO, **can only respond** to incidents and issues if they are reported to 101 or on-line

**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 **do not** post any evidence that could be used in a criminal prosecution on the Facebook site as it could also cause residents distress and worry and it could be scaremongering

Please remember that our **PCSO is not contactable by phone.**

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

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

**MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE**

**Service information**

**When**

Alternate Saturday 11:15am - 12:45pm (red route)  
(Next date: 26 March 2022)

**Where**

Holly Tree Close, Kingswood

If you are already a member of the library, you can use one of our mobile libraries.

This is a **red route** stop on the mobile library service calendar.



# LUNCH CLUB

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HALL



**TUESDAY 12.30-1.45**

**BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH**

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT; PAT LYNE 01622 843672

## PAUL'S HANDYMAN SERVICE

Based in Kingswood Maidstone Kent

Fully Insured & Licensed Waste Removal

All Household Maintenance Jobs Undertaken

Electrical & Minor Plumbing

Garden Clearance

Mowing & Garden Maintenance

Fencing & Post Repairs

Pressure Washing

Painting & Decorating

### 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](mailto:christineparkes@hotmail.com) or tel. 842217)

**Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council invite you to**

**CELEBRATE THE QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE**

**Where: Broomfield and Kingswood Village Hall**

**When: Saturday 4th June 2022**

**Family Event 2pm—5pm**

**Evening Dance—7pm—midnight (tickets available in advance)**

**Family Event**

Smoke & Cured at The Harrow to provide bar

Dance4Kent and Shukokai Karate Academy performances

Treasure Hunt

Stall and games

Performance from local band Legacy

Arts and Craft Exhibition

Baking competition

Tea and coffee available

And lots more!



**Evening Dance**

Ticketed event—£10 per ticket to include one drink

Fancy dress optional (what was your favourite fashion from the last 70 years).

**Arts and Craft Exhibition.**

Do you paint, draw, sculpt, carve, whittle, sew, knit, embroider, build, or do any of the other creative arts. If so, why not give the world, or at least Broomfield and Kingswood Village the chance to admire your work.

We are planning an Arts and Craft Exhibition in the Village Hall on the day of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and it would be great if one of the exhibits came from you. So, give Hayley a call on 07719317702 or email on [parishclerk@bandkpc.org](mailto:parishclerk@bandkpc.org) to reserve your spot.

**Baking Competition - Open total ages.**

Come and show off your baking skills, no fancy creations, just an old-fashioned cake that you would serve to family and friends for tea.

There will be two groups, seniors (that is everyone over 15) and juniors (that is everyone 15 and under). The prizes are yet to be determined but you will get a certificate and the right to boast about winning for the rest of your life. More details may be obtained from Hayley.

## After the Pandemic – Getting back to normal.

It seems strange, but at the same time, almost inevitable, that, after nearly two years of restricted movement and the constant worry about the effects of catching COVID, some of us find that we have some difficulty of moving around in the COVID world.

The problem is much more profound than it first seems; it feels almost trivial that there is some difficulty in returning to normal. I observe behaviours in myself and many of those close to me who still have great difficulty in getting about again. The fear built up over the last two years, the scary press stories of how people and communities have been affected together with confusing information have left us with a level of anxiety which many find difficult to cope with. This is called the Covid Anxiety Syndrome.

The syndrome had been recognised by several authorities and I believe that now is a good time to find ways to overcome it, before it becomes ingrained into our systems.

To this end I did a recent study into what guidance there is into how one can cope with it. I have turned to the NHS as a sensible centre of excellence and freely admit to laying out some of their advice out in this article and much of what is advised in the article applies very much to my personal knowledge of general anxiety. I know it works but, as with everything worth doing, it needs persistence.

### What are the signs? \*

Some of the signs of Covid Anxiety Syndrome are:

- Trouble thinking about anything other than Covid

- Anxiety interferes with daily life – like going to work or to the shops – even when the risk is low.

- Isolating from other people when it isn't necessary.

- Feelings of hopelessness or being bitter about the pandemic

- Trouble sleeping

- Feeling unusual physical symptoms, such as frequent headaches or stomach aches.

These signs may occur in varying levels of intensity.

If you feel that you always have the pandemic at the top of your mind then you are probably creating a level of anxiety about it, and it might be useful to look at some of the coping mechanisms listed below.

### The 11 tips of coping \*\*

**1.Go at your own pace** – Don't feel that you need to say yes to everything now that restrictions have been lifted, there is no need to rush. Take it step by step, and only do what is comfortable and safe for you. Baby steps will allow you to build your confidence back up.

**2.Do not avoid things entirely** – Avoidance of tough things that generate anxiety may be easier in the short term but will make facing up to them more difficult in the long term.

**3.Get your information from the right sources** – There is lots of conflicting information relating to COVID. Try to limit news and information to trusted sources like GOV.UK and the NHS COVID pages.

**4.Discuss any changes with others** – Before socialising with others, talk to them about the situation to ensure you understand what is comfortable to you and them.

**5. Make time to relax** – Find regular times to relax and lift the stresses off you. Try some online relaxation exercises.

**6. Challenge unhelpful thoughts** – Teach yourself to identify and separate unhelpful thoughts. Perhaps you will find a way to look differently at the thought.



**7. Tell someone how you feel** – Open up to people that you can trust. It could be a friend or family member, a GP, or an online helpline.

**8. Plan social occasions** – By planning social events carefully we can relieve uncertainties. This may be a little as making definite start and finish times or knowing how many people will be there.

**9. Find routine where you can** – The lockdowns have taught us all new routines. It is now time to change them (but not necessarily all). A set routine each day can make a big difference to how you live your life.

**10. Write down your thoughts** – It is sometimes helpful to write down the thoughts that trouble you and allow you to explore them. It is also a good way of tracking your progress.

**11. Focus on the present** – It is very easy to get caught up in the past and fretting for the future. Try to shift your focus onto the present. Relaxation, mindfulness and getting outside and enjoying nature are all good ways to help you focus on the present.

My hope that this short article raises awareness of the problem and offers some help. Further information is readily available on the Internet simply by putting "COVID Anxiety" into a search engine. As mentioned earlier be aware and only search sites that you feel you can trust and that no website that has any merit will ask you to part with money.

Many Thanks and be well

Malcolm Clarke

March 2022

\* information can be found more comprehensively from [www.verywellmind.com/what-is-covid-anxiety-syndrome](https://www.verywellmind.com/what-is-covid-anxiety-syndrome).

\*\* [nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/coronavirus/tips-to-cope-with-anxiety-lockdown-lifting](https://nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/coronavirus/tips-to-cope-with-anxiety-lockdown-lifting).

## Curry and Soul

*Come to a Curry  
Evening*

*April 23<sup>rd</sup> 7pm at Leeds  
Village Hall*

*Food by Kashmir  
Kitchen*

*Licensed Bar*

*Music by Soul on  
Soul*

*Tickets £30 in advance*



**Tickets in  
advance from  
Jenny Hoy on  
07970 119467**

In aid of FoLBC

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE NUMBER 59 BUS SERVICE!

To meet the financial challenge being posed by this year's budget, KCC's Public Transport team has been asked to reduce planned spending on supported bus funding by £2.2m.

To achieve this KCC would need to cut 48 contracts with a total value of £3m and affecting around 55 supported bus services from Summer 2022.

The number 59 bus service is one of the services under review and the service could potentially be cancelled all together!

Kent County Council (KCC) is currently consulting on proposals and this consultation closes at midnight on 20 April 2022.

Please visit

<https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/bus-funding-reductions>  
to have your say!

*The Harrow by Smoke and Cured is the hidden gem in the picturesque village of Ulcombe in Maidstone.*

*The historic village pub was restored and re-styled with a modern twist and opened in the summer of 2019. Now a modern gastro pub offering a relaxed yet exclusive style, serving a sophisticated, unique and seasonal family menu utilising home grown and local produce.*

*We are proud of the relaxed and welcoming atmosphere we have created, paired with the delicious food offered on our fortnightly changing menus.*

*We take pride in the mouth watering, satisfying meals and plates we serve, so quality and fresh ingredients are most important to us. We also enjoy creating new cocktails and sourcing a wide range of beers, wines, ales and spirits.*

*Enjoy a drink or two (or more if you want!!!) in our comfortable bar area or a meal with friends and family in our character laden setting, complete with log fires. With a large beer garden complete with kids play area you can enjoy the stunning views across the beautiful Kent countryside.*

*Of course, we also offer a warm welcome to your four legged friends when drinking and dining with us. All our areas are available for event hire or book outs.*

*Since we have reopened following the lockdown restrictions, we have strived to create a place where you can relax and spend time with friends and loved ones, all in accordance with social distancing measures in place.*

*We are very excited to offer live music and entertainment at weekends, you can now enjoy live singers on a Saturday accompanied by a great sharing fillet steak and wine offer and live reggae on Sundays alongside a delicious roast lunch so keep an eye on our events page for regular updates*

*We look forward to welcoming you into the new and refreshed Harrow by smoke and cured soon.*

**Tel: 01622 844422**

**Email: [smokeandcured@gmail.com](mailto:smokeandcured@gmail.com)**



**Website: [www.smokeandcured.co.uk](http://www.smokeandcured.co.uk)**

**BEAVERS**

# TIME FOR FUN

Leeds and Kingswood Beavers  
Tuesdays- Term Time  
6-7.15pm  
The Scout Hut- Kingswood

Contact: Claire Jones  
[cdrylie@hotmail.com](mailto:cdrylie@hotmail.com) for names to be added to our waiting list!

f /ScoutAssociation  
@UKScouting

© 2018 The Scout Association. Registered charity numbers: 306101 (England and Wales) and SC038437 (Scotland)

# LEEDS AND KINGSWOOD NEEDS YOU!

Canoeing, climbing, surfing, making, sailing, helping, playing, volunteering, abseiling, fundraising, painting, acting... whatever you like doing, Scouts make it happen.

Leeds and Kingswood needs a Scouts Leader! Could it be you?

Please contact Mark Horlock for more details  
[landkgs1@gmail.com](mailto:landkgs1@gmail.com)  
[scouts.org.uk/get-involved](http://scouts.org.uk/get-involved)

**SCOUTS**

© 2018 The Scout Association. Registered charity numbers: 306101 (England and Wales) and SC038437 (Scotland)





The pre-school would like to welcome everyone back to preschool after what we hope was a relaxing half term break! Since Christmas we said goodbye to our manager Katherine, who left the role after 3 years, we wish Katherine all the best in her new teaching job. We have also welcomed two new members of staff, Aimee who is our new Deputy Manager and Jo who is our level 2 qualified practitioner.

Children learn best through play and in order to encourage development we provide a range of activities including role play doctors, dinosaur small world, arts & crafts, messy play and outside fun including bikes and lots more! Over the next few weeks, we will be focusing on building independence and encouraging health and self-care to prepare our older children for the final transition to school.

Our next adventure in the coming weeks is a journey through the village to the shop. We will be choosing our own healthy snack and encouraging the children to learn about what foods can be good for our bodies, this will be our topic for the coming term.

We have spaces available for 2–4-year-olds and accept universal funding. If you would like any information regarding a place for your child and to arrange a stay & play session, please don't hesitate to contact us via email; [manager@kingswoodpreschoolgroup.co.uk](mailto:manager@kingswoodpreschoolgroup.co.uk).

The pre-school is run by a committee which consists of mostly parents. They are actively seeking new committee members, if you would like to be involved in the day to day running of the preschool and their fundraising events, or if you want to find out more, please email Charlotte Mutton at [chairperson@kingswoodpreschoolgroup.co.uk](mailto:chairperson@kingswoodpreschoolgroup.co.uk).

We hope this finds everyone well!

Kingswood Primary School has welcomed the reduced COVID restrictions, which we are hoping is just in time to look forward to the nicer weather during the months of spring and all that brings. Pupils have enjoyed World Book Day, trips to the river, as well as swimming sessions and Forest School in Bearsted. The school has also supported those affected in the Ukraine by parents setting up a clothes donation fund - the parents have been amazing in these efforts, thank you! A number of other charity events have taken place over the last few months at Kingswood Primary School, where one of our Year 4 pupils cut his 20" long hair off to raise money for Demelza House! We have also supported Red Nose Day and the Salvation Army. Over this term, children are learning about Greek Mythology, Rivers and Mountains, as well as participating in The Big Question, where our school ambassadors have given their thoughts and ideas around how to make our school even better. Our little ones in Chestnut and Sycamore have learnt all about sign language and have sung the song 'I can sing a rainbow' using their new language skills.

We look forward to the next few weeks, where our children will be inviting their parents/carers into school to help celebrate Easter at the end of term assembly. We will be awarding pupils for Effort and Achievement, as well as announcing our character coin winners. We are also looking forward to learning outdoors with clubs and activities as the weather starts to brighten up.

We wish all of our Kingswood neighbours a lovely springtime.

Kindest Regards,

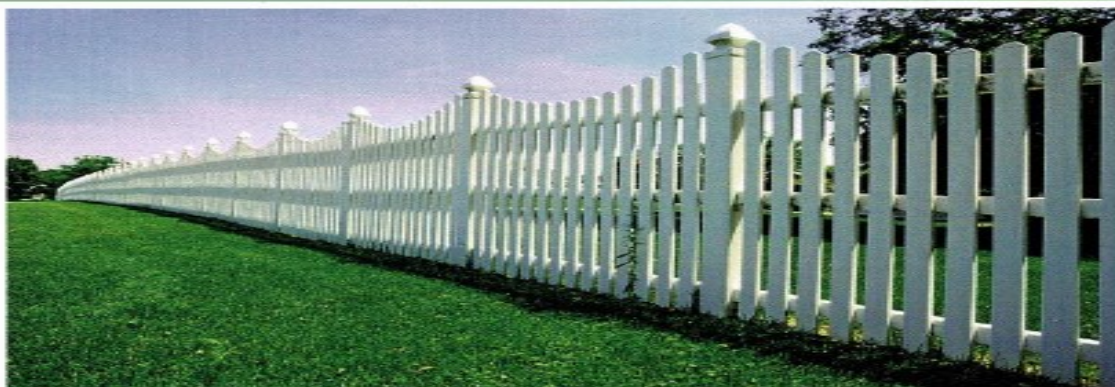
Mrs Sanchez Daviu  
Head of School  
Kingswood Primary School



# Kingswood Fencing

*Est 1978*

- Domestic • Industrial • Security
- All Fencing Supplied and Erected*



**The Oaks, Lenham Road, Kingswood,  
Maidstone, Kent. ME17 1LU**

**01622 842857**

**Mobile: 07711 795582**



**[www.kingswoodfencing.co.uk](http://www.kingswoodfencing.co.uk)**

# Talis

Independent Financial Advisers

**01233 722999**

**[www.talisifa.com](http://www.talisifa.com)**

**Hannah Mitchell DipFA, an Independent Financial Adviser, based in Kingswood Maidstone.**

Here to help you with a wide range of financial planning topics, involving pre- and post- retirement advice, investment strategies and tax efficiency. I can also help you protect yourself and your loved ones from the consequences of ill health or death.

#### **My Contact Details**

**Tel:** 07856204192

**Email:** [HJM@talisifa.com](mailto:HJM@talisifa.com)

#### **HEAD OFFICE**

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



# INDIANA JONES

HYPO HOUND NEWSLETTER 4

## ✧ Thank-you ✧

*Thank-you very much for all of your support for Indie! Indie is alerting every day now 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!*

## 2021/2022

We are very excited this year for things to start going back to normal! It will be lovely attending the awards ceremony after last year having to be cancelled due to coronavirus. We are so grateful to everyone who has carried on fundraising for Team Indie

throughout the pandemic, from making face masks to collecting used printer cartridges, it all adds up! We are very grateful to Janet and Marion at Lead the Way Dog training for all of Indie's

training and advice. We will next start participating in Hypo Hound's dog socialisation

training, watch this space! If you would like to donate directly to Team Indie for Hypo Hounds, please do

get in touch! Thank-you all very much for donating to Team Indie at the local Nisa shop in the Hypo Hounds tin too! Every penny counts and we really appreciate it! xxx



*We are really looking forward to the Awards night this April! Indie has been nominated for 4 awards: Most Improved Dog, Fundraiser of the year, Inspirational Partnership and Dog of the year!*

### Hypo Hounds

Hypo Hounds are based in Smarden. 'Giving Type 1 Diabetics Freedom and Independence'  
[www.hypohounds.co.uk](http://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!

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

Lead the Way Dog training meet on Wednesdays at the Village Hall from 6pm. Please contact Janet Tandy for info.

### Kingswood Speedwatch Group

A Speedwatch group has recently been established in the village and they have carried out a few sessions in last 2 weeks. The groups 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](http://www.communityspeedwatch.org)

The intention is to share data with the village through the monthly parish council meetings. From the few sessions held in last two weeks this shows a maximum speed of 48 in the 30-mph limit with 22 speeding vehicles observed.

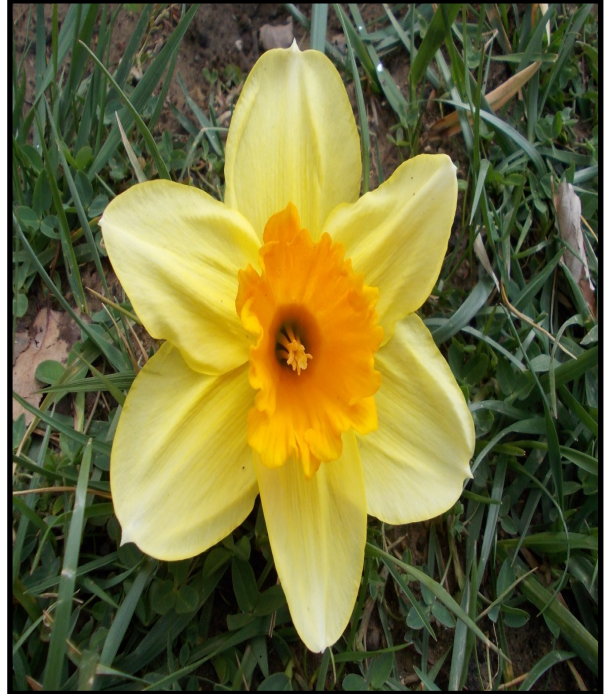
## The Kingswood Bluebells

The Bluebells are a Ladies' group that meet on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. We have a varied programme organised for 2022, from making chocolates to painting china, from Court tales to Cynophobia dogs.....with Cream Teas and Celebration meals to enjoy during the year !

We welcome new members to our group at any time. Please ring Beryl Andrew (843431) for further details.

### POEM BY PAT POCOCK

I've reached another milestone, another nought has  
passed the post  
I'm sandwiched between Halloween and Guy Fawkes I  
don't know which I hate the most  
I've earned my age I must admit but it is not for the faint  
hearted  
so being nice but highly strung could really get you started  
We've all been there and it's been rough and some have  
lost their way  
but little steps and lovely thoughts could be the new order  
of the day  
So let's just try a great deep breath as we're all here for  
the ride  
We've nothing to lose it's worth a try as we look for the  
brighter side



### KINGSWOOD & BROOMFIELD VILLAGE HALL

A big 'THANK YOU' to Kingswood Christmas Trees for the magnificent specimen that they donated to the Hall. We had to trim the trunk to enable it to be erect in the Main Hall. It stood from floor to ceiling. When the children first saw it, they could not take their eyes off it.

Up grading the Hall is ongoing to keep up with new regulations for health and safety etc. We have just had a full fire check, plus an electrical inspection. Plus, there are often maintenance jobs to done. After being built the Hall, was opened in 1980.

Anyone now using the hall cannot fail to notice the new curtains, which we think look very smart.

We are pleased to say that the Hall has stayed open since re-opening on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2020. This is thanks to all the users cleaning up after their sessions, long may it continue.

#### QUIZ NIGHT:

We are planning to hold a Quiz Night and Fish & Chip Supper in the Summer, so watch out for posters around the Village with the details.

#### AFTERNOON TEA:

We are also hoping to hold an Afternoon Tea fund raiser during the year.

#### BOOKING A CHILD'S PARTY:

If you are thinking of having your child's party in the Hall, please make sure you contact Val on 01622 843110 in good time to avoid disappointed, as children's parties are very popular.

Val Clarke, Chairman

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022



## Ingredients

250g/9oz cold unsalted **butter**, cut into 6-8 pieces  
150g/5½oz light soft **brown sugar**  
125g/4½oz **caster sugar**  
2 large free-range **eggs**  
1½ tsp **vanilla extract**  
pinch **sea salt**  
300g/10½oz **plain flour**  
225g/8oz sugar-coated mini **chocolate eggs**

## Method

1. Preheat the oven to 190C/170C Fan/Gas 5. Grease and line a 20cm/8in square loose-based cake tin with baking paper.
2. Melt the butter in a saucepan over a medium-low heat. Stir in both sugars and cook for 1-2 minutes, or until the butter is absorbed and the mixture turns a creamy toffee colour and looks smooth and glossy. Take off the heat and set aside.
3. Whisk the eggs, vanilla and salt together in a large bowl. Whisk in the melted butter and sugar mixture until thoroughly combined, then whisk in the flour until smooth. Pour the batter into the prepared tin and bake for 20 minutes.
4. While the blondie is cooking, cut 125g/4½oz of the chocolate eggs in half. It's best to use the heel rather than the tip of the knife and work with just a couple of the eggs at a time.
5. When the 20 minutes is up, take the blondie out of the oven and scatter the halved and whole chocolate eggs on top. Carefully press the eggs into the blondie mixture and don't worry if the surface cracks a little. (Take care as the sides of the tin will be hot.) Return to the oven for a further 10 minutes or until the blondie is pale golden-brown.
6. Cool the blondie in the tin for at least 10 minutes before cutting into squares. Serve warm or cold.

## 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. 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.



## Time to get walking again!

At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Kent <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/kent> has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Kent (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris

[www.walkinginengland.co.uk](https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk)





# A.C. AUTOS

Motor Vehicle Repairs & Servicing

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## Kingswood Church article for the Parish News - March 2022



I do hope you managed to survive Storm Eunice with gusts of 122 mph recorded – the strongest in more than 30 years in the UK. Those of us who are old enough will remember the hurricane in October 1987, with winds gusting up to 100 mph, and the havoc that was caused with Kingswood being completely cut-off!

The following Sunday at Church, after Storm Eunice, the appointed New Testament reading was 'Jesus calms the storm' (Luke 8: 22-25) when the disciples were in a boat on the Sea of Galilee with Jesus who was asleep. I wonder how many times we think that Jesus is asleep when we are waiting for an answer to our prayers. Thinking they were in danger of drowning, the disciples woke Jesus up and 'he got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm' (8:24). In the same way, when we call on him through prayer, Jesus can calm the troubled waters of our lives.

There is plenty going on during Lent with an **Online Lent Course** on Zoom from the North Kent Methodist Circuit entitled **Becoming Church** every Tuesday at 7pm from 8<sup>th</sup> March to 5<sup>th</sup> April. Please email me for the link. There is also a series of **Lent Talks** at Holy Cross Church, Bearsted on the five mid Wednesdays of Lent between March 9<sup>th</sup> and April 6<sup>th</sup>. The talks will be given at 11am and 8pm. Coffee and tea will be available before the talks. We shall also be holding a series of **Lent discussions** at 7 Laurel Grove at 7:30pm each Wednesday during Lent.

Our **Easter Egg Hunt** this year will be at 12 noon after the **Café Service** on 3<sup>rd</sup> April which starts at 11am with refreshments at 10:30am. Our services over Easter include **Palm Sunday** on 10<sup>th</sup> April at 11am, a **Good Friday Reflection** on 15<sup>th</sup> April at 10:30am followed by hot cross buns and an **Easter Sunday Family Service** at 11am on 17<sup>th</sup> April.

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

May I wish you all on behalf of the Church a very **Happy Easter!**

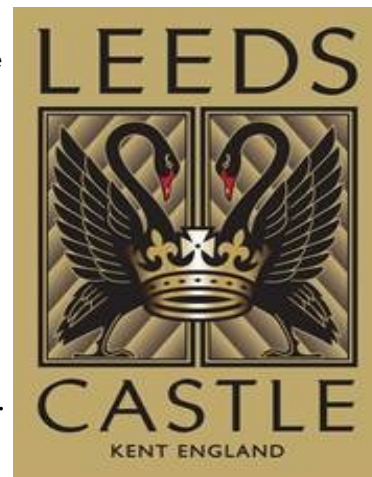
Peter Roberts,  
Kingswood Church  
[peterjohnroberts@hotmail.com](mailto:peterjohnroberts@hotmail.com)



## Parish Magazine – March 2022

Spring is here! Daffodils and crocuses are out in full bloom across the estate and cherry blossom is also out. The Culpeper and Pavilion Gardens are slowly coming back to life and we are now looking forward to the annual displays of tulips, bluebells and bearded irises.

February Half Term was a game of two halves, with some busy days and then the horrendous storms in the latter part of the week. As you will be well aware, we had trees down all over the place, including across roads in some places, with many, many others down across the Golf Course and in the Princess Alexandra Gardens. It has taken an enormous amount of work from the team to clear everything up and to get roofs mended across the estate, where tiles blew off.



Sadly, the scale of the damage and the ensuing gales of the next three days meant that we had to close to the public for almost four days, including accommodation and dining bookings. Given it was February Half Term and we were fully booked and expecting to have very healthy visiting, this was clearly very bad news. However, it is essential that we keep everyone safe, so, it was the right decision.

Before the storms blew in, we had thousands of happy visitors following the new Wildlife Trail, highlighting the various birds and beasts who live at the Castle, with Kent Wildlife Trust on site to talk about wild animals and their care. Unfortunately the trail boards blew away in the storms!

Work continues on the major projects we are planning to deliver by April. The new 1930's themed reception for accommodation guests will be completed in the next couple of weeks.

The visitor reception and Park Shop building is now completely gutted, with the internal wall removed and a steel support beam installed. We will now be working on laying new floor, installing electrics, decorating and installing new shop fittings and ticketing desks, with opening anticipated in the second week of April.

At this time, we will also be introducing 80% new shop ranges, closely linked to the stories of the estate. Ranging from local food and drink to Art Deco ranges, garden inspired ranges to new children's and wildlife ranges, there will be something for everyone.

Work continues on the stonework repairs, with the scaffold wrap having to be replaced after Half Term due to storm damage. If you have walked through the estate recently, you will have seen essential repairs being carried out to the causeway wall too.

We are now entering the final stages of our project to Bring the Castle to Life and restore it to the scene of one of Lady Baillie's glamorous house parties. Access to some of the rooms in the Glo-riette (the oldest part of the Castle) will be limited over the next few weeks as we make repairs and install Eyemats, a custom made covering that takes an exact photographic image of the floor, to enable guests to enjoy the look of the original floor, while it is protected.

From 4th April, we will be introducing theatrical dressing of rooms, with sounds and smells that make it feel like the occupant (above or below stairs) has just left the room. This will be done in front of the public throughout the week, completing on 11th April ahead of the media launch. All guests will enter through the front door of the Castle, rather than the current Wine Cellar entrance.

Exciting times!

Helen Bonser-Wilton, Chief Executive

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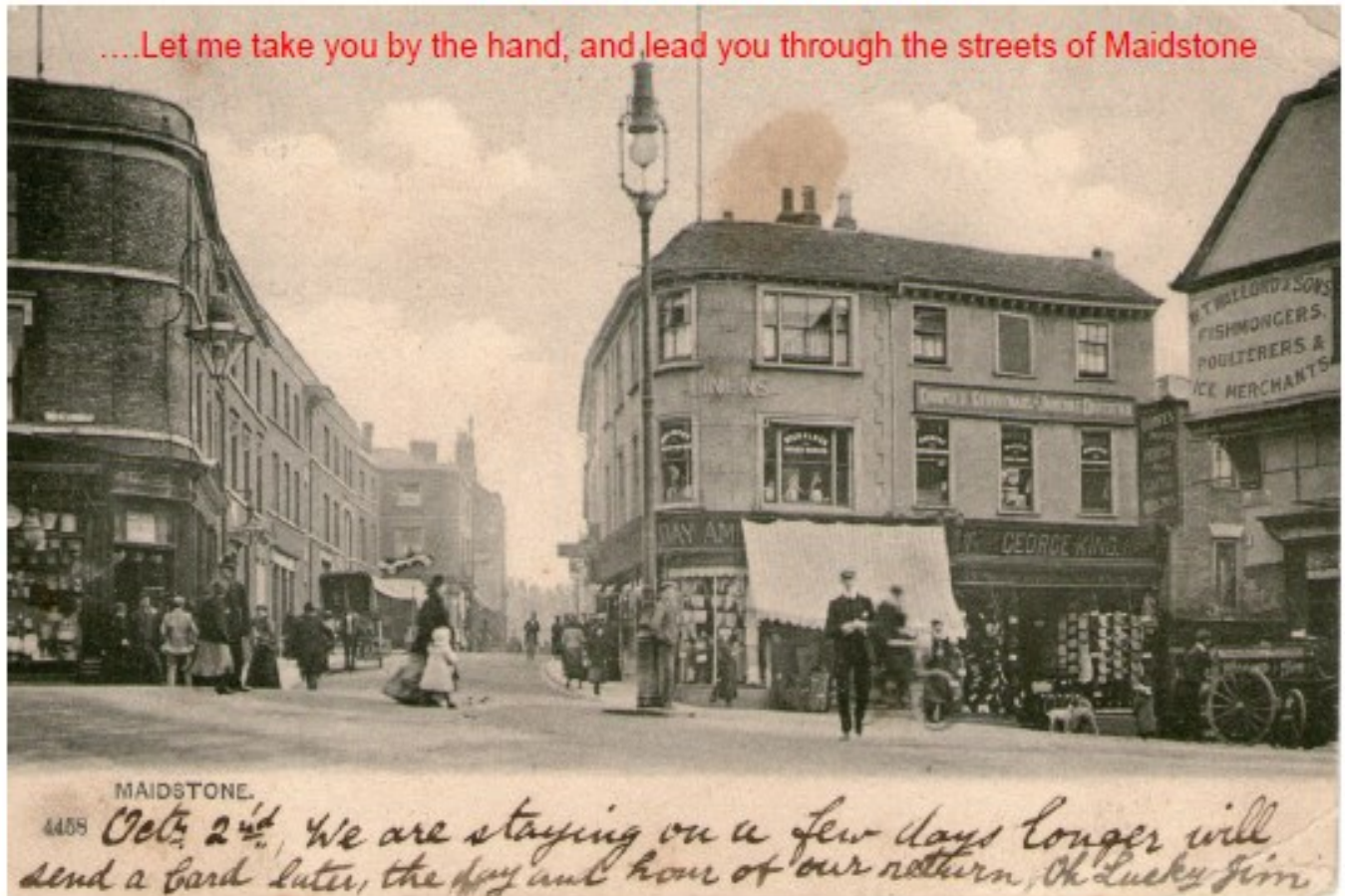
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## \* POSTCARD CORNER \*

....Let me take you by the hand, and lead you through the streets of Maidstone



Three postcards from the centre of town in the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

Above is a card used on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1903 showing High Street, Week Street and Gabriels Hill.

The vertical card is at the lower end of Gabriels Hill, with the Golden Boot and other retailers in 1916.

Finally, the junction of High Street and Mill Street on this unused card showing tram number 8 on its way to Tovil. Dated somewhere between 1905 and 1910.







A high level view of the High Street, possibly taken from the Town Hall, showing the Memorial and the taxi's parked alongside.

A busy street scene from the 1930's published by Valentines.

A real photographic but slightly faded postcard showing Lower Stone Street with a nicely posed group of children.

Probably taken in the very early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, there are a number of horses and carts parked alongside the pavement waiting for their owners to appear.



A very quiet St Luke's Road, with just a bicycle leaning against the pavement. All the children must have been in school!

This real photographic postcard was sent on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1914 to Hartington Place in Eastbourne

**WRITTEN BY  
RON KEMP**

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Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

**10.30 – 12.30**

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

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



Charity Number: 212796

### USEFUL CONTACTS

Kingswood Church	Peter Roberts	01622 843625
KCC Councillor	Shellina Prendergast	<a href="mailto:shellina.prendergast@kent.gov.uk">shellina.prendergast@kent.gov.uk</a>
KCC Community Warden	Dawn Riach-Brown	07773 397125
Member of Parliament	Helen Whately	020 7219 6472
MBC Councillor	Gill Fort	<a href="mailto:gillfort@maidstone.gov.uk">gillfort@maidstone.gov.uk</a>
Neighbourhood Watch	VACANCY	
PCSO	Shivon De Rose	101
Primary School	Lynsey Sanchez Daviu	01622 842674
Kingswood Pre-School	Aimee Springett	07729 499 508
Village Hall	Val Clarke	01622 843110

### Village Clubs

Badminton	Sue Orchin	01622 843626
Bluebells	Beryl Andrews	01622 843431
CANS	Sonya Roberts	01622 843625
Dog Training & Cynophobia	Janet Tandy	01622 842209
Karate	Chris Simpson	07801 639052
Tuesday Lunch Club	Pat Lyne	01622 843672
Dance 4 Kent	Stephanie Wood	07898207973
Kingswood Whist Group	Mike Bean	01622 844272
Short Mat Bowls	Mike Tandy	01622 842209
Purple Yoga	Helen	07762 761905
Scouts	Alan Poulton	01622 843019
Beavers	Claire Jones	07732056139
Birdwatching Group	Matthew Meek	<a href="mailto:mattmeek72@hotmail.com">mattmeek72@hotmail.com</a>

### Your Parish Council

**Parish Clerk/RFO: Hayley Roberts; Email: [parishclerk@bandkpc.org](mailto:parishclerk@bandkpc.org) Tel: 07719 317702/01622 474190**

### Councillors:

Tina Clark (Chair)	<a href="mailto:tinaclark@bandkpc.uk">tinaclark@bandkpc.uk</a>
Gareth Davies (Vice Chair)	<a href="mailto:garethdavies@bandkpc.uk">garethdavies@bandkpc.uk</a>
Laura Hubbard	<a href="mailto:laurahubbard@bandkpc.uk">laurahubbard@bandkpc.uk</a>
Aimee Parker	<a href="mailto:aimeeparker@bandkpc.uk">aimeeparker@bandkpc.uk</a>
Chris Pink	<a href="mailto:chrispink@bandkpc.uk">chrispink@bandkpc.uk</a>
Simon Pearce	<a href="mailto:simonpearce@bandkpc.uk">simonpearce@bandkpc.uk</a>
Malcolm Clarke	<a href="mailto:malcolmclarke@bandkpc.uk">malcolmclarke@bandkpc.uk</a>
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