



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



Broomfield & Kingswood Spring News



BROOMFIELD & KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Hayley Roberts
PARISH CLERK/RFO

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

The sun is shining spring finally feels like it is here. Since the last edition Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council have held the Reverse Santa event. Santa rode around the village spreading some festive joy whilst collecting items for the Salvation Army. Afterwards residents were invited back to the Village Hall where there were refreshments and festive songs. It was a very successful event and we filled nearly three cars with all the donations received! Thank you again to everyone involved who made this event such a success, we look forward to this year! On that note please put Sunday the 14th of December in your diaries as Santa is coming back to Broomfield and Kingswood!



Some of you may have noticed that the CCTV at the Sports Field has been upgraded recently. We have always had CCTV at the Sports Field, and it did work however it was very outdated. The upgraded CCTV now covers the whole Sports Field and is live and recording.

VE Day is on the 8th of May and the Parish Council will be celebrating this milestone by holding a bring your own picnic celebration at Kingwood Village Hall on the 10th of May 2pm—5pm. Everyone is welcome and there will be music, games and war time theme exhibits and reels. There will also be an at cost bar! Please do come along, these events are for the whole community to enjoy and come together! More details can be found on page 14.

Two big issues in the Parish currently are nuisance motorbikes and dog fouling. Our local Beat Officer PC Phillips attended a recent Parish Council meeting on the 17th of March where he spoke about the nuisance bikes. He advised as follows; *I am aware of the issues regarding nuisance motorbikes in Kingswood. I chased one of them on foot around the woodland path behind the playing field on Sunday just gone so understand firsthand the problem they cause. I have got CCTV images showing one of the people using the bikes and they will be receiving a visit from me. This is a county wide issue which causes problems in both rural and urban areas so it isn't just yourselves in Kingswood that are effected by this.*

In total for the Kingswood area there have only been 9 calls since the 1st of January 2025 until today. 4 of these 9 calls were over the weekend of the 7th and 8th of March so there is a significant increase which can justify me utilising more of my colleagues in trying to tackle this issue. We can deal with these bikes in various ways, seizure is an option however it is very important that you report any incidents of nuisance motorbikes either online or using 101 or 999 as appropriate. This will enable a clear picture to be built up of how big the issue is in Kingswood so that resources can be allocated to the area.

I cover a large area (Kingswood, Bearsted, Downswood, Otham, Leeds, Langley and Senacre) and therefore cannot always be present but I do follow up calls and I am trying to complete as many foot patrols as possible. Please do chat to me if you see me or alternatively I can be contacted on 101 or Hayley the Parish Clerk is happy to forward emails onto me.

It is very important that all issues are reported to the Police, no matter how small you think they are. If you have time to put the issue on Facebook, you have time to inform the Police. We appreciate there are comments like 'nothing gets done' or 'they don't care' however it does and they do but they need to be aware of what is going on to be able to help. Together we can try to tackle these issues.

A second issue is dog fouling. Hayley our Parish Clerk has been liaising with the Maidstone Borough Council Community Protection team regarding this issue. Pavements have been sprayed and will be sprayed again, stickers have been placed in the Post Office which you can display on your property and they have been placed around the parish. Any public areas where dog poo is present can be reported to Maidstone Borough Council who will attend and clean it up. This can be done using the following website <https://maidstone.gov.uk/home/primary-services/street-care-and-cleaning/report-dog-mess>

Our Annual Parish Meeting is taking place on Monday the 19th of May. Local groups and clubs are invited to showcase to our Parish what they do/how they support/help the community. If you are a local group or organisation and would like to be involved please contact Hayley, Parish Clerk. We hope lots of residents can make the meeting at 8pm on the 19th of May at Kingswood Village Hall. Councillors will also be present to speak to you.



Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council

Annual Parish Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting
Monday 19th May 2025

The Parish Council invites you to the
Annual Parish Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting

7pm – Annual Parish Council Meeting
8pm – Annual Parish Meeting
Broomfield and Kingswood Village Hall

Hayley Roberts
Parish Clerk
March 2025



Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council
www.broomfieldandkingswoodpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

VILLAGE LITTER PICKS WILL BE HELD ON THE FOLLOWING DATES...

SUNDAY 6th APRIL 2025
SUNDAY 27th APRIL 2025
SUNDAY 25th MAY 2025
SUNDAY 29th JUNE 2025
SUNDAY 27th JULY 2025
SUNDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2025

MEET AT THE SCOUT HUT AT THE SPORTS FIELD FOR 10AM

All welcome!

Litter pickers and bags provided.
Refreshments and cake provided afterwards!!

Should you have any questions or queries please
contact Hayley the Parish Clerk on 07719 317702
or email parishclerk@bandkpc.org

Lastly please see the dates of the village litter picks below. Everyone welcome, litter pickers, bags etc are all provided, it would be great to see many of you there to keep our Parish clean.

Ever thought about becoming a Parish Councillor?

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.

A Parish Council is a separate legal, corporate entity. A Parish Council also provides services for the local people. These can range from recreation grounds, play areas, allotments, nature reserves, and a cemetery. Like any statutory body it can only do the things for which the law or any governing body document gives a power.

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 Parish 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!

Have you ever read a book that you just NEED to talk to someone about? Ever experienced that sudden joy when you have found another person who has read a book that you've been desperate to discuss?

I have always been this person.

And as much as I appreciate my husband's dedication to listening to me re-tell a story I've been reading, not wanting to miss a crucial detail, it usually results in gradually seeing his eyes glaze over while I slowly lose grip on his attention and well-natured enthusiasm. Especially since he's "not really a book person".

Enter the Kingswood Book Klub.

It's simple! We sit, we sip and we natter. Of course, our topic each month is about the book we have chosen but it's the stories we read that invoke interesting debates, multiple outlooks and insights into people and places we may not have thought to discover.

I, for one, have read (and listened to) books I would never have chosen since joining this group and even if I have disliked our latest choice, it is still a point of discussion encouraged to share with the group.

The Kingswood Book Klub meets on the 4th Thursday of every month and, in case you were curious, is named as such because there is already an informal book club in the village so the 'K' was a cheeky suggestion from one of our members!

It is worth mentioning that each of us choose to read differently each month. I love an audio book, others read an e-book or reading app while some stick to the good old fashioned "book" book. We aim to read one book a month but have once given ourselves two months to get through a particularly lengthy read!

This group can be whatever you need it to be, whether you're open, introverted, opinionated, observant, curious, looking to make friends or even just peckish! Or if you just require the obvious..... to anticipate the next book you'll discover.

For me, I have found a small group of people who have hopefully gained what I have; a place of comfort and laughter, human connection and acceptance in our small community.

Reviews;

"The book we've just read is not my normal fare, but that's the joy of Book Klub, being taken to different places, and sharing the journey with friends and fizz. " Ceridwen, feigning retiree

"I joined this book club when I was at a low point in my life. Meeting all these ladies, who have become friends and uniting over our love of books (and Prosecco) helped me more than they know. I look forward to it every month and love the topics we cover and the variety of books we get to read" Gemma

"Since joining Kingswood Book Klub I have met some wonderful neighbours, enjoyed getting out of my reading comfort zone and sharing great conversations, not only about the books we read together, but about village life and our lives in general. To feel connected to a group of fellow readers has been a lifeline." Charlotte, age 48

"Joining the book club has not only expanded my reading horizons but also provided an opportunity to connect with people in our community. Sharing stories and experiences with these wonderful individuals is thoroughly enjoyable." Rachie

"I joined the book club because I wanted to meet my neighbours in the village as I didn't know many people. I've always loved reading but always stuck to the same type of books. The club has broadened my reading and I have made some lovely new friends. I look forward to our meet up every month." Claire, aged 64

Meeting details:
Fourth Thursday of every month
8:15-9:45pm
£5 per person

Spring 2025 Wordsearch

T	A	R	O	M	A	N	F	U	M	Q	D	A	I	S	Y	B	M	G	L
Z	E	F	W	E	O	T	A	B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y	Z	O	H
P	G	G	A	A	S	R	M	E	A	D	O	W	U	E	Z	E	E	R	B
B	K	G	C	E	R	K	I	C	R	M	F	R	E	S	H	R	M	J	V
S	G	E	V	E	Q	M	E	Y	H	S	V	W	A	H	T	U	L	I	P
W	H	R	U	F	U	U	T	R	A	L	L	I	P	R	E	T	A	C	R
Q	A	E	E	B	A	I	T	H	K	H	A	P	E	L	U	A	O	I	O
H	S	N	V	E	V	X	T	Q	T	L	R	Q	T	L	A	N	R	E	V
Q	O	I	D	I	N	D	O	W	L	E	B	C	A	F	R	O	L	I	C
N	F	H	T	B	B	E	O	E	N	A	E	U	N	O	H	I	K	E	Q
Q	E	S	O	C	K	R	R	E	T	P	H	G	I	L	S	Y	S	L	U
G	E	N	C	O	G	G	W	Y	E	I	T	E	L	K	N	I	R	P	S
F	M	U	U	N	Y	A	O	Z	W	C	W	U	L	E	F	A	W	N	P
X	N	S	V	R	L	T	C	P	V	N	O	M	O	N	K	C	F	I	R
U	E	E	H	E	Z	I	A	B	E	I	B	Q	P	R	K	H	L	O	I
R	Q	E	B	C	N	S	M	O	O	C	N	S	S	J	P	L	O	J	H
A	Z	D	F	G	T	S	T	H	T	R	I	B	E	R	K	S	W	Y	C
I	S	K	I	E	S	A	K	G	Z	G	A	R	D	E	N	K	E	S	M
N	P	O	L	L	E	N	H	W	U	O	R	Y	T	U	C	N	R	H	N
G	C	G	R	Z	U	Y	C	B	L	O	S	S	O	M	L	P	W	X	N

ALLERGY
BREEZE
CHIRP
FAWN
FRESH
GREENERY
HATCH
NATURE
POLLEN
RAINBOW
SEED
SPROUT
TULIP

AROMA
BUTTERFLY
DAISY
FESTIVITY
FROLIC
GROWTH
HIKE
PASTEL
POLLINATE
REBIRTH
SKIES
SUNSHINE
VERNAL

BLOSSOM
CATERPILLAR
EGG
FLOWER
GARDEN
HARVEST
MEADOW
PICNIC
RAIN
RENEWAL
SPRINKLE
THAW
WARMTH

Kirsty Kemp Homeopathic Nutrition

What 3 Things!

Spring Cleaning!



HOMEOPATHIC_NUTRITION

Scan For Instagram

More light in the evenings and brighter days can only mean we are leaving the winter months behind and stepping into spring. In this newsletter, we'll explore **homeopathic remedies, nutrition and lifestyle choices** to help spring clean you!

Liver & Gut Function

Our liver & gut functions are fantastic, always working hard to detoxify everything we encounter, from petrol fumes, potential pathogens in food, to plastics, cleaning products and much more. I think both deserve equal admiration. There are many things we can incorporate daily to support these amazing functions.

Homeopathic Remedies that support the Liver

1. Nux Vomica: Helps with sluggish digestion, bloating, and toxin overload, think hangover!
2. Chelidonium: Particularly for sluggish digestion and digestive discomfort.
3. Lycopodium: Useful for bloating, flatulence, and sluggish digestion.

Nutrition

1. Fermented Foods: Support digestion and the microbiome, foods such as sauerkraut, kimchi, and kefir.
2. Bitter Greens: Help stimulate bile flow, incorporate foods such as rocket, chicory, kale, broccoli.
3. Hydration with Lemon Water: Supports digestive enzymes.

Tip: Add a handful of rocket or spoonful of sauerkraut or kimchi to one meal a day to support digestion and liver function

Lifestyle

1. Declutter Your Food Cupboard: Swap out processed foods for whole, fresh alternatives.
2. Detox Your Home: Reduce toxins by switching to natural cleaning products.
3. Embrace Outdoor Movement: Fresh air and light exercise help stimulate the lymphatic system and energy flow.

Tip: Aim for a 20-minute walk after dinner in nature daily to support lymphatic drainage and aid digestion.

Pick 1 thing from each section this spring!

Liver & Gut Supportive Smoothie (Serves 1)

Packed full of foods to support liver and gut function, enjoy this smoothie on ice for a refreshing morning glow!

Ingredients:

- 1 handful of rocket or kale leaves (detoxification support)
- 1 large handful frozen pineapple (digestive enzymes)
- ½ avocado (healthy fats)
- 1 tbsp ground flaxseeds (fibre for gut health)
- 1 tsp turmeric (anti-inflammatory)
- ½ lemon or lime, juiced (supports digestion)
- 1 cup coconut water (hydration)
- ½ tsp grated ginger (digestion support & anti-inflammatory)



Instructions

Blend all ingredients until smooth. Enjoy in the morning to kickstart digestion and support liver detoxification processes!

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 by clicking on the QR code above or email kirstykemp123@gmail.com if you would like to receive newsletter updates.

Disclaimer: 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.

WAITING FOR SPRING

I look out from my window, to see the garden fast asleep,
frost glistens on the pathway, fallen leaves piled in a heap.
The blackbirds are hovering, but still they do not sing,
like me, they are patiently waiting for the spring.

The grey skies above always threaten us with snow
so, we light up our homes for a cosy warm glow.
We snuggle up closely, trying to keep warm
waiting for spring when the garden will transform.

The beautiful garden hedgehogs, hibernated long ago
sleeping through winter, until they come to say hello.
They'll sniffle and shuffle and be hungry, no doubt
and waiting for spring when the sun will come out.

The fierce wind bends the branches of the huge oak tree
The starlings hold on tightly as the small twigs break free.
They land upon the frozen grass, thirty feet below
I don't like this waiting game; winter goes too slow.

Roses are pruned and ready, so are the fruit trees, too
So, hurry up and get here, spring, I've so much more to do.
My compost all needs turning, the birdbath is covered in ice
I don't like these frosty mornings; some milder weather would be nice!

Then one day in February, I spot a daffodil stem
It was poking through the soil, is winter coming to an end?
As the dull days passed by, many more seemed to appear
Is the waiting over – is springtime finally here?

I fed the birds this morning, they flew down and chirped aloud
The sun was shining brightly, through the moving clouds.
Then I turned around and saw them, my daffodils in bloom
At last, the waiting's over and spring will be here soon.

By Lynn Chapman



Leeds & Kingswood Scouts

Leeds & Kingswood Scouts Group have been very busy again within the community. They arranged a Santa's Grotto at the Scouts Hut which proved a very successful event! They arranged the activity, items to sell, games to offer and refreshments on hand too. They had a huge amount of support from the community and in turn raised nearly £500. This money will go towards a Scout day out and other items for them during sessions. Thank you all who came, helped raise money, helped set up, take down and donated to the event, your support is as ever greatly appreciated.



Scouts have since been concentrating on their Chief Gold Award and working hard at that too, completing challenge badges and pushing their own comfort zones. They have been organising, planning and leading sessions to their fellow patrols within the section. This is part of their You Shape badge which encourages them to develop as young people with communication, personal challenges and more.



We've been enjoying being out and about on a night hike in our neighbouring village and finished the evening with some chippies from the chip shop. Scouts made pancakes on table top stoves within the hut for shrove Tuesday, working together in patrols competing for the most points. They love a bit of healthy competition.

We are always welcoming young people into scouts, even if they've never been a cub or beaver, please email our General Scout Lead to discuss taster sessions on landkgsl@gmail.com if your young person is interested in seeing what fun we have.

We look forward to the spring months, leading into Summer with litter picks, more dog poop dispensers and so much more!

Aimee Scouts lead volunteer and team.



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

No:1080363

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>

THE LONG FUSE

During the early days of the last world war the rural peace was shattered in the hamlet of Broomfield. As some local people picked the fruit harvest in the field behind and above the church a crippled German Dornier 17z Bomber came very low down across the large field, between the workers and the bottom of Kingswood. The tremendous impact and explosion following told of this aircraft's final landing and destruction. This raider along with others was on a bombing mission on London, when it was damaged and got detached from the others, when this incident occurred. That was Sunday the eight of September 1940.

Sunday 19th. of July 1992 at about 11-00am. A bomb exploded with a dull thud sending a column of smoke and earth into the sky for a few moments. Fifty two years later the Luftwaffe's terrible message of destruction spoke again in our parish. I am pleased to relate that no damage to life or property was caused, only the delay in the crop being harvested in this field. It might have been different, for since the end of the war this field has been used to grow crops and grain and of course been cultivated to do so. How many times had the earth above this hidden store of destruction been ploughed over by a metal plough drawn through the earth, turning brown furrows in regular patterns across these acres? How many times had this field been harvested by hand or machine to reap the crops grown unaware of the lethal seeds of war time destruction just beneath?

Well, to complete the story of this Dornier's grave the Shoreham Aircraft Preservation Society obtained permission from the farmer to search for the remains of aircraft U5+LN and with the necessary equipment, including a JCB digger, soon found traces of the aircraft. In fact, after some excavation, an identity plate from some equipment was unearthed marked Dornier 17, so the dig was on. Progressing further the smell of aviation fuel trapped in the earth for over fifty years became apparent. Then a large cylinder which was soon recognised as a bomb stopped the work. This was unexpected as the group had no information about munitions surviving the crashed aircraft. The police and bomb disposal team arrived later to deal with this problem. Perhaps the aircraft preservation team were very wise to stop digging as eventually nine more bombs came to light one of which was so unsafe that it was destroyed with a controlled explosion. So a bomb dropped back in 1940 finally blasted harmlessly fifty two years later.

Of the crew that September day 1940 all perished in the crash. Only the grave of the pilot Martin Ziems, now buried in the cemetery in Sutton Rd. Maidstone, can be seen along with the graves of other servicemen both Allied and German.

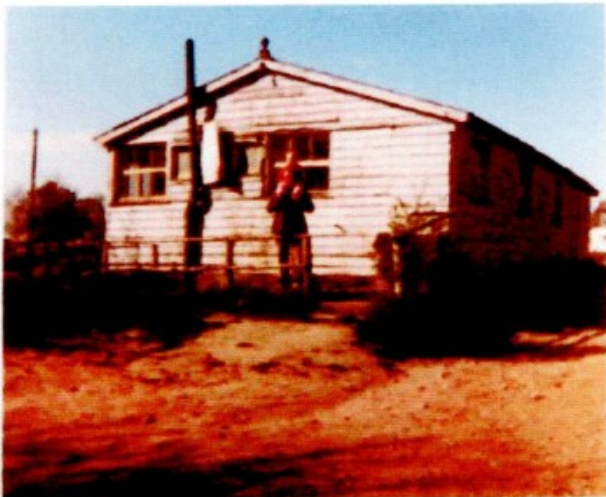
Tony Skinner

GOODBYE TO THE OLD, WELCOME TO THE NEW

by: Lucy Schroeder

Poem by Lucy Shroeder in approximately 1980 regarding the old village hall. Includes a photo of what the village hall looked like before our current village hall was built.

Our poor old hall, has had it's day,
And can no longer with us stay.
It's getting old and very frail,
Which really is a sorry tale.
It has been with us since '34,
We did not have a hall before.
Through all the weary days of war,
People filled the hall from door to door.
It was good value, with light and power,
All for five and six an hour.
Just a place for all to share,
Their meetings, parties and Christmas Fair.
It's been patched up and painted too,
Just so all could just make do.
Sometimes we thought the roof would fall
Then we would be left no hall at all,
Yet there it's stood for all these years,
In spite of all our worries and fears.
Now Kingswood's grown, both far and wide,
And for the folks, we must provide.
A bigger hall, in modern style and fittings new.
That will cope with all we want to do.
Our thanks to all, who through thick and thin,
Have worked so hard, and not given in.
So don't forget it's up to you.
It's there for all you want to do.
Goodbye old hall, you did your best.
You left Happy Memories, where you did rest.
And now, a welcome to the New.
Just don't forget, it's for all of you.



Kingswood Village Hall 1938--1980

*Situated on the Gravellybottom Rd opposite St Elmo at
junction of Cross Drive. Picture taken after the Hall*

was closed before being sold to Fred Schoder

THE STARTING OF THE KINGSWOOD&BROOMFIELD NEWS

In the early 1960's when we moved to our new bungalow in Kingswood . Broomfield the Parish was divided as is now with the old Hamlet of Broomfield with its 12c Church at the bottom of the hill and the then newly developing area on the edge of Kingswood at the top. In those days only Bungalows were permitted in this area and these built along the fire paths in the wood. Already a few older properties existed with large plots of land as they were usually smallholdings which then began to be sold off in small areas for a few dwellings. The Parish had few facilities but did have a Post Office with a small shop which was opposite a local Pub " The Battle of Britain" which had a small petrol pump in the car park. Also a small wooden hall on the Gravelly Bottom road which had been erected in 1938 by a group of the locals and run by them. Although quite small this little building gave some very good service to the community, serving to hold Parish Council meetings, Sunday school for the Church , local library and general meeting place which included the W. I . and on some occasions a local dance. This Hall was erected and maintained by some of the locals and administered by a small Committee.

In the 1960's most of the men worked out of the village and social contact within Kingswood was maintained by the ladies particularly at the W.I. Meetings. Now when a threat came to want to close this Hall which would mean the stopping of these slender recourses several of the newer residents decided to join the management committee and make some changes. Alan Gentry was voted in as chairman and we set out to try to improve this little structure but it was felt straight away there was only one answer try to build a new Village Hall bigger and nearer to the now growing population. At once it was obvious that a great fund raising was needed and the people of the Village needed to know what was going on as their support was absolutely vital. Now Alan Gentry our new chairman was a sales rep, for a paper company and said that he could provide some paper and suggested that we should start a local magazine and ensure that all within the Parish should receive a copy regularly with no cost to them, a tall order. He also maintained that to save money we could do the printing ourselves by borrowing a Gestetner copier from our local school , which in those days was Ulcombe school in the next village. You will understand that in those days home computing did not exist nor did the home printer. Our only need was a typist to do the initial printing of the Gestetner skin from which the copying was done, one of the wives offered to do this for us. It was also decided to try to get a proper cover for our new magazine. This was done by selling some advertising space on the rear cover which we found would cover the cost for the first 3000 covers after which we would renew the advert or change if required. The colour of the covers was only set by using any colour which the printer had spare. To our surprise there was never a shortage of willing advertisers locally. So Alan put together some copy and the Kingswood & Broomfield News came in to being. First copy 1970.

Being rather a squirrel I have collected all of the past copies which now form a village archive but look forward to the new form of Village newsletter through my coming letterbox.

One of the past editors Tony Skinner.



SATURDAY 10TH MAY 2025

2PM—5PM

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HALL

**BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC AND COME ALONG
TO CELEBRATE VE DAY 80
WITH BROOMFIELD AND KINGSWOOD PARISH
COUNCIL**

**THERE WILL BE MUSIC, VIDEO REELS,
TRADITIONAL 1940s GAMES AND WAR TIME THEME
EXHIBITS**

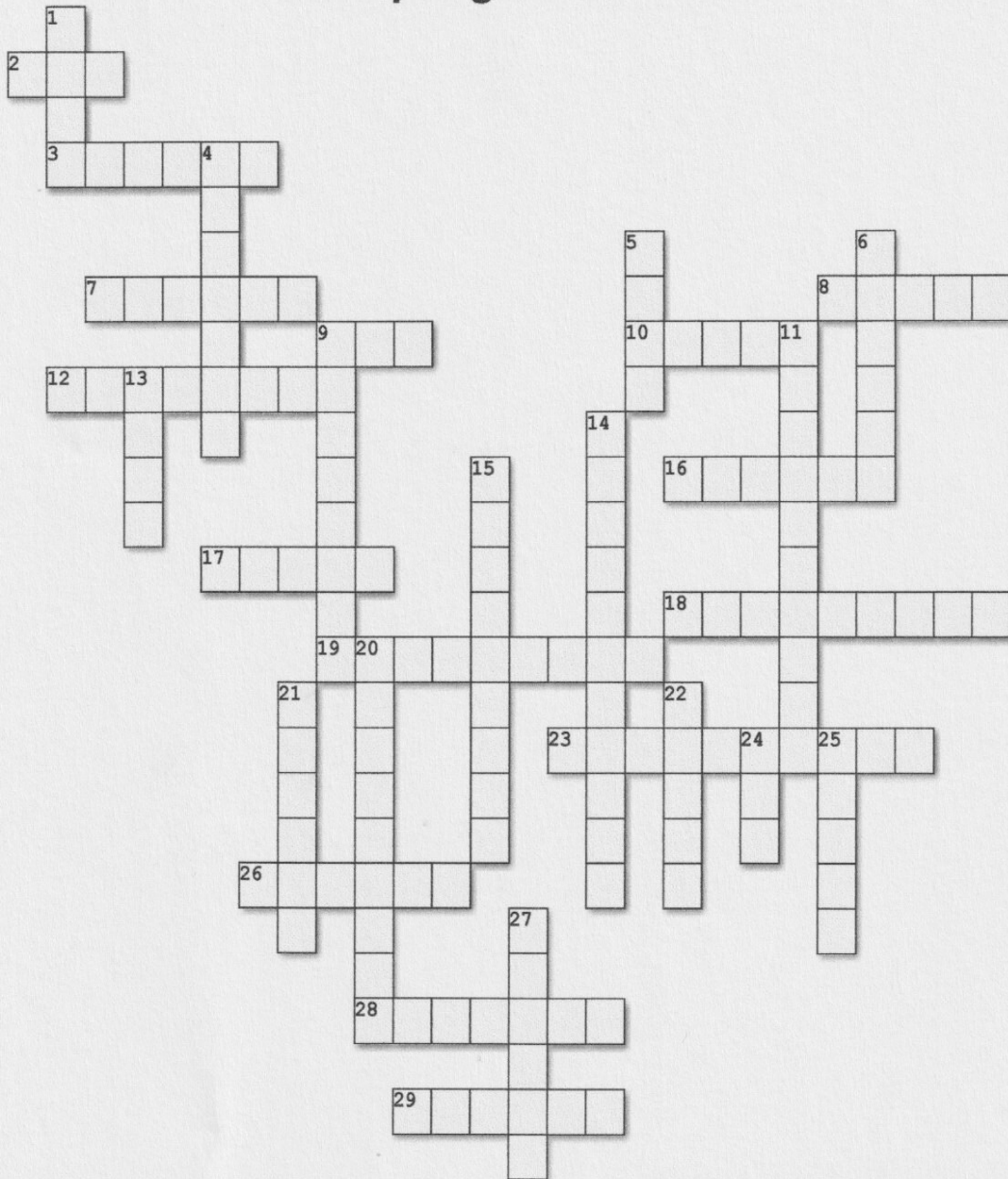
**WE WILL ALSO HAVE AN 'AT COST' BAR SERVING
LAGER, ALES, WINE, SOFT DRINKS, TEA , COFFEE
AND SOME 1940s THEMED COCKTAILS!**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY PHOTOS, WAR TIME MEMORIES OR MEMORABLIA YOU
WISH TO SHARE AND DISPLAY ON THE DAY PLEASE CONTACT HAYLEY,
PARISH CLERK OR CERDIWYN**

WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR CAKE DONATIONS FOR THE DAY



The Spring 2025 Puzzle



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

2. Common term for a canine
3. Traditional spring festival often celebrating fertility
7. The part of the year most associated with planting
8. A sweet-smelling flower that often blooms in spring
9. Common term for a feline
10. Cuteness overload often seen in spring, especially on farms
12. A popular flower that often signifies spring
16. A favorite spring pastime involving picnics and nature
17. Flower often associated with springtime
18. The day before today
19. Popular outdoor activity in spring involving planting
23. This fruit is often associated with spring and is used in pies
26. Colorful blooms that appear in gardens
28. Common weather phenomenon in spring involving rain
29. An uplifting scent often found in gardens during spring

Down

1. Famed for its beauty, this flower blooms in various colors
4. Day when nights and days are of equal length
5. Type of weather condition characterized by warming temperatures
6. Common activity involving appreciation of nature in spring
9. The act of cleaning and organizing in spring
11. Celebrated as the arrival of warmer weather
13. A green leafy plant that symbolizes renewal
14. In spring, many animals emerge from this state of dormancy
15. Brightly colored insect that emerges in spring
20. A popular spring vegetable known for its bright green color
21. Festive springtime event often involving egg hunts
22. First month of spring in the Northern Hemisphere
24. Insect that buzzes and pollinates flowers
25. This bird is often a symbol of spring
27. This tree blossoms with pink or white flowers in spring



Security
Industrial
Domestic
*All fencing supplied
and erected*

Established 1978
The Oaks, Lenham Road,
Kingswood, Maidstone.

Call us on 07711 795582
or 07961778935

100 Club

The winners

January

Mrs Carol Jones £20, Mrs Head £10, Mrs Bailey £10, Mrs B Turner £5

February

Mrs Price £20, Mrs Lee £10, Mrs Gausden £10, Mrs Rookledge £5

March

Miss Raffell £20, Mrs Bosman £10, Mrs Drane £10., Mrs A Bowman £5

If you would like to join the 100 club, it costs £12 a year and we have 4 prizes a month. The proceeds go to Leeds and Kingswood Scout Group.

Ring Alan 843019 for more details



Leeds and Kingswood Scout Group were involved with the Reverse Santa, around Kingswood and Broomfield villages. This was where people gave gifts of food to Santa on his truck. The idea was that any gifts people gave were given to the Salvation Army to distribute to the deprived people. At the end, we all met up at Kingswood village hall and the group unloaded the truck and put it in to the Salvation Army's cars.

The group helped in distributing Christmas cards around the village, there was a box in the Post Office so people could post their cards for a small donation to the group..

SCOUTS

We have 6 leaders, 8 girls, 10 boys and 5 new scouts have joined this term.

Some scouts took part in the district incident hike. This was an extremely challenging event and the scouts smashed it! Working together as a team to complete all challenges set and complete as a group. The weather was kind to them, and some of leaders enjoyed themselves.

Scouts wanted to fund raise some money for the section and decided they wanted to do a Christmas fair. They had a few crafty sessions making items to sell and raised some donations towards the raffle and tombola. Scouts set up and run activities and games, interacted with public, and had fun.

As ever we are contributing to work towards our Chief Scout Gold badge. We've awarded 36 badges in the previous term,

CUBS

We have 18 cubs.

In November the Cubs completed the book reader badge. To do this, each cub was tasked to read a short story, poem or tell jokes to one of the leaders whilst being recorded. We then edited the audio recordings by adding background music and sound effects and compiled these on to CD's as a full audio book collection. The cubs gave copies of the audio book to parents and guardians as Christmas presents. We also donated copies of the audio book to Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells Hospital. We met Claire Ashby, Head of the Hospitals' charity, who informed us that our audio book would be put to good use to help entertain children on the wards. She also told us they were very keen to use our audio book to help with therapy for patients on the dementia ward and to play on the hospital radio as well as for use during those undergoing MRI scans

In December, the Cubs raised funds for their section by singing carols at Morrisons Supermarket on the Sutton Road. They successfully raised £140 entertaining the customers and staff with cheerful Christmas carols. A big well done to them, and for the end of term treat, the cubs got together for a game of bowling at Lock Meadow

BEAVERS

There are 22 beavers

They have been working on their Faith badge and had a trip to a local Mosque which was a huge success. Beavers also took part in Temperance day.

They have been fundraising (with the Squirrels) at Morrison's over Christmas and raised £170, money raised has been split between Hedgehog rescue, Demelza and Buttercups. These were chosen by the Beavers. 4 beavers who have moved up to cubs will be issued with a Chief Scouts Bronze award.

SQUIRRELS

Squirrels have been working on their Faith badge and took part in Remembrance day. They raised £154 fund raising with the Beavers at Morrisons at Christmas.

If you would like to join the above sections , call Alan 843019

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

I tried my hand at gluten free rolls
I thought I'd have a go
It looked fairly easy I'd have lovely rolls to show
They were the size of ping pong balls
and very hard when I put them in to cook
Half hour later they had stayed the same but had gone brown
as I didn't dare to look.
I forgot about the rising time and it had to stand for about an hour
I'd wasted all that time and effort, what a flippin' waste of power.
The one thing I am grateful for and really glad to know.
I had my fluffy slippers on I could have broken a toe.

By Pat Pocock

Kingswood Crafting Group

Over the winter, the Crafting Group made some Christmas decorations with fabric and buttons, more Poppies, iris folded cards, and many, many other projects. The lovely Jo introduced us to Diamond Art, a very addictive mosaic technique and we made cards, key rings and decorations with it. We have crafters making greeting cards, crochet flowers, glass mosaic, knitted figures, water colours, knitted garments, Poppies (always Poppies!), sketches and so much more. At our December meeting, we raffled a beautiful snowman made by Linda and raised £100 for Cancer Research, and we often raise money for charities with our makes.

We're going to try a new technique called punch needle at our March meeting, and then we've got fabric painting to try together in April.

We have a very ambitious project coming soon! Following the success and admiration of the Post Box Toppers, the plan is to make a model of our village, featuring notable things about the place we love to live. Made of fabric or felt, wood or clay, knitted or crochet, it'll be a table top of models of people and places, animals and scenery. Would you like to get involved in the making or organising? You'll be so welcome. Contact as below.

We'll be meeting on these Thursdays: 20 March, 17 April, 15 May, 19 June, 17 July, from 10.00 till 12.00 at the Scout Hut. Come and join us, all crafts, all skills, all welcome, coffee, chat, tea, treats, friends and fun. £4 a session, just turn up or call 07925 508050.

Thank you, Ceridwen



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 coming 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 <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



BE THE REASON FOR THEIR SMILE



VOLUNTEER

Don't walk alone...
Housebound dogs need you!



PLEASE WALK US


01736 757 900
VOLUNTEER@CINNAMON.ORG.UK
CINNAMON.ORG.UK




5 steps to become better prepared


STEP 1 **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





STEP 2 **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.




STEP 3 **Sign up for weather and flood alerts**

- Sign up for Met Office weather alerts: www.metoffice.gov.uk
- Get Environment Agency Flood Warnings: www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings


STEP 4 **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



STEP 5 **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.theprsr.co.uk



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

Are you emergency ready?

Kent and Medway prepared

202408-029

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
members of the Early
Years Alliance

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



KINGSWOOD
PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

Registered Charity Number 1045792

Computer Problems?
Quality Home and Business
support

Any computer related
issues please do not
hesitate to contact
Dean:

Mobile

07722 293187

Email

info@warford-computers.co.uk

Facebook:

Warford computers

**No call out charge, NO
FIX NO FEE, £30 Per Hour**

Gk Music Guitar Lessons

Based in Kingswood

**Have you always wanted to play guitar?
Need a new hobby?**

Lessons suited for all ages and level of student

*One to one lessons guaranteed to get you playing
your favourite songs.*

*Learn the art of improvisation and composition.
Learn to record and play on your own songs in our
dedicated music studio.*

Book your fun & easy lesson today

Tel - 07546598515

For more information
www.gkmusic.co.uk



**Unlock Your Child's
Potential
with
RD Homeschool**



RD HOMESCHOOL

**Personalised
Online Tutoring
and
Homeschool Services**

Contact Us

 contact@rdhomeschool.com

 +44 7487 304 927

 +44 7415 191 389

 @rdhomeschool

 www.rdhomeschool.com




Local Electrician, Domestic & Commercial

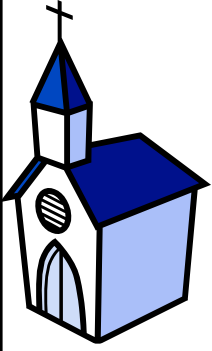
- Rewires & New Installations
- Consumer Unit Upgrades
 - Fault Finding & Testing
 - EV Charger Installation
- Landlord's & Home Buyer Reports
 - Interior & External Lighting
 - Alarms & Wireless Networks
 - CCTV

Discounted rates for local residents

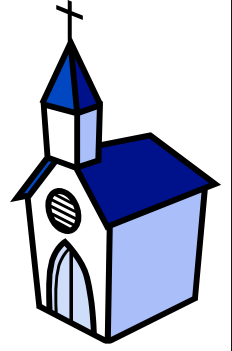
Contact Jack

 **07905360665**

 **JPH Cabling Services**



Kingswood Church article - April 2025



Did you see the wonderful sight of the planets in alignment earlier this year? I managed to see Mars, Jupiter and Venus with the naked eye although I couldn't see Mercury, Neptune, Uranus and Saturn as they were either too close to the horizon or not visible to the naked eye. These seven planets were in a 'planetary parade' towards the end of February and the next time this will happen will be in 2040. So, if you missed it, you will have to wait another 15 years!

The Psalmist in the Bible also appreciated the solar system saying, 'When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is humankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?' (Psalm 8:3-4)

After such a wonderful heavenly experience, we were brought down to earth with the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday 5th March, remembering when Jesus fasted for 40 days and was tested by the devil in the wilderness, prior to the start of his earthly ministry. His three-year ministry is recorded in all the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) which culminates with him riding into Jerusalem on a donkey on **Palm Sunday** and his crucifixion on **Good Friday**. Thankfully, this is not the end of the story, as Christians all over the world celebrate his rising from the dead on **Easter Sunday**, Hallelujah! We remember each of these events in special services at Kingswood Church during April.

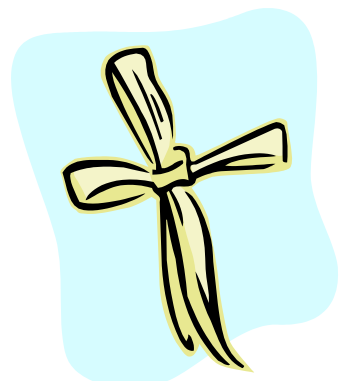
Our **Easter Egg Hunt** this year will be at 12 noon after the **Café Service** which is at 11am on Sunday 6th April. Our other services over Easter include **Palm Sunday** at 11am on Sunday 13th April, a **Good Friday Reflection** at 10:30am on 18th April, followed by hot cross buns, and an **Easter Sunday Family Worship** at 11am on 20th 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 on the first Sunday of the month, when we serve a continental breakfast at 10:30am before our **Cafe Service** at 11am.

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

Peter Roberts,
Kingswood Church

kingswoodchurch@outlook.com





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.

Completely independent, thriving on reputation and customer recommendations



CUTTING EDGE

LOCKSMITH & DOUBLE GLAZING REPAIRS



Locksmith

- ✓ Locks repaired and replaced
- ✓ Locking mechanisms repaired and replaced
- ✓ Insurance approved locks installed
- ✓ Security upgrades
- ✓ Gain entry
- ✓ Keyed alike & master key systems
- ✓ Key cutting
- ✓ All enquiries welcome

Door and Window Repairs

- ✓ Door alignment
- ✓ Misted / blown glazing units replaced
- ✓ Hinges and handles replaced
- ✓ Window locking mechanisms
- ✓ Door and window draughts fixed
- ✓ Cat flaps installed
- ✓ Sliding patio doors repaired
- ✓ Re fixing door frames



📞 07467 534227

✉ info@cuttingedgelocksmith.co.uk

☎ 01622 910045

🌐 www.cuttingedgelocksmith.co.uk

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 Ophthalmic 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 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.

A.C. AUTOS

Motor Vehicle Repairs & Servicing

Air Conditioning Specialist

MOTS arranged or fix your MOT failure

Adam Wise 07958 620684

Trust / Quality / Expertise / 35 Years Experience

Give me a call to discuss how I might help

Established in 2004. Fully insured.
Only new parts with warranty used
Family home in Charlesford Avenue, Kingswood



For all your
Car & Van servicing & Repair
We can service all new cars
under EEC Laws,
and still maintain your warranties.

MOT Class 4,5L & 7
Loan cars & vans available

Open Monday to Friday
8:00 – 18:00

01622 842445 or 01622 844844

www.wents.co.uk info@wents.co.uk



Kingswood Village Bootfair

Sunday 13th July 2025

A village bootfair, where houses will be selling from the front of their properties.

A map will be available showing the houses taking part.

Please contact if you would like to take part.

Contact: On the Facebook group,
Kingswood Village Bootfair Safari
2025(KENT ME17)

or email: kat_mw@hotmail.co.uk

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

KINGSWOOD WILDLIFE GROUP

We've expanded our interests from Birdwatching to include wildlife, as there is so much to see and learn about in this area, and so many skilled and knowledgeable people to help us.

We meet once a month, on the first Monday of the month in the Kingswood Village Hall, in the evening and we try to have guest speakers, and there will be quizzes too. There's a small charge to cover costs.



So far this year, we've had a fascinating and informative talk on the bats which live around us, from Hazel at the Kent Bat Group. She told us how we can encourage and protect them, which species are found here and what to look for. In February, we had an absolutely entrancing talk from Chris about Harvest Mice – an astonishing little mouse, weighing only the same as a 20p coin, which builds a complex and well-engineered nest balanced on a stalk of grass. In March, Lisa from Thorne Hedgehog Rescue told us about her work at the Rescue Centre, she was so entertaining and knowledgeable about these secretive little animals which are so endangered, and we determined to try to do more in Kingswood to protect them. Some group members also participated in the RSPB Great Garden Birdwatch, which the group collates annually.

We will be visiting the Bird of Prey Centre at Leeds Castle to meet the owls in April, and hopefully some of the falcons too. We are also in talks with the Turtle Dove Project with a view to scoping what we can do to attract these disappearing birds to the parish.



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

During the summer, rather than meeting indoors, we plan to make visits and trips to local wildlife sights, such as Wildwood Trust, the Beaver projects at River Stour, and a local walk to search for glow worms!

If you're interested in local wildlife, please follow us on Facebook, and contact Matt with an email to mattmeek72@outlook.com.

MY VOLUNTEERING AT HERITAGE RAILWAYS - Peter Bainbridge 01622 842985

I was born in 1941 and for the first 15 years I was living in a house alongside Chatham station, constantly hearing steam trains coming through. I naturally was attracted to the sight and sound of steam locomotives which has continued throughout my life.

I continued living in the Medway Towns (and Cuxton) until 1992, when Maggie and I moved here to Kingswood. At that time we were both still employed. Maggie was a teacher at a school in Strood and I was a civil servant in an office in Chatham. Maggie had to retire early in 1994 due to ill-health and the 30th anniversary of my early retirement occurred on 31st March this year. We both then played lots of golf at The Ridge Golf Club, making many new friends.

In 2003 I started volunteering at the Bluebell Railway, serving as a porter at Sheffield Park station. In the running season I would normally go on duty every Tuesday, joining another porter. Sometimes there would be others joining us. Our duties were clipping tickets at the platform entrance, allocating seats on the coaches for booked parties and when the time came for the train to depart signal to the guard for him (or her) to whistle the train away. As the train was leaving we would be checking that the doors were correctly closed. *My regular travelling route to the station, across country, was 45 miles taking around 75 minutes.*

I continued volunteering at the station through to October 2011 at which time I was aware that my ability to walk naturally was getting awkward and painful. I decided I had to withdraw from being a porter. Over the years I had served with over a dozen different colleagues, enjoying their company, and it became a little emotional to say goodbye. I had been keeping diaries since 1998 and I had recorded the names of all those I had been with each week.

In 2013 I joined a group of new volunteers at the Kent & East Sussex Railway's Tenterden Station. I felt comfortable doing a sit down job and became a booking clerk, selling tickets to customers. The railway had reopened, as a Heritage Railway, in 1974 at Tenterden and over the ensuing years was extended down to reach Bodiam in 2000. Initially I was a clerk at Tenterden where it was very busy, particularly in the mornings. I occasionally served at Northiam station but latterly at Bodiam, where I was regularly with the same personnel:- the station master, a man operating the level crossing gates, a platform assistant and a person in the shop. During the period up to October 2024 I had started to use a rollator to provide some assistance in walking, but my condition had gradually worsened, so I decided recently that I could no longer be comfortable getting to and from my car to the station building. Once again I had recorded all the names of my fellow station staff. Saying farewell was like leaving a family, and I have many fond memories. *My travelling route was 21 miles, taking around 45 minutes.*

If any of you have never visited the railway and enjoyed the journey behind a steam locomotive may I recommend you give it a try. Details of the running days, timetables and fares can be found on the K&ESR website.

The railway is considered to be a very friendly railway and always needs more volunteers at all the stations. Perhaps you might consider taking my place, or any of the other roles available, and meeting new friends as I had.

On Tuesdays at Bodiam station a volunteer group come along to maintain the structure - painting, gardening and all DIY activities. If any of you have spare Tuesdays please consider joining the team

Approval has been obtained for the line to be extended from Bodiam to Robertsbridge for completion in 2027. Of course many more volunteers will be needed then.



Parish Magazine – April 2025

Hurrah, Spring is finally here! As I write, we have just had a stunning sunny weekend and I am sure I was not the only one out in the garden tidying up ahead of growing season. While the icy temperatures are set to return this coming week, it really does feel like Spring is here.

We still have reams of beautiful snowdrops out across the estate, with daffodils now starting to open en masse. Purple, white and yellow crocus are also out, as are the hellebores. Tulips are also developing well, let's hope they don't get damaged by the incoming frost.

We had a very successful February Half Term with the *Chaos in the Castle* event receiving excellent feedback from guests.

Featuring live performers as Lady Baillie's Butler, Mr Borrett and Mrs Hills, her secretary, this was a magical experience for families, requiring the solving of riddles, completion of challenges and uncovering of the secrets behind objects in the Castle misbehaving and moving around in response to the arrival of a peculiar new Desk.

The desk in question is a beautifully hand painted Secretaire (Writing Desk), designed for Leeds Castle by Lady Baillie's interior designer Stephane Boudin. The desk left the collection in the 1970's and we have been delighted to re-acquire it recently, thanks to a grant from National Lottery Heritage Fund. The Secretaire arrived a couple of weeks ago and is now on display in Lady Baillie's Boudoir.

We were pleased to secure funds from National Lottery Heritage Fund last year to work on a number of areas, including energy efficiency, green transport, carbon footprint and better access.

After completing a full estate access audit, we have been making improvements to accessibility in all its forms, working with groups like 21 Together (a local charity supporting families who have a child with Downs' Syndrome). This has led to improvements in pre-visit Access Information on the website and the recent installation of a new ramp to access the Stable Yard Café.

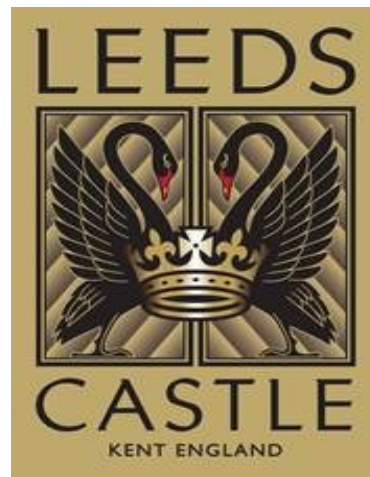
In early March we introduced Sensory Packs for loan, including ear defenders, fidget toys and soft toys, to help people with sensory issues to have an enjoyable visit. These have been hugely popular already and it looks like we will need to introduce more!

We have also been working with Hollingbourne Station to introduce better signage for those who arrive by train to reach the Castle by green means. We had also arranged for the Stagecoach 10X bus between Ashford and Maidstone to call in to the Estate to make green travel more possible. We had also installed a ramp at our Estate bus stop to improve access for all. Frustratingly, after the recent departure of a senior Stagecoach colleague, this service has been withdrawn to Saturday only. We will continue to press for its reinstatement or replacement.

Main visitor season is coming up quickly now and our Easter Trail will be Horrible Histories themed, with a chocolate coin reward. Horrible Histories will be back for a Medieval Week over May Half Term, when the annual Joust will also be on site.

Mothers' Day is at end March this year and it is looking like all the daffodils (and potentially some tulips) will be out in celebration. You can book for a delicious Mothers' Day afternoon tea at the Castle View Restaurant.

15th March is our annual day offering free entry to National Lottery players, in recognition of the grants received from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. This is also the day that we launch the Pavilion Pre-Loved Book Shop for the season. We are looking for volunteers to help with this charitable fundraising activity, so please do get in touch if you are able to help!



Helen Bonser-Wilton, Chief Executive

KINGSWOOD WHIST GROUP

<i>"Best two and a half hours of the week."</i>	Jacqui M
<i>"Great afternoon with great company."</i>	Denise W
<i>"Highlight of the week."</i>	Janet B
<i>"Lonely, want to new make friends? Come to whist."</i>	Marian M
<i>"Great people, great game and tea & cakes at half-time."</i>	Jo R
<i>"Very social afternoon, playing whist plus a cuppa and cake".</i>	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

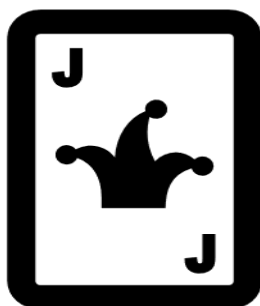
24 hands of cards with tea, coffee, cakes and loads
of chat at half-time, all for just £2.50!!

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.



HOLLAND & HOLLAND ROOFING LTD

Flat Roofing Specialists

“Installers of high performance flat roofing systems”

Our quotes are free of charge and arranged at a time that's convenient for you

Contact

T: 01622 842 069

E: office@hollandandhollandroofing.co.uk

W: www.hollandandhollandroofing.co.uk

Members of the Confederation of Roofing Contractors (CORC)

ALAN POULTON

CARPETS

SUPPLY & FITTING SERVICE

OVER 35 YEARS EXPERIENCE

HOME SELECTION SERVICE

01622 843019



KWJ Gentlemens Hairdresser

50 Charlesford Avenue.Kingswood

Please ring 07521289406 or 01622843430 for an appointment

Opening times

Wednesday—Friday 9am - 5pm

Saturday 9am - 12

All Welcome!



DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL

Plastering - including over Existing Artex
Rendering & Thermal Insulating Rendering

Patch Repairs

Insurance Work

Lath and Plaster

Lime Plastering and Rendering

New Stud Work and Ceilings

Painting and Decorating, Interior and Exterior

For free advice and estimates please call

Andy Rookledge

Tel: **01622 439848** Mob: **07793888980**

email: andyrookledge2009@gmail.com

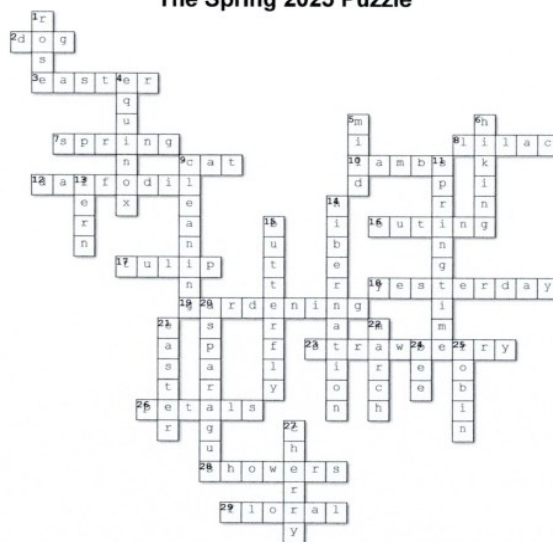
www.ar-plastering.co.uk

Spring 2025 Crossword solution

Across: 2. Dog; 3. Easter; 7. Spring; 8. Lilac; 9. Cat; 10. Lambs; 12. Daffodil; 16; Outing; 17. Tulip; 18. Yesterday; 19. Gardening; 23. Strawberry; 26. Petals; 28. Showers; 29. Floral.

Down: 1. Rose; 4. Equinox; 5. Mild; 6. Hiking; 9. Cleaning; 11. Springtime; 13. Fern; 14. Hibernation; 15. Butterfly; 20. Asparagus; 21. Easter; 22. March; 24. Bee; 25. Robin; 27. Cherry.

The Spring 2025 Puzzle



Across

2. Common term for a canine (dog)
3. Traditional spring festival often celebrating fertility (easter)
7. The part of the year most associated with planting (spring)
8. A sweet-smelling flower that often blooms in spring (lilac)
9. Common term for a feline (cat)
10. Cuteness overload often seen in spring, especially on farms (lambs)
12. A popular flower that often signifies spring (daffodil)
16. A favorite spring pastime involving picnics and nature (outing)
17. Flower often associated with springtime (tulip)
18. The day before today (yesterday)
19. Popular outdoor activity in spring involving planting (gardening)
23. This fruit is often associated with spring and is used in pies (strawberry)
26. Colorful blooms that appear in gardens (petals)
28. Common weather phenomenon in spring involving rain (showers)
29. An uplifting scent often found in gardens during spring (floral)

Down

1. Famed for its beauty, this flower blooms in various colors (rose)
4. Day when nights and days are of equal length (equinox)
5. Type of weather condition characterized by warming temperatures (mild)
6. Common activity involving appreciation of nature in spring (hiking)
9. The act of cleaning and organizing in spring (cleaning)
11. Celebrated as the arrival of warmer weather (springtime)
13. A green leafy plant that symbolizes renewal (fern)
14. In spring, many animals emerge from this state of dormancy (hibernation)
15. Brightly colored insect that emerges in spring (butterfly)
20. A popular spring vegetable known for its bright green color (asparagus)
21. Festive springtime event often involving egg hunts (easter)
22. First month of spring in the Northern Hemisphere (march)
24. Insect that buzzes and pollinates flowers (bee)
25. This bird is often a symbol of spring (robin)
27. This tree blossoms with pink or white flowers in spring (cherry)

Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

LUNCH CLUB

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HALL



TUESDAY 12.30-1.45

BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT; PAT LYNE 01622 843672



The Kent Sports Injury
& Physiotherapy Clinic

60-62 Cayser Drive,
Kingswood ME17 3QF

Opening November in Kingswood

T: 07731 588 947



Santabelle Beauty



Santabelle_Beauty

Prices overleaf • Gift cards available

Pricelist

Manicure

Gel Manicure	£25
Deluxe Manicure	£30
Deluxe Manicure Gel	£35
Gel Design/ French Manicure	£30
Gel Nail Extension	£40
Gel Removal	£5
Gel Mani + Pedi Combo	£40
BIAB Gel Overlay on Natural Nails	£35

Pedicure

Gel Pedicure	£25
Deluxe Pedicure	£30
Deluxe Pedicure Gel	£35
Express Pedicure	£20

Facials

Luxury Organic Anti-Aging Facial 1 hour	£45
Dermabrasion Rejuvenate Facial 1 hour	£45
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
Infill	£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 James Phillips	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	Kay Kilgallon	01622 842080
Scouts, Cubs and Beavers	Alan Poulton	01622 843019
Birdwatching Group	Matthew Meek	mattmeek72@hotmail.com
Kingswood Book Klub	Becky Godfrey	07940 726554
Kingswood's Little Library	Becky Godfrey	07940 726554
Kingswood Crafting Group	Ceridwen Clarke	07925 508050

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.uk Tel: 07719 317702/01622 474190

Councillors:

Tina Clark (Chair)	tinaclark@bandkpc.uk
Gareth Davies (Vice Chair)	garethdavies@bandkpc.uk
Chris Pink	chrispink@bandkpc.uk
Malcolm Clarke	malcolmclarke@bandkpc.uk
Daren Moss	dmoss@bandkpc.uk
Linda Blainey	lindablainey@bandkpc.uk
Robert Mercer	robertmercer@bandkpc.uk
VACANCY x2	

Published by Broomfield & Kingswood Parish Council

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the production team; publication of adverts/articles does not constitute endorsement and we reserve the right to edit. Every care is taken to present articles impartially and neither the Editor nor the Parish Council are responsible for opinions either stated or implied.

THE RIDGE



Beautiful 18 Hole Parkland Golf Course

Covered Driving Range & Extensive Practice Areas

Memberships Available & Visitors Welcome

Now Serving Costa Coffee

Kitchen Under New Management

ADVENTURE GOLF NOW OPEN.....



To Book Please Call 01622 391000

Book online at www.theridge.co.uk

LEEDS CASTLE

KENT ENGLAND



HORRIBLE HISTORIES

—EASTER— ESCAPADES

JOIN THE KNIGHTS' QUEST

Trail, Activities
and More!

"I hate the

knight shift"



5TH TO 21ST APRIL 2025

EVENT INCLUDED IN ADMISSION TICKET.
SMALL ADDITIONAL COST FOR TRAIL BOOKLET AND GOLD COIN PRIZE.

HORRIBLE HISTORIES® IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF SCHOLASTIC INC AND IS USED UNDER AUTHORIZATION.
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. ILLUSTRATIONS © MARTIN BROWN