

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



## Broomfield & Kingswood Winter News



#### **BROOMFIELD & KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL**

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The weather has started to turn and as I write this it feels much colder. Since the last edition of the Broomfield and Kingswood News there have been an number of events. Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council held a **Village**Fete in September at Kingswood Village Hall. It was a great success with the stalls making a combined total of over



£1150! Some of that money is going to local charities and some to the individual Group's funds for specific equipment or events. Well done everyone! The raffle raised a brilliant £369.50 and a donation was made to our chosen charity for the year the Air Ambulance.

Thank you to The Kings Head - Sutton Valence for supplying the wonderful bar and bbq (the homemade burgers were delicious!). Thank you to the amazing Old School Samba Band and The Invicta Jazz Orchestra for the incredible music. Thank you to the Leeds and Kingswood Scout Group for coming along with their brilliant games, badge making and not forgetting fire breather Ricky!! Thank you to all the other local groups (there are too many to name) who came along and supported, we really appreciate you taking the time to volunteer and hope you had a really successful day raising money for your fabulous community groups.

An extra special thank you to all those residents who baked a cake

or brought along items for the art exhibition. We have some very talented people in Broomfield and Kingswood!

Thank you also to the volunteers that helped set up and pack away, we really appreciate you giving up your time for our community. Lastly thank you to every one of you that attended and made the event such a success! It was lovely to see the community come together!



#### I have included some photos from Remembrance Day.

It was lovely to see the Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts turn out in force at both services.

What a fantastic turnout by residents too both at the Silent Tommy Statue/Peter Pease Memorial and at St Margaret's Church in Broomfield.



We now look forward to our next community event, the **Reverse Santa!** Santa will be touring around Broomfield and Kingswood once again on Friday the 13th of December at 5pm. It will work slightly differently to last year whereby there will be nine designated stops where Santa will be stopping to receive donations and spread some festive cheer. Our local Scout Group will be volunteering at each stop to help collect any donations whilst Santa says hello to the children. There will also be other volunteers who I am sure will make this a truly magical tour.

Stop 1 Broomfield Church Stop 2 Broomfield Road layby opposite Hunters Moon

Stop 3 Charlesford Avenue (outside number 3) Stop 4 NISA

Stop 5 Junction of Charlesford Avenue/Cayser Drive Stop 6 Wildwood Close

Stop 7 Kingswood School Stop 8 Junction of Chestnut Drive/Laurel Grove

Stop 9 Silent Tommy Statue/Kingswood Sign

Please follow and check our dedicated Facebook event page for up to date information on timings for arrival at stops during the event. Noticeboards will also display all timings and up to date information.

Below is a list of items that the Salvation Army have advised are currently needed...

Tinned products; meat, vegetables, beans/spaghetti, soups, fruit

Pasta/rice Pasta sauce Long-life Milk Cartons of orange/apple juice Crisps
Biscuits Jams and spreads Tin openers Toilet Roll Cereal

Toiletries - toothpaste, soap, male/female deodorants, shampoo/conditioner (no razors)

In addition, if people wanted to donate luxury Christmas items (e.g. Christmas puddings, biscuits, chocolates) these would be great as an extra treat to give out nearer to Christmas time.

Please then join us from 6.30pm at Kingswood Village Hall for Christmas music and refreshments. A huge thank you to Praba at NISA who has very kindly donated sausage rolls! The Lenham School Choir will be in attendance to help us all get in the festive spirit, we do hope you can come along! Please note no ticket is required and there is no cost for this event.

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A message from our Police Officer PC James Phillips; "Please be reassured that Kent Police will do as much as possible to safeguard victims and tackle offenders however this begins with reporting all matters of concern to us. You can report emergencies by calling 999, any non emergency matters can be reported by calling 101, via our 'Live Chat' system on our website, via an online crime report or by visiting our station on Palace Avenue, Maidstone. The Maidstone Neighbourhood Beat team are working with communities around Maidstone to deal with anti-social behaviour and criminality but we need your help to report all crimes and anything that is a concern, the more reports we receive, the more we can do."

**Speedwatch** continue to make a difference in our community <u>BUT</u> they can only continue this fantastic work if they have the volunteers to do it. Can you spare an hour a month to help? Don't sit at home on Facebook, come and make a difference! For more details contact Hayley, Parish Clerk.

Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council meet on the third Monday of the month at Kingswood Village Hall. If anyone would like to come along and find out more about the Parish Council and what we do or if you just want to sit and listen to matters in your community we would love to see you!



### steps to become better prepared

STEP

#### Make an emergency grab bag – consider:

- Torch
- Keys
- Medication
- First aid kit
- Toiletries
- Important documents
- Radio and batteries
- Money and credit cards
- Clothing and blankets
  - · Mobile phone and charger
- · Pet food
- · Food and water
- Emergency contacts



#### Make a 'Household Emergency Plan'

Make an emergency plan for your home and practice it with your household. Your plan should include: contact numbers, how to turn off your gas, electricity and water, and sources of information and advice.



#### Sign up for weather and flood alerts

· Sign up for Met Office weather alerts: www.metoffice.gov.uk



■過激記回 • Get Environment Agency Flood Warnings: www.gov.uk/ sign-up-for-flood-warnings



#### Check your flood risk

Check your home's flood risk by visiting the Environment Agency website at www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk



#### Join the Priority Services Register

The Priority Services Register is for customers who may need additional support in a utility outage. Find out if you or a relative is eligible to sign up for this free service by visiting www.thepsr.co.uk



Scan the QR codes for more information or visit www.kentprepared.org.uk/5-steps

Are you



#### CHICKEN AND ALMOND PILAU—Receipe sent by Peter B.

(serves four)

250g brown basmati rice

250g boneless chicken breasts

1 shalot

1 clove garlic

Juice and grated rind of 1 lemon

1 tbsp oil

1 tbsp butter

50g toasted silvered almonds

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Heat the oil and then the butter (this stops the butter burning) in a large pan. Cut the chicken into walnut size pieces and fry gently until it is pale gold. Finely chop the shallot and the garlic and add to the pan. Then add the rice and turn the whole lot together. Add a measured amount of water (twice the amount of rice by volume).

Cook for 15 – 20 minutes with the lid on over a low heat so the rice cooks and absorbs all the flavours.

When you think it is nearly ready, make sure the chicken is cooked through and the rice has absorbed all the liquid then quickly stir in the juice and rind of the lemon. Season generously, put the lid on and take the pan off the heat. Leave for five minutes to absorb the lemon flavours.

Just before serving, sprinkle the almonds over the top. You can add a little fresh chopped parsley for its lovely green colour

#### I NEED YOUR HELP!

I am looking at putting a feature in the next edition of the Broomfield and Kingswood News about 'what Broomfield and Kingswood used to look like'.

Do you have any photographs, stories or factual information regarding our villages that you could send me? Thank you to those who have already provided me with something, watch out for it in the Spring edition!

Hayley, Parish Clerk, Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council

#### Kirsty Kemp Homeopathic Nutrition

#### What 3 Things!



#### Can Help Optimise Wellness Over the Winter Months!

As we transition into the colder months, it's important to support our natural body's defences. In this newsletter, we'll explore homeopathic remedies, nutrition and lifestyle choices to help nourish and support this amazing process.

#### The Immune System

A good functioning immune systems has the ability to recognise antigens and elicit a quick response to aid protection. To support its competence through the winter months, it is noted (Maggini et al, 2018) that nutrition and lifestyle can play a key part.

#### Homeopathic Remedies

- Belladonna: This remedy is useful in early stages of fever and infection, particularly when the symptoms come on suddenly with intense heat, flushed skin, and a sore throat, good for ear infections also.
- Nux-Vomica: Useful for digestion discomfort, with constipation (think bloating), also a fantastic remedy for over-indulgence i.e. a few too many baileys at Christmas, a great hangover & heartburn remedy!
- Oscillococcinum: A brilliant remedy for flu-like symptoms. Often used to reduce the severity and duration of flu when taken at the first signs of illness.



#### Nutrition

- Vitamin C: May assist in the production of white blood cells, useful in fighting infections. Found in citrus fruits, bell peppers, strawberries, and broccoli.
- Vitamin D: Known as the "sunshine vitamin" said to modulate the immune system.
  During winter, sunlight exposure decreases, so incorporating vitamin D-rich foods
  such as fatty fish (S.M.A.S.H. stands for Salmon, Mackerel, Anchovies, Sardines
  and Herring, which also incorporates omega 3 helpful in reducing inflammation),
  eggs, mushrooms and fortified foods such as milk, may help.
- Zinc: May help with immune cell function. Sources include cashew nuts, pumpkin seeds, lentils, chickpeas, meat and seafood. Zinc may help to reduce the duration and severity of cold symptoms. Essential for immune cell function.

Tip: Always add extra beneficial nutrition to your plate daily by just adding one extra serving of vegetablesi incorporating as many different colours throughout the week!

#### Lifestyle

- Keep Moving: Some studies showed a lowering of inflammation by movement such
  as walking, with the added benefit of helping regulate our metabolism balance if we
  walk before or after meals 'think post-Christmas lunch'. It is said physical activity
  may prevent the risk of upper respiratory infections by up to 31%.
- Manage Stress: Stress can elevate the hormone cortisol which can impact the immune system, deep breathing, meditation, yoga, and even walking outside for 5-10 minutes can help reduce those stress hormones.
- 3. Get Enough Sleep: Sleep is crucial to our repair and regeneration, aim for 7-9 hours of quality sleep per night, create a good routine (not only for children but for adults too!). An Epsom salt bath in the evening, reducing screen time at least an hour before bed and having your last caffeinated drink by 2pm can all help support a better nights' sleep.

Tip: Park just that bit extra away on any outlings to get extra steps ini-

#### Chicken Soup Recipe (serves 4)

With its ability to hydrate, reduce inflammation, provide essential nutrients with a combination of proteins, electrolytes, vitamins, and healing compounds found in the ingredients of chicken soup. This is what makes it an ideal comfort food when you're feeling unwell to help support the body's recovery process.

- 800ml Chicken Stock
- 4 handfuls a mixture of frozen sweetcorn, peas, edamame beans
- 1 large courgette spiralized (or use noodles of choice)
- 8 mushrooms sliced
- 1 large leek sliced
- 4 large kale leaves sliced
- · 4 spring onions sliced
- 1-2 garlic cloves grated
- 2 inch piece ginger grated
- 2tsp miso paste
- 1tbs tamari.
- Handful for each bowl of precooked/left over roast chicken
- Chopped herbs of choice (I used basil)
- Chilli flakes or chilli oil (optional)
- Salt & Pepper (optional)



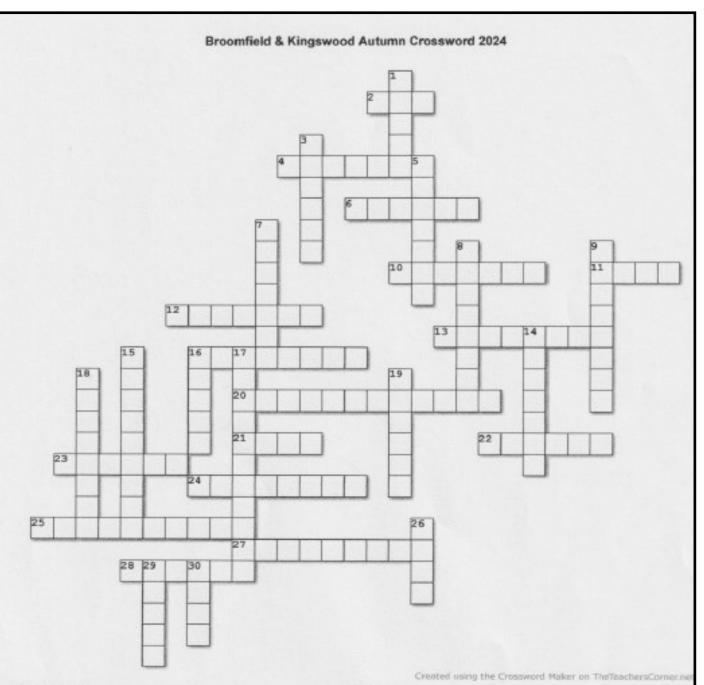
#### Instructions

Gently fry the leeks, ginger and garlic for 5 mins with a drizzle of olive oil, add the chicken stock to heat, add all the other ingredients until heated through and serve with herbs of choice.

#### Why not Pick 1 thing from each section this winter!

Kirsty Kemp is a qualified homeopath and nutritional therapist/diet & lifestyle educator. If you would like more nutrition, homeopathy and lifestyle optimisation ideas please follow on Instagram QR code above or email if you would like to receive a monthly newsletter kirstykemp123@gmail.com.

Declares: The information provided in this newsletter is for educational and informational purposes only and is not a substitute for professional medical advice. Always consult with a qualified healthcare provider before making any changes to your diet, exercise routine, or lifestyle.



#### Across

- Popular baked food made with autumn spices
- 4. Lit on the 5th
- 6. Season known for falling leaves
- Colourful leaves in Autumn
- Weather phenomenon often associated with autumn
- Horse chestnuts
- 13. Device from which pumpkins are launched
- A popular sport in autumn on grass fields
- 20. U.S. national holiday
- 21. An animal that migrates south for winter
- 22. Common weather description in autumn
- 23. Colour often associated with autumn
- 24. Famous annual race in the autumn
- Popular seasonal drink
- 27. Month when autumn begins in the Northern Hemisphere
- 28. Common autumn vegetable, often orange

#### Down

- 1. A popular drink made from apples
- 3. Type of firework
- 5. The first day of autumn is called this
- 7. Type of festival featuring autumn themes
- 8. Seasonal scent often found in candles
- 9. What people often wear in autumn
- What you carve for Halloween
- What animals do to prepare for winter
- 16. A gathering to celebrate the autumn harvest
- A festival to celebrate the grape harvest
- 18. Animal known to gather nuts in autumn
- 19. Festival of light
- 26. The color of the sky on many autumn days
- 29. Fruit commonly harvested in autumn
- What many people do to their yards in autumn

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, BROOMFIELD

# CAROLS AT BROOMFIELD



## Sunday 8 December at 3.30pm

Please come along and bring the children

Mulled wine and mince pies after the service

## You're Invited to Join Our Community Charity



#### Be part of organising fun, local fundraising events

Previous annual events include:

- · Beer Festival
- · Afternoon Tea
- · Winter fairs
- Curry and Soul evening



#### Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches Charity

Whether you're passionate about local historic buildings, looking to meet like-minded individuals, or simply want to have fun while making a difference, our charity group is the perfect place for you!

We need some more local support and therefore asking residents who care about Leeds and Broomfield Churches to join. Our charity was founded to raise money to help preserve the historic churches of these two villages and to prevent them from falling into disrepair.

We aim to raise money and have fun while doing it!

This is not a religious group.

The charity meets once every three months in either Leeds or Broomfield Village.

Join now

Contact Jenny for more information about joining 07970119467

If you don't wish to join the charity but would like to offer a donation please visit our website.

https://www.friendslbc.co.uk/support-us

#### LEAD THE WAY DOG TRAINING

The classes are full at the moment, we have 8 puppies in the puppy training and socialisation class, and other classes are working towards their Bronze, Silver and Gold awards.

Our courses are for eight weeks, so our next course will be middle of January. Meeting on Wednesday evenings at the Village Hall. For information: 01622 842209

Top class recall:



#### KENT CYNOPHBIA ASSISTANCE GROUP

We continue to run the classes helping children overcome their fear of dogs. We are quiet at the moment, having had quite a few children leave just before the summer holidays. So if anyone has a child or knows of a child who is worried about going to the park, beach or even school, in case they see a dog, we can definitely help. We accept children and adults from anywhere in Kent. The sad thing is that whilst I have enquiries from adults, it is rare that they turn up, Which is sad as we can help them overcome this fear.

Our Christmas party is booked for 9th December, when we invite all the children and siblings, including children who have left us. For information: 01622842209

#### **Kingswood and Broomfield Village Hall**

The Kingswood and Broomfield Village Hall committee were pleased to donate the use of the hall to Melanie Ford and her team, who have taken over the hosting of the cream tea afternoon in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. We would like to thank everybody who attended and supported this event on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October. This event will be held Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2025 from 2 till 4pm – pop the date in your diary now!

The committee would like to express their thanks to Kingswood Christmas Trees for the kind donation of the Christmas tree for the village hall. Thanks also to Tracey and Ryan Brunton for volunteering to put up and decorate the tree.

Thank you to Beryl Andrew for running the Treasure Map game at the village fete, on the 21<sup>st</sup> September, over a £100 was raised.

If you wish to book the village hall for a child's birthday party on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon in 2025, please ring Val Clarke (booking officer) - 01622 843110 for more information.

The chairman and committee would like to wish everyone a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

#### Lest We Forget 2024

The Poppy Displays in Broomfield and Kingswood went up two weeks before Remembrance Sunday and have been well received. The new display at the Broomfield Village Sign, by the Silent Tommy, has over 1700 Poppies made by residents and visitors. There are knitted, felt, fabric and crochet poppies and the colours used are red for the people who gave their lives for our freedoms, purple for the animals who were used in war and white for peace. The poignant display at the Kingswood sign reaches towards our Silent Tommy almost as if sheltering him but also leading the eye up and into the column of Poppies, thus representing such bravery and loss. More Poppies were added to that display this year.

As always, the displays are the work of many, many people who generously give their skills and time: everyone who made Poppies, thank you for each and every single Poppy, they are all used. And to everyone who helped with the fixing and assembly of the panels which make up the display, including those who did extra work by fixing the Poppies on the mesh at home, thank you. The displays couldn't happen without the team who install them on the Signs, making the collars, getting the heavy and cumbersome panels onto the collars and pegging them securely. The installation team do a hard job; thank you to them all. And finally, to everyone who stands together to remember, thank you.

#### **Broomfield and Kingswood Remembers**





#### Word Search Autumn 2024

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AUTUMN HARVEST PUMPKIN FOOTBALL APPLECIDER CONKERS FAWKES LEAF THANKSGIVING SCARECROW COLORFUL CORN DIWALI MULLEDWINE

RAKE HALLOWEEN COOL TURKEY BONFIRENIGHT GUY

**FROSTYMORNINGS** 

# Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council Pop-Up Café

Kingswood and Broomfield Village Hall
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December

10.30 - 12.30 pm

Come along and enjoy a hot drink and festive mince pie or a piece of cake!

Everyone welcome!







## ALL INCIDENTS MUST BE REPORTED

It is useful to keep residents informed via social media such as Facebook however it is equally just as important to ensure that all incidents are reported to the Police. If incidents are not reported the Police are not aware and cannot respond or take necessary action. One comment the Parish Council receive frequently is that the Police 'do nothing'. Councillors have relayed this back to Kent Police who have assured the Parish Council that all reports are taken very seriously. Things do happen behind the scenes, every report is collated and it enables officers to build up a picture about timings, type of antisocial behaviour etc and a plan of action can be made. There will be more Police presence over the comings months due to the recruitment of more officers. Just because you do not see them doesn't mean they aren't there! Our new Beat Officer PC James Phillips is patrolling the area and should you see him please do stop him and have a chat regarding any concerns or issues you may have. You can also email the Parish Clerk who can also ask PC Phillips to contact you if you wish to speak to him.

You can report crimes and incidents online using the following link <a href="https://www.kent.police.uk/ro/report/">https://www.kent.police.uk/ro/report/</a> or alternatively by calling 101. If any residents require any help please contact Hayley, Parish Clerk who is more than happy to help you. One of our Councillors could even come and submit the report with you!

**Highways issues** including potholes, broken signs, damaged signs, blocked gullies, pathway issues https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem

#### Kent Police – New Community Interactive 2 Way Messaging Service

My Community Voice is a new and exciting two-way messaging service that helps Kent and Medway residents, businesses, and community groups to keep in touch with their local policing teams. The service sends updates about your local area directly from the police officers themselves.

My Community Voice allows you to comment by clicking the 'reply' link within a message. This will be sent back to the person that posted the alert. All emails are read and actioned. This service should not be used as a crime reporting tool. Please use <a href="www.kent.police.uk/report">www.kent.police.uk/report</a> or in an emergency, if a crime is in progress or life is in danger, call 999.

To find our more please visit <a href="https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk">www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk</a>



#### **WE HAVE SQUIRRALS IN THE SCOUT HUT!**

But don't panic these are not the ones with the furry tails, these are 4-6 year old children. This is a new section that Lydia is leader. Lydia had started them after the Easter break. at the moment she has 14 squirrels. and has asked that parents come along to assist until they have settled in..



For St George's day the group paraded through Maidstone town past the Mayor on their way to All Saint's church for the service.

#### **GROUP CAMP**

In June the beavers, cubs and scouts went to Comp Wood near Borough Green. For some of the children this was their first night in sleeping in tents. They heard all the different sounds at night like the trees creaking about and also hearing owls which some hadn't heard before. We split the sections up so some did first aid, making fires, chopping wood and making hats for our 20th birthday of Leeds and Kingswood scout group. We had a cake with the scout group name on it.

Later we were entertained by having a display of reptiles. we saw corn snakes, Boris the large tortoise, one small one about a year old. But the main attraction was the Python which all the children loved and all wanted to have photos with it sitting on their shoulders and laying across their legs.

Our thanks go to Lydia for organizing the camp and Andy the chef for for keeping us fed.

#### QUIZ

We had our spring quiz at Langley village hall, this was very well attended and every one enjoyed it. We are all looking forward to our autumn camp..

The scout group had a stall at the Kingswood village fete, we had Play Your Card Right, open the box (find the right key) and a firing range. all the children and adults enjoyed it

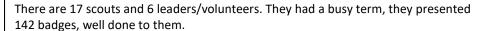
We had our Autumn quiz, this was very well attended and was enjoyed by all. I thank Carol and Steve who arranged the questions and were our callers.

All the committee on the group have now been changed to trustees.

The group are preparing for the Remembrance Day, which will be held at the Tommy on the cross roads for the 2 minute Silence and in the afternoon will be a service at Broomfield Church.

We have started putting planters out side the scout hut.

#### **SCOUTS**



Some of the meetings the scouts organise the meeting and run it to get them to be more adventurous with their ideas.

#### **CUBS**

We now have four leaders, but cubs are a bit low with only 11, but we are expecting 3 beavers coming up to the cubs after Christmas

Ricky aims to contact schools for a recruitment drive after Christmas with the aim of improving numbers and encouraging more girls to join.

Since September, the cubs have completed their Personal Safety badge. For Halloween they have been making crafts and dressing up as ghosts and other frightening things.



In November the cubs will be making poppy key chains for Remembrance day. We will also be visited by a TV and film engineer who will be recording Cubs read a story for their Readers badge. Recordings will be put on CD's to give to their parents.

In December cubs will be Carol singing at Morrisons to raise money which will go towards a trip to the bowling alley before they break up for the Christmas holidays.

#### **BEAVERS**

We have 21 beavers. We have a list of young people waiting to join. There will be a few moving up to cubs.

Beavers are working towards their Earth Tribe Badge and the big Buzz badge. The beavers have been planting Primulas out side the hut.

#### **SQUIRRELS**

There are between 12 and 14 in attendance. We have received a grant of £500 to start the squirrels, which has helped to upgrade and reopen the climbing wall for all sections to use.

We have a waiting list for squirrels and some will be moving on to beavers. Our aim is to have Squirrels camp next year.

if you would like to join any of the sections call 01622 843019

#### **100 CLUB**

The 100 CLUB is like a small lottery, more details can be found on the village noticeboards.

The winners are

#### **OCTOBER**

Mr Skinner £20, Mrs Kerr £10, Miss Doherty £10, Mrs M Smith £5

#### **NOVEMBER**

Mrs Orchin £20, Mrs Oliver £10, Mrs Carol Jones £10, Mrs Tweddell £5

#### **DECEMBER**

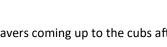
Mrs Schroeder £20, Mrs Kerr £10, Mrs V Clarke £10, Mr Green £5

All proceeds to scout funds.

Alan Poulton Chair







#### Thursday Morning Walking Group

9:30 at the Post Office



Fancy getting out for fresh air and a friendly chat?

We walk up to a couple of miles through the woods if the weather is good but often just around the village.

We walk at about 25 to 30 minutes per mile pace.

If you would like to join us, call Kay on

01622 842080 or 0744 591 7438

The cream tea held at the beginning of October made an incredible £838! This has been divided between Macmillan and Cancer Research.

Thank you to all that supported the event and provided raffle prizes and homemade cakes on the day.



#### An update from your local MP Helen Whately

One moment it was summer, and the next, an autumn mist settles over the fields and I'm writing your November Parish Newsletter. Where did the time go?

Talking of fields, many of you have contacted me concerned about building on fields especially the best 'Grade 1' farmland. This top quality land is scarce - only about 3% of the UK's farmland – and it's important for food production. We are lucky to have a swathe of it here in Kent.

That's why I recently introduced a Private Members Bill in Parliament seeking to stop so-called Garden Villages being built on Grade 1 land. As a 'PMB' its path to get onto the statute book is a difficult one. And it can't stop developments that have already received planning permission. But I will do what I can to protect the farmland we need to feed future generations.

The budget was also challenging for food production. The increase in the minimum wage is good for workers on low pay, but together with national insurance it's a big rise in costs for farmers, especially local fruit growers who need a large workforce. And then there's the changes to 'Agricultural Property Relief' and 'Business Property Relief' which have drastic consequences for family businesses. I've been meeting some of those affected locally. If you are caught by these changes and would like to attend a future meeting, please let me know.

Against all of that, there was some good news to welcome in the budget – like continued investment in high-speed broadband and extra funding for pothole repairs. The road maintenance money is not enough, given the state of our roads and volume of traffic, but it's something. I'll keep lobbying for a larger budget and a solution to Operation Brock, which puts so much traffic onto our roads whenever it's activated.

I count as a success the delay of the EU's new 'Entry Exit System' (EES), which was set to launch in November. When I visited Dover in the summer it was clear that the technology wasn't ready – a point I made robustly to the EU's Deputy Ambassador a few weeks ago. Thankfully they postponed the launch. But I'm still concerned that when it comes we'll get queues at Dover and Operation Brock again, so I'll keep a close eye on this.

Until then, if I can help in any way, please reach out.

**Best wishes** 

Helen

helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk / 0207 219 6472



Helen placing Faversham and Mid Kent's Remembrance Stake into Parliament's Garden of Remembrance



### Leeds, Broomfield & Kingswood (LBK) Churches December 2024



We sadly had to say goodbye to our vicar Rev Mark Pavey, Tansye and the girls during September with Mark taking up a new position as Priest-in-Charge at St Faith's Church, Maidstone on 15th October. Their final service, on 29th September at a packed Leeds Church, was a wonderful celebration as we gave thanks to Mark, Tansye and the girls for their tremendous love and service to Langley, Otham, Leeds, Broomfield and Kingswood churches over many years. At Kingswood Church, Mark was presented with his favourite biscuits and chocolate and cards, in the shape of doughnuts, by the children.

We remember with thanks the on-line Sunday services, taken by Mark, Tansye and the girls, during those long months of isolation with Covid19, where the worship, bible teaching and prayers kept us renewed in mind, body and spirit. Many can testify to a renewal and strenghening of their faith through Mark's ministry in our churches, schools, care homes and communities. We wish them God's blessing as they continue their ministry at St Faith's Church and Community Centre at Ringlestone, Maidstone.

As we once again approach Christmas, we are reminded that it is Jesus who is the reason for the season. The birth of a baby, the Son of God, bringing light and hope into our troubled world. A message of peace on earth and goodwill to all people that is as relevant today as it was over 2,000 years ago.

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

Peter Roberts

#### Kingswood & Broomfield Church Services in December 2024

#### Sunday 1st December (Advent 1)

10:30am Continental Breakfast/11am Cafe Service

#### Sunday 8th December (Advent 2)

11am The Christmas Story told by the Climbers

3:30pm Carol Service at Broomfield Church



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

#### Sunday 22nd December (Advent 4)

11am Communion Service

#### **Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day**

10am Morning Celebration at Broomfield Church

10:30am Family Celebration









#### **HELP NEEDED!**

Hobbyist who has recently moved to the area is looking for a workshop, studio, shed, porta-cabin, small unit or room available with electric?

Would only be accessed around 2-3 times a week on average.

References can be supplied.

Locality of Kingswood, Lenham Harrietsham, Hollingbourne, Headcorn and other surrounding areas near Maidstone.

Appreciate any assistance that can be given.

Please contact Daz on 07894640801 if you are able to help!

#### THREE SUTTONS HELPLINE

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

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

07425 582534. OR. 01622 844301

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

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

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

#### ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A PRE-SCHOOL SETTING?

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For more information or to arrange a tour, contact 07729 499508 or email manager@kingswoodpreschoolgroup.co.uk





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#### October 2024



We've had a very busy start to the new academic year. In Term 1 we welcomed our new children into our Reception Class. A few of the children are younger siblings of children already in our school and it makes the older ones suddenly look much more grown up!

There have been some wonderful county sports events that small groups of our children have joined in with. We were meeting up and joining schools from all over Kent which is has been a great chance for our children to experience taking part in county events. We've had Hockey Tournaments, a Dance and Movement Festival, Cross Country at Mote Park and also a festival for girls called This Girl Can. The Aspire Federation, which we are part of, have also given training for each of our four schools for Sport Leaders. Older children have learnt key skills to help them run sporting activities in the lunchbreaks with the younger children.

After school clubs are always popular in our school and these include football club, films, choirs and construction.

We are really proud that during the last academic year our school was awarded The National Nurturing Schools Award. This is an award for schools that have succeeded in creating a nurturing culture for the children and young people in their care.

The award is evidence of a school's success in implementing and embedding a nurturing culture that responds to the social, emotional and mental health needs of its pupils, alongside their academic studies. This means that we have an accreditation for all the hard work, support, guidance and development that is given to our children to ensure that they flourish as a whole child. Not to mention reflecting the abundance of support we get from our Governors, parents and carers in achieving this - thank you! We firmly believe in working together - parents - school - pupils.

We've had more work done in the grounds over recent weeks and, of course, keep up constant maintenance to ensure our grounds are a safe place for all our children, staff and visitors. We know that parking at pick up and drop off times is sometimes raised as a concern by our neighbours. Please be assured that we do remind our parents on a regular basis that careful parking is essential and ask them not to block driveways.

Our school's place in the village and parish communities is very important to us. As we head towards the festive season there will be lots of extra events both within school and in the village. An exciting time is ahead for us all.

If you ever have any questions or thoughts regarding our school please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Sanchez Daviu

Head of School







#### 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.

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#### MAIDSTONE HOSPITAL LEAGUE OF FRIENDS VOLUNTEERING CHARITY NUMBER: 1168474

Would you like to volunteer and make some new friends at the same time? The League of Friends would love to hear from you.

We have a large shop in the main reception of the hospital and a second-hand book and puzzle shop next door. We also have a tea bar in the Opthalmic Department, selling hot and cold drinks, sandwiches, fruit and snacks. Our trolley service around the wards and A & E is much appreciated.

From May – September we bring in fresh fruit from local farms to sell.

Our retail profits are used to enhance the hospital to improve the life of patients and staff.

Our volunteers benefit from free car parking and also a mileage/transport allowance, where appropriate.

We also have our own garden and would love to hear from anyone who would like to help maintain that garden. We try to meet once a month on a Sunday morning between April and October, weather permitting.

Through the year we hold various fundraising events such as quiz nights, cake and bric-a-brac stalls. After Covid, we are trying to re-introduce fun days out.

If you would like to learn more, please contact our shop Manager, Jacqui Featherstone, on Maidstone 224781.

#### **The Kingswood Bluebells**

We are a small group of ladies who meet up once a month at the Village Hall. We have a varied programme of activities this year, including speakers on the Air Ambulance and Mercy Ships, a quiz on Our School Days and a Strawberry Tea in the Garden.

We began this year with members making beautiful flower arrangements to help hasten the beginning of Spring......so if you feel you would like to join us please call Beryl Andrew on 01622 843431 or come along to the Village Hall on the second Monday of the month at 7-30pm.

**Beryl Andrew** 

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#### Kingswood Short Mat Bowls Club



Wednesdays at 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Kingswood Village Hall

£3:50 for an afternoon of fun!

Tea and cake included.

All abilities and ages are welcome (including beginners).

Bowls are available.

For more information contact Kay Kilgallon 01622 842080 0744591 7438







This year Leeds and Kingswood Scouts have been concentrating on their community impact badge, and working within our lovely village to help improve and offer continuous service.

They had chosen to clear the roads and pathways of litter. Collecting bags full from around the village and the playing field. We teamed up with Maidstone Borough Council, who let us use their equipment and kindly supplied us with bags.

We managed to collect about 5 bags of rubbish, each scout patrol having healthy competition with one another for the fullest bags. We found that cigarette buts were the most picked up item of litter.

Whilst we walked around the village roads, they were disturbed to see the amount of dog mess on the pathways. They decided to work together and create dog poo bag dispensers. You will find them dotted around the village, and the scouts keep on top of topping them up also. We have had such great feedback the local dog walkers have been grateful to the odd bag when out and about, as we all know that accidents happen.

What they want to do is help stop is the streets being littered with dog poo, so everyone can enjoy a walk without having to dodge piles on their way round. We are finding a huge amount of dog mess upon the field, a place where the scouts of all ages use regularly as well as the general public, please can we spread the word to all to keep using the dispensers and be respectful by picking up. We hope you enjoy reading their poems, and passages as well as their decorated dispensers.

Scouts are thrilled that dispensers are being used. Thank you.

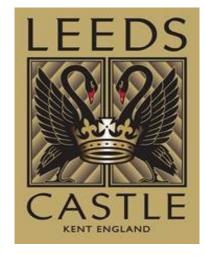




#### Parish Magazine - December 2024

It has been great to have an extended period of good weather recently, enabling lots of people to enjoy the stunning autumn colours across the estate. October Half Term was very well attended, with lots of families enjoying the Guardians of the Grounds trail and the performers who were bringing the story to life.

We were equally pleased to have good weather for the Fireworks Spectacular that took place in November. It was the usual high standard of fireworks, with the theme of Colours this year. At one point there was a giant multicoloured chameleon projected onto the Castle, to the tune of Karma Chameleon. Much fun had by all.



It is the season for clearing undergrowth and preparing the garden for the winter, along with widespread new bulb planting. Our new Gardens and Grounds Manager, John Myers, is driving a major investment in spring bulbs, meaning we should have a stunning spring flower display for 2025. Much more to come in gardens development!

We have now completed repair works on the Pavilion, which has stood empty for some time. In Lady Baillie's time, this lovely building was used for afternoon tea while people played tennis on the Pavilion Lawn. We were delighted to have the support of PAYE Stonework, who are our partner in the long-term project to repair the stone work on the Castle. They donated the labour of six workmen to restore the Pavilion as part of their contribution to the local community.

We now have a stunning restored space, which will be available for the use of the community groups we are partnering with. PAYE also partnered with us to run some schools' workshops in September for students from local secondary schools to learn about heritage conservation skills & careers.

Over the summer we worked with a number of local community groups on a trial basis to evaluate how we could work with these groups to bring people to Leeds Castle, who have barriers to access. These might be due to cost, disability or confidence.

We worked with Kent Young Carers charities, Imago & Crossroads and 21 Together, a local charity that supports families with children with Downs' Syndrome to host visits and learn more about how we can make them more welcome on site. We hope to expand this programme gradually over the next year.

From 23<sup>rd</sup> November to 31<sup>st</sup> December, the Castle will be transformed into magical scenes from *The Nutcracker*, with live performers at weekends and during the school Christmas holidays. Both *Halloween* and *The Nutcracker* are included in your 12-month ticket and you can get a flavour of the experience from videos now on website.

The special themed *Nutcracker* Afternoon Tea (adults & children) is looking stunning (and having tried the cakes, I can confirm they are absolutely delicious). This needs to be pre-booked on our website or by calling Castle View Restaurant.

Christmas Lights Trail is returning from 22<sup>nd</sup> November, with 80% new installations, great catering, marshmallow toasting and fairground rides, including a Big Wheel giving great views over the Castle!

The Castle will be donating Christmas Trees to local schools and churches as usual, so I hope that you enjoy these as you go around your Christmas preparations!

Helen Bonser-Wilton, Chief Executive

#### KINGSWOOD WHIST GROUP

"Best two and a half hours of the week."

Jacqui M

"Great afternoon with great company." Denise W

"Highlight of the week." Janet B

"Lonely, want to new make friends? Come to whist." Marian M

"Great people, great game and tea & cakes at half-time." Jo R

"Very social afternoon, playing whist plus a cuppa and cake". Sue S

Fed up, bored, want to meet new friends?

Why not come along Tuesday afternoon and join us for a fun-filled, sociable session of partner whist?

It's from 2.00pm to 4.30pm

24 hands of cards with tea, coffee, cakes and loads of chat at half-time, all for just £2.50!!

We even have pretty modest prizes.

Our annual awards lunch, usually at The Ridge Golf Club, is enjoyed by all, Including several "significant others". The Group contributes to the cost.

Don't just sit there staring at wallpaper. Give us try – you won't be disappointed.

Further information from Mike on 844272 or just turn up next Tuesday.



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#### The Kent Cynophobia Assistance Group

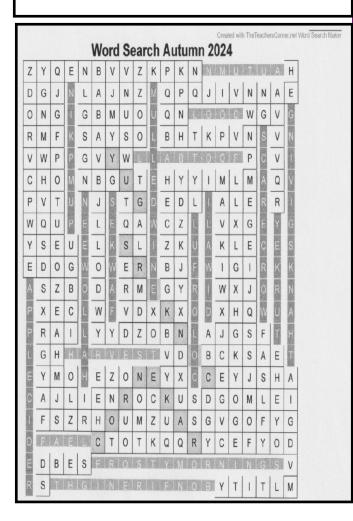
The group meet every Monday evening helping children overcome their phobia of dogs. We have 14 dogs with their handlers and have approximately 20 children in the hall. We have over 90% success rate of a child touching a dog within the first hour. All of us are volunteers. We are always looking for dogs to help. They do have to have a level of obedience and of course have to be sound in nature. If you want further information ring Janet on 01622 842209.

#### **Crossword Answers- Autumn 2024**

Across: 2. Pie 4. bonfire 6. Autumn 10. Foliage 11. Wind 12. Conkers 13. Catapult 16. Football 20. Thanksgiving 21. Bird 22. Chilly 23. Orange 24. Marathon 25. Mulled Wind 27. September 28. Carrot

**Down:** 1. Cider 3. Rocket 5. Equinox 7. Harvest 8. Cinnamon 9. Sweaters 14. Pumpkin 15. Hibernate 16. Feast 17. Oktoberfest 18. Squirrel 19. Diwali 26. Gray 29. Apple 30. Rake

#### Wordsearch ANSWERS





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Kingswood Church Peter Roberts 01622 843625

 KCC Councillor
 Shellina Prendergast
 shellina.prendergast@kent.gov.uk

 Member of Parliament
 Helen Whately
 helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk

MBC Councillor Gill Fort gillfort@maidstone.gov.uk

Neighbourhood Watch VACANCY

PC James Phillips Maidstone Neighbourhood 101

**Policing Team** 

Primary School Lynsey Sanchez Daviu 01622 842674

Kingswood Pre-School Aimee Springett 07729 499 508/01622 844334

Village Hall Val Clarke 01622 843110

**Village Clubs** 

**Badminton** Sue Orchin 01622 843626 Bluebells **Beryl Andrews** 01622 843431 **CANS** Sonya Roberts 01622 843625 01622 842209 Dog Training & Cynophobia Janet Tandy Chris Simpson 07801 639052 Karate Pat Lyne Tuesday Lunch Club 01622 843672 Kingswood Whist Group Mike Bean 01622 844272 01622 842080 **Short Mat Bowls** Kay Kilgallon Scouts, Cubs and Beavers Alan Poulton 01622 843019

Birdwatching Group Matthew Meek mattmeek72@hotmail.com

Kingswood Book KlubBecky Godfrey07940 726554Kingswood's Little LibraryBecky Godfrey07940 726554Kingswood Crafting GroupCeridwen Clarke07925 508050

Other

Three Suttons Helpline 07425 582534 OR 01622 844301

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 03000 810005

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 03000 41 35 67

#### **Your Parish Council**

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

**Councillors:** 

Tina Clark (Chair) tinaclark@bandkpc.uk
Gareth Davies (Vice Chair) garethdavies@bandkpc.uk
Chris Pink chrispink@bandkpc.uk
Simon Pearce simonpearce@bandkpc.uk
Malcolm Clarke malcolmclarke@bandkpc.uk

Daren Moss dmoss@bandkpc.uk

VACANCY x3

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