



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



Broomfield & Kingswood News

Winter 2023



BROOMFIELD & KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Hayley Roberts
PARISH CLERK/RFO

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It is with deep disappointment and sadness that we address the recent act of vandalism targeting our newly installed Tommy statue. This iconic figure, which stands as a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by our servicemen and women in World War 1 and 2 and all the conflicts since holds great significance with residents and in our wider community.

The act of damaging this memorial is not only a disheartening disservice to the memory of those who served our nation but also an affront to the values of respect and unity that we hold dear. We vehemently condemn such actions, as they undermine the shared heritage and history that we all hold in common.

The Tommy statue was repaired and continues to stand as a symbol of remembrance and gratitude.

The vandalism was reported to the Police and a follow up meeting was attended by Councillors. Vandalism of any kind will not be tolerated in our community. If any residents can provide information please contact the Parish Clerk.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the outpouring of support and offers of assistance from our community members. Together, we can overcome this act of vandalism and ensure that our Tommy's continue to serve as symbols of gratitude and remembrance.

In unity, we find strength. Let us stand together and demonstrate our unwavering commitment to honoring our veterans and preserving the history that unites us.

Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council



Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council Pop-Up Café

Kingswood and Broomfield Village Hall

Thursday 21st December 2023

10.30 – 12.30 pm

Come and get together with old friends and new!
Have a cuppa and a delicious slice of cake in the warm.
Everyone welcome!



ALL INCIDENTS

MUST BE REPORTED

The Parish Council recently met with Kent Police to discuss the Silent Tommy damage and other antisocial behaviour happening around our Parish. Something that was very interesting was that the number of reports to the police about incidents were very low! Although it is useful to keep residents informed via social media such as Facebook 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 coming months due to the recruitment of more officers. Just because you do not see them doesn't mean they aren't there!

You can report crimes and incidents online using the following link <https://www.kent.police.uk/ro/report/> 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 www.kent.police.uk/report or in an emergency, if a crime is in progress or life is in danger, call 999.

To find out more please visit www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk

Hurricane October 1987—by Pat Pocock

The evening before the Hurricane we were warned by the TV that there was bad weather on the way but nothing too drastic, so we took care by making sure radio batteries were fully charged, also torches, small portable food/drink heater, water and dried milk and anything else we could think of in case of a power cut which Kingswood was prone to then.

No problem, all ready!

BUT in the early hours of the next morning I was woken up by our daughter Ellen calling out and saying there were leaves falling on her face. I quickly got out of bed, woke up my husband Bob and we went into her bedroom and found the loft hatch had disappeared.

He climbed the loft ladder to look and said get dressed and get downstairs as quick as you can. We've lost the top side of the house and it was all open. We could hear a lot of banging and crashing. It was still dark,

went downstairs and thought it might be safer outside. We went outside in a line holding onto each other. The wind nearly knocked us over, it was too much so we went back inside (fortunately the landline and our gravity fed boiler were still working). The wind was really howling. We rang Dad who was alive and well and lived in Grafty Green but he said he couldn't help as there was a tree blocking the road and he couldn't get out. We had a rethink. Bob did architectural drawings at the time and said the safest place was under a door frame or under the stairs, so we sat in the cupboard under the stairs listening to the radio.

Some people have asked "weren't you scared". I wasn't as we were all together. The only time I was scared was two days later when a couple of tiles fell off the roof landing right behind me and that really did put the wind up me. The roof was repaired better than ever but Bob's new company car certainly wasn't as it was covered in bricks. Friends gave us meals and a tarpaulin in exchange for a shower for whoever wanted one, so yes, it wasn't forgotten especially as it was our brother-in-laws birthday which he never lived down. We asked him to change it, but I think he said no. My husband got another car but he wanted to park in any neighbours drive - not in ours. So we didn't forget that night.



Snowed up—by Pat Pocock

After the Hurricane in October everything was back to normal for a while, or so we thought, and settled down for the winter which was a cold one, so when we woke up one morning to find mountains of snow everywhere we weren't too happy and very surprised.

We had two small shops in the village plus a post office in the Lenham Road. It wasn't too long before essentials were running low as deliveries and people struggled to get in and out of Kingswood. We were all getting concerned so emergency services were called and a helicopter drop was on the way. It landed in the school playing field and for weeks after people standing in the field smelt of oil, but they didn't really mind.



Balloon race—by Pat Pocock

You will see I also left a photo of Rupert Bear stretched out at the school, which I found whilst looking for the others and thought you might be interested in the story connected with it. As you probably know up to several years ago there was an annual race of at least 20 big air balloons which started at Leeds castle and then normally came up over Kingswood - depending on the wind direction. Most years one or two used up all their gas getting up the hill and dropped in the village. This particular year Rupert, far and away the biggest, also "ran out of puff" and fortunately landed in the school grounds (instead of on someones house or the road) covering the entire playing field. The children thought this was fantastic.



Kingswood Speedwatch Group

The local Speedwatch group is a mix of people all from our local community, volunteering their time to undertake sessions around local roads and has support from the Parish council. This can be from an hour a month to a couple of hours a week, there is no expectation to do sessions it's just when people have available time. It has enabled people in the group to get to know more people from within our own village.



The group operates on various approved sites around the village, its aim is to try to educate road users of the importance of respecting the speed limits.

You can help us try to keep speeds under control, by joining our group to enable us to carry out more sessions.

You can make a difference, training is provided and you can get to meet other people from the local community.

If you are interested please email kingswoodspeedwatch@outlook.co.uk or you can email or speak to the Parish Clerk who can put you in touch with one of our co-ordinators, we would really welcome your support.

Quote from PC Jason Wright—17th October 2023

I have supported the Kingswood group, as a police community engagement and enforcement officer. I attended a number of sessions they were undertaking in and around the village in recent weeks, to provide visible support for their work.

In addition to supporting them, I also undertake my own active enforcement based on data provided by Kingswood and other Speedwatch groups from across Kent.

My aim is to make roads in Kent safer for all by offering high visible speed enforcement.

I am only able to do this thanks to the data provided by the Kingswood Speedwatch group evidencing speeding issues in the village.

The future goal is simple, to reduce road deaths to zero, or as close as possible, in Kent by 2050. Among other things it is the plan for Kent to be at the forefront of road safety innovations.

I would ask the community to help Kingswood by actively supporting them wherever you can whether that be a passing 'thank you' or if you are able, join them in volunteering and do your part for your village and help support us in saving lives and reducing road traffic collisions in Kent.

Santa is coming to Kingswood

Ticketed event

*Follow the sleigh and give
Santa a gift!
Procession starts at 5pm*



*Saturday 2nd
December*

*Refreshments and music in the
Village Hall from 6pm*

Santa is coming to Kingswood

Santa's Procession: it starts at 5.00pm on Saturday 2 December, from the lay-by in Broomfield Road, and will tour the village slowly, following this route – Broomfield Rd, Ashford Dr, Charlesford Ave, Cayser Dr, Bushey Gr, Chestnut Dr, Broomfield Rd, Gravelly Bottom Rd, ending at the Village Hall at about 6.00pm. It will pause on route to collect gifts.

Give Santa a Gift: Santa is collecting gifts for the Salvation Army food bank, please donate an item of Festive Food or toiletries. Please, no toys or clothing. Thank you.

Celebrate Together: from 6.00 until 8.00 pm, at the Village Hall with community singing, mulled wine, mince pies and sausage rolls. This is a no-cost, ticketed event as places are limited, and tickets will be available as below. **Santa won't be there.**

Tickets: Places are limited but Tickets are free and are available from Monday 13 November. Children under 12 don't need tickets. Contact:

Ceridwen 07925 508050
Tina 07704 543023

Tracy c/o Post Office
Gillian 07931 307207

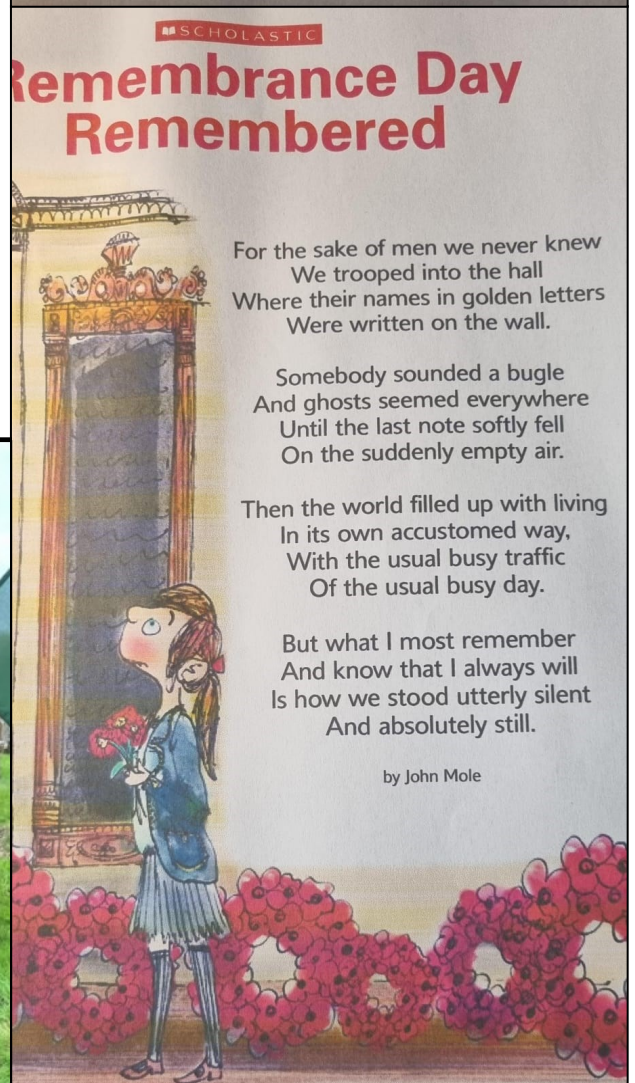
Trenches

As the sun splashed knives of gold,
Through lark-ridden skies,
Death rained down on the brave and bold,
Echoing screams and sighs.
As bees flit through fields of white
Boys, young and scared, must fight
Guns crack crack, bleaching minds with fear,
Blasting noise, deafening their ear,
Scarring their innocent mind,
Gas burning through eyes, making them blind
Blood, splashing through wounds,
Their names forever on rows of tombs.
We treasure their memory,
With many-a ceremony
However, will this ever make what happened
right
The horror, the death and endless blight
Which those poor wretches
Found everywhere in the trenches?

By Adam LeI

Aged 11

Leeds and Kingswood Scouts





Remembrance with Scouts at Leeds and Kingswood.

Scouts have created some wonderful pictures using water colours to express and show their respect to the poppy and remembrance service itself. This was a wonderful activity that they were all able to participate in showing their creativity, patience and were able to share any personal experiences within their families or communities with their fellow scouts. It was warming to hear them talking with one another and listening too with respect.

We also reflected on poetry, explored how some of our values within the Scout Movement would have potentially played a fundamental role within war and those who gave their lives. These are some of the values that we discussed and what effect those values potentially had during a war.

*Loyal to one's country and those serving alongside one another.

*Caring for those you're fighting alongside, through injury or emotional turmoil.

*Respecting those you're fighting against as a soldier of war.

Scouting values are...

Integrity: We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

Respect: We have self-respect and respect for others.

Care: We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

Belief: We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

Cooperation: We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

We volunteer our time as leaders to help guide, develop and create new skills with young people. They have all conducted themselves with such respect with regards to this topic and service. As most of them live within the village, this is something as leaders we are extremely proud of and know you as parishioners would be too.

Many of us within the scouting community will be attending the church service at Broomfield church, Scouts that are attending will be bringing their art to the church to share with others and hope to see you there.

Best Wishes,

Scouts Leeds and Kingswood Leadership Team

KINGSWOOD AND BROOMFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Following an historic weekend of pomp and pageantry, King Charles Coronation, the Village Hall Committee would like to thank all the people that helped to organise and run the two celebration events at the Hall. We hope that everyone who attended really enjoyed themselves.

Just a reminder that the Hall grounds are private and only for the use of people renting the Hall. Likewise the parking is for Hall users only and as most local groups continue to meet during the Summer Holidays please do not leave cars parked in the grounds. Even the local police are welcome to call in and use the Hall kitchen and facilities as they often do.

We have just agreed that the Hall car park can be used as a Water Pick Up Point if necessary, but let us hope it is not needed !!

If you have a child's birthday coming up why not think about renting the Hall for the celebration? For more information please ring Val Clarke on 01622 843110.

We would like to wish you all a safe and happy Summer.

Village Hall Committee

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 8th year, having helped so many children overcome their fear of dogs. We have 14 dogs on our list, we have a rota of seven dogs each Monday, helping on average each week 20 children. We are always on the lookout for new dogs, they do have to have some basic training and are off sound temperament.

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 years, we are proud to say that we have changed so many families lives for the

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. We run very popular dog training classes throughout the evening.

Our senior trainer is a Kennel Club Accredited Instructor, City & Guilds and affiliated to the British Institute of Professional Dog Trainers. Last year we lost Marion Street who has moved from the area and so is unable to come along to take some of the classes, although she is still helping on a Monday where many of the dogs we have trained have gone on to become assistance dogs or cynophobia dogs helping the children overcome their fear. For further information please contact Janet on 01622 842209.

Everyone
welcome!

Christmas FAYRE

Saturday 2nd December

from 3pm–5pm



Sutton Valence Care home's Christmas Fayre has something for everyone. Come along for a festive afternoon and enjoy:



Raffle • Resident's Stall • Mince Pies & Mulled Wine
Paul & His Guide Dog Visiting • Charity Christmas Card Sale
Stall



Plus, various stalls from local businesses



Santa & his elf will be visiting the home between 3pm - 4pm

Sutton Valence Care home

North Street, Sutton Valence, Nr Maidstone, ME17 3LW

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LUNCH CLUB

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HALL



TUESDAY 12.30-1.45

BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT; PAT LYNE 01622 843672

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?

REGISTER NOW to secure your place at Kingswood Pre-school Group!

We have been
established for
over 30 years

We are a parent committee
run registered charity

Offering sessions 5 days a week,
including 2 full days and lunch club!

OFSTED registered and
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Years Alliance

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



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Parish Council News

First Aid Course

Councillors would like to thank Natalie and everyone who attended the First Aid Course in October. The feedback received has been very positive, if enough interest this might be something Councillors organise again next year.

Love Where You Live Grant

The Parish Council received £400 from the Maidstone Borough Council Love Where You Live Grant to purchase bird, bat, bee and bug boxes for The Sports Field. These have now been installed, how many can you spot? A big thank you to Martin Worrall for his hard work making these, they look fantastic!



Thanks to our Parish Council
We've been on a First Aid Course
To standby and see someone injured
and not know what to do must be the very
worst

Natalie told us what to look for
and how to help and mend
Her knowledge and her caring
made my head spin and never seemed to
end

We were shown how to work a Defib
on an adult, child and baby
You hope it will never come to that
but you never know, just maybe

At the end of the day
Natalie and Ceridwin said it all
Your trying to help - keep calm
It could make a difference, it's worth a try
You can't do any harm

Pat Pocock

We had our Scout quiz in October at the village hall. It was a very enjoyable evening but it was a bit disappointing as numbers were low. I would like to thank Gloria and my family for their help in setting it up. Most of all a big thankyou to Carol and Steve for arranging the questions and being our callers.

The group is continuing to grow for members and leaders. We are sorry our Beaver leader Mandy has stood down, but the good news is we have got a new Beaver leader starting in January and also a new Cub leader who are joining the group. Aimee will be the Scout leader, moving up from assistant leader. Gloria was given her 25 year certificate.

All the sections were at Broomfield church for Remembrance day.

SCOUTS



We have 16 Scouts, 10 girls and 6 boys. The Scouts went on their first scout camp at Hamlet Wood. It rained all the weekend but that did not deter them enjoying themselves. We thank the leaders for giving up all their weekend

The Scouts have been making a scarecrow for the Maidstone Festival, this will be put up in The Royal star Arcade. We have also had a musical evening.

CUBS



There are 21 Cubs invested, the Cubs were taken for a tour around the Polypipe factory, the staff showed them all about recycling and they all earned themselves a badge. They came away with a goody bag and a lot of merchandise, one piece was a woggle made by one of the employees who used to be a scout..

The Cubs have been carving pumpkins which were kindly donated by Edmeds farm. They also helped in Kingswood with the Parish Council litter picking.

BEAVERS



We have 14 invested Beavers with 5 more to be invested.at a later date.

We are sorry Mandy left the Beavers in the summer, we have a new a leader who will start in January, Beavers have worked on their disability awareness badge and also their international badge will be completed after half term. They are all looking forward to their Christmas party at Lower Grange Farm!

QUATERMASTER

Simon thanks all who spent a weekend in the summer break tidying the container and inside the hut.

Thank you to David for arranging to get the extinguishers tested, we have now got a contract with the company for an annual inspection.

100 CLUB

October winners

Mrs Drane £20, Mrs Mercer £10, Mrs A Bowman £10, Mrs Newton 35

November winners

Mrs Leandro £20, Mrs Golding £10, Mrs Kemp (Broomfield Road) £10, Mrs Lee £5

December winners

Mrs Thompson £20, Mr Robins £10, Mrs Parker £10, Mrs Berry £5

If you would like to be part of our 100 club, it is £12 for the year and we have four prizes a month, please call Alan on 01622 843019.

We all hope you have a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year

Alan Poulton, Chairman

POSTCARD CORNER

Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Light Railway



Opened on 16th July 1927 as the World's Smallest Railway, the R.H. & D. Railway stretches for 13.5 miles from Hythe to Dungeness.

From Hythe to New Romney the line is double tracked, but beyond the line is a single track with a passing place at Romney Sands.

The railway was built by Captain JEP Howey and Count Louis Zborowski to meet their dream of a 15" gauge working express railway.

The war years took their toll, the line being requisitioned by the War Department - they even created the only miniature armoured train in the world - and used extensively during the building of PLUTO (Pipe line under the Ocean), which fuelled the Allied invasion force.

Once peace time returned, the line was re-opened in 1946 with Laurel and Hardy cutting the ribbon.





Engines in the fleet include 4-6-2 British Pacific locomotives based on the A1 class designed by Sir Nigel Gresley for the old LNER.

The series includes:

No.1 Green Goddess,
No.2 Northern Chief,
No.3 Southern Maid,
No.7 Typhoon,
and No.8 Hurricane.

Many of the locomotives are shown on these pages.

Other locomotives are of the 4-6-2 design, as used on the Canadian Pacific Railway. No.9 is Winston Churchill, and the other No. 10 Dr Syn.

No.5 Hercules and No. 6 Samson are 4-8-2 Mountain class engines, and similar in design to the Pacifics, but were originally built with freight traffic in mind.

In this postcard, Coronation Limited is in fact Hurricane being used on a special event by a group of enthusiasts.



The railway is probably best known for its superb fleet of one-third full size steam and diesel locomotives, all of which have been built to run safely at speeds up to 25mph on rails only 15" apart.

All of the steam locomotives were built between 1925 and 1937, and the R.H & D. Railway operates in much the same way as it did in 1927.



Article by
Ron Kemp

Lime Marinade For Chicken by Maggie and Peter

Ingredients for marinade

3 tabsp. White rum	2 tabsp. Honey
2 teasp. Grated lime rind	2 cloves garlic (crushed)
1 tabsp. lime juice	1 teasp. Grated fresh ginger

Ingredients for cooking

2 tabps. Steak pepper	
	combined
1 teasp. Ground coriander	

1. Mix marinade ingredients together.
2. Rub into chicken. Cover and leave
3. Press pepper/coriander into chicken just before cooking.
4. Pan-fry.

The Kingswood Bluebells

We are a group for Ladies that meets on the second Monday in the month at the Village Hall. Our programme has been varied as we try to involve every members' interests and enjoy each others company with trips out as well.

We have learned Flower Arranging, made Valentine chocolates, created a natural Christmas Wreath, watched movies, celebrated Summer with a Strawberry Tea and Winter with a Christmas Lunch.

If you could see yourself as a Bluebell too, you are welcome to come and join us.
Just give me a ring on 01622 843431

Beryl Andrew

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£5 off a tree with this advert

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Book Grotto on line

IT'S CHRISTMAS-KEEP IT REAL



Kingswood Church article December 2023



Recently at one of our services we sang a song called 'Give Thanks' where the words included 'Give thanks with a grateful heart'. It set me thinking of all the things I am grateful for including family and friends. Also the NHS that both my wife and I have needed this year and we are very thankful for the surgeons, doctors and nurses who have cared for us both in hospital, at home and at our surgery. I wonder what you are thankful for as we approach this Christmas time?

Christmas is a time when we thank God for sending the Lord Jesus Christ to the earth to be our Saviour and to save us from all the things that we do wrong and put us on the right track. In Matthew's gospel we read of an angel visiting Joseph and saying, 'Do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife ... She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins ... They will call him Immanuel which means God with us'.

How wonderful this Christmas time to receive a message of hope that we need not be afraid and that we are not on our own as God has come to be with us. Something truly to be thankful for as we sing carols and meet with family and friends this Christmas.

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

Peter Roberts

Kingswood Church is a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) supported by Anglican, Methodist and Baptist churches.

Kingswood Church calendar for December 2023

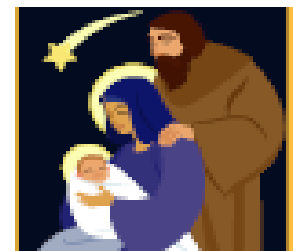
Sunday 3rd December (Advent 1)

10:30am Refreshments/11am Cafe Service



Sunday 10th December (Advent 2)

11am The Christmas Story told by the Climbers



Sunday 17th December (Advent 3)

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



Sunday 24th December (Advent 4)

11am Communion Service with Rev Mark Pavey

Monday 25th December Christmas Day

10:30am Family Celebration with Peter Roberts

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

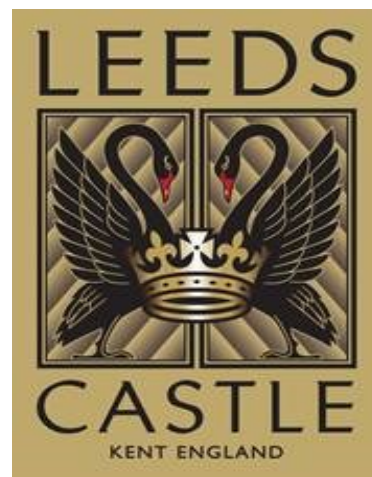
The Parish Council are looking at the possibility of revamping our website.

Do you have or work for a web design company?

Have you used a web designer in the past?

We would like to use a local person/company and wonder if you have any
recommendations? Please contact Hayley, Parish Clerk with any details.

Winter here we come! We have had fantastic Autumn colours out all over the estate for the past couple of months, but the leaves are now falling as the temperatures drop. Storm Ciáran certainly gave the trees a heavy push as it blew through Kent, we closed the estate for the day due to the high winds. Hoping you all kept dry and safe through the storm.



It has been a whirlwind autumn at the Castle and we have just completed a successful October Half Term week, with a troupe of actors creating a spellbinding and immersive Hallowe'en experience for families.

This was swiftly followed by a fully booked Fireworks Spectacular Weekend, which featured a new approach to projections on the Castle, with the windows of the Castle being projection-mapped for the first time and visuals linked directly to the themes of the songs being played. Probably the first time a series of flying ghosts (Ghostbusters) and a T-Rex (Jurassic Park) were projected onto the Castle...

From Fireworks, we are now straight into the preparation for Christmas. The second year of the Leeds Castle Christmas Lights Trail will have 80% new light installations and will follow a different route, with a spectacular Light Show on the Castle and large new covered area overlooking the Castle to enjoy food & drink half way round the trail. This stunning ticketed event is selling fast and launches on the evening of 24th November, running until 1st January.

The Castle is closing for 5 days from 13th November for the installation of the Christmas Narnia, Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe experience. The day time Christmas experience of this classic story is included in the annual ticket. Visitors will push their way through coats in the Wardrobe & emerge into Narnia's winter, meeting the White Witch and Mr Tumnus en route. (The actors are present at weekends and during Christmas holidays).

We will also be offering pre-bookable Narnia themed Afternoon Teas in the Castle View Restaurant on selected days during December.

The new Lakeside Lodges have now all been swung into position with giant cranes and we are now working on finalising the interiors and the internal furniture fit out. These stunning new holiday lodges located on the Great Water feature star gazing roofs & external baths & open at start December.

Our Falconry & Wildlife Team have been very busy over the past couple of months building a new Wildlife/Bird Hide. Located in the woodland, overlooking a peaceful glade, it is the perfect place to spend the day wildlife spotting. This will be available to book by the day soon.

Watch out for the launch of the Leeds Castle Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition next year, the winning photographs will be displayed in the Castle.

Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Christmas!

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

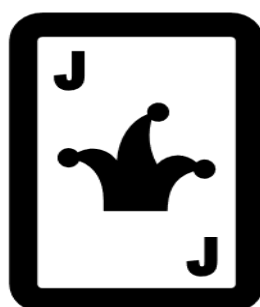
24 hands of cards with tea, coffee, cakes and loads
of chat at half-time, all for just £2.50!!

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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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.

Maidstone Alzheimers Association

You & your carer are warmly invited to a

Tea Party

Enjoy an afternoon tea
with entrainment in a
happy & relaxed
atmosphere

2pm – 4pm

Last Wednesday of every month

(except December)

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*Our monthly Tea Parties have been running since 1999.
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Carer & Cared For can enjoy each others company together with others.
We also have quarterly lunch parties & various outings during the summer.*

Please contact Denise on 01622 749539 for more information.



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& Physiotherapy Clinic**

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T: 07731 588 947



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Gel Nail Extension	£40
Gel Removal	£5
Gel Mani + Pedi Combo	£40
BIAB Gel Overlay on Natural Nails	£35

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Hyaluronic Hydrating Facial 1 hour	£40
Collagen Gold Facial 1 hour	£40
Micro Needling Facial 1 hour	£45

Massage

Deep Tissue Full Body Massage 1 hour	£40
Deep Tissue Full Body Massage 2 hours	£70
Swedish Relaxing Full Body Massage 1 hour	£40
Swedish Relaxing Full Body Massage 2 hours	£70
Indian Head Massage 1 hour	£40
Back, Neck and Shoulder Massage 1 hour	£40
Sports Massage Full Body 1 hour	£40

Eyelash Treatments

Eyelash Tint	£10
Lash Lift and Tint	£40
Eyelash Extensions	£45
Infills	£40

Eyebrow Treatment

Eyebrow Shape and Tint	£15
Eyebrow Shape	£10
Eyebrow Tint	£10

Waxing

Full Leg	£25	Bikini Line	£10
Half Leg	£15	Extended Bikini Line	£15
Full Arm	£15	Lip	£5
Half Arm	£10	Chin	£7
Under Arm	£10		

USEFUL CONTACTS

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 Mitch Hunt	Maidstone Neighbourhood Policing Team	101
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
Dog Training & Cynophobia	Janet Tandy	01622 842209
Karate	Chris Simpson	07801 639052
Tuesday Lunch Club	Pat Lyne	01622 843672
Kingswood Whist Group	Mike Bean	01622 844272
Short Mat Bowls	Mike Tandy	01622 842209
Purple Yoga	Helen	07762 761905
Scouts, Cubs and Beavers	Alan Poulton	01622 843019
Birdwatching Group	Matthew Meek	mattmeek72@hotmail.com

Other

Three Suttons Helpline	07425 582534 OR 01622 844301
Involve	03000 810005
Kent Karrier	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	chriskpink@bandkpc.uk
Simon Pearce	simonpearce@bandkpc.uk
Malcolm Clarke	malcolmclarke@bandkpc.uk
Daren Moss	dmoss@bandkpc.uk
VACANCY	
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Becoming a Parish Councillor

Have you ever wanted to contribute more to your community? Want to know what's actually involved with regards to being a Parish Councillor?

Please read on

To appreciate what is involved in being a Parish Councillor you need to know what a Parish Council is, and what it can and cannot do. We have to get the image of the Vicar of Dibley out of our mind and understand that the Parish Council is nothing to do with the Church or the Diocese; nor is it a voluntary and community sector body.

"Your Parish Council is the local authority closest to the electorate"

A Parish Council is a separate legal, corporate entity. First created by the Local Government Act of 1894.

A Parish Council also provides services for the local people. These can range from recreation grounds, play areas, allotments, nature reserves, and a cemetery. What can be provided is down to the Parish Council. There is a list of the activities that a Parish Council has the power to provide. Like any statutory body it can only do the things for which the law or any governing body document gives a power.

The Parish Council has one particular asset that is extremely valuable – it has the ability to set a Precept (sum of money), which is collected from all residents through the Community Charge system.

With the right to levy a form of taxation come some duties. In particular a duty to behave in an ethical manner according to a Code of Conduct (declaring interests and leaving the room when likely to be prejudiced) and a duty to have the annual accounts subjected to audit under the aegis of the Audit Commission.

"Training is available and support will be found from colleagues, the Parish Clerk, as well as from the Kent Association of Local Councils"

You may feel uncertain about the knowledge required to be a Councillor and may feel overawed by those who have done the job for years. Rather like the story of the Emperor's New Clothes – the simple question was the key to what was going on. All good Councillors should use the keyword – "Why?" on a regular basis.

Remember – training and support is available.

So, if you want to do more for your community, if you want to spend your time productively, and if you can think, listen and act locally – **why not consider becoming a Parish Councillor? Speak to Hayley, Parish Clerk NOW!**