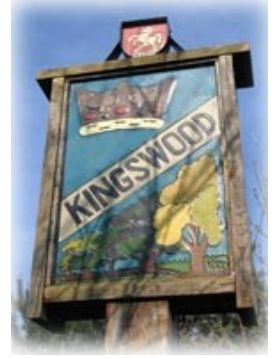




Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council
www.broomfieldandkingswood.pc.kentparishes.gov.uk



Parish News

Winter 2019

COME AND MEET YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Your Parish Councillors
would be delighted if you could join them
for a drink and a mince pie

on

Monday 16 December

at

Kingswood Village Hall

anytime between 19:30 and 21:30



The members of the Parish Council would like to wish you all a joyful festive season and a healthy, happy and peaceful New Year.

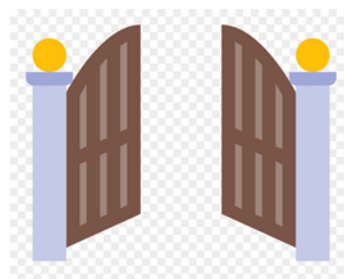
We would also like to take the opportunity to thank all those who get involved in the many activities around the village; the Village Hall Committee, all those people who organise and run the many clubs, the litter pickers, the cake bakers, tea makers and washer-uppers. You are all unsung heroes who help to make Broomfield and Kingswood a good place to live, thank you.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

URGENT: SPORTS FIELD GATES

The Sports Field Gates need to be opening at dawn and closed at dusk and the Parish Council wondered if there might be a willing volunteer or volunteers who would perform this duty. Some of you may recall when drug dealing used to take place in the car park of the Sports Field. It would be awful if this happened again.



REMEMBER:

Coffee Morning —A chance to ask Questions and raise queries

Don't forget that you can meet one of your Parish Councillor and our PCSO on the first Saturday of every month at the coffee morning in the village hall. between 10.30 and 11.30.

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

As a Parish we still need a Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

The mission of Neighbourhood Watch is to bring neighbours together to create strong, friendly, active communities where crime and anti-social behaviour are less likely to happen.

The vision is that of a caring society that is focused on trust and respect in which people are safe from crime and enjoy a good quality of life. Neighbourhood Watch is about making sure that fewer people feel afraid, vulnerable or isolated in the place where they live.

Please contact your Parish Clerk if you would like to take on this role.

Residents Email Address list

The Clerk maintains a closed email distribution list for residents who wish to be kept up to date on road closures and other relevant information. If you are not already on that list and would like to receive information like this, please email her at parishclerk@bandkpc.org giving her permission to add your email address to the list.

PARISH COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS

The Parish Council is able to set up working groups to take forward specific projects or issues.

Broomfield & Kingswood Parish Council would like to set up two Working Groups to lead on:

- Future editions of the newsletter
- The organisation of Parish Events in 2020

Working Groups are not subject to the same strict regulations as Parish Council although the Code of Practice still applies.

If you would like to be part of either of these working groups please email the Clerk at parishclerk@bandkpc.org



Pam Bower
PARISH CLERK

Telephone: 07719 317702/01622 843741

Email: parishclerk@bandkpc.org

Website: www.broomfieldandkingswoodpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

INCIDENTS AND ISSUES MUST BE REPORTED

It is really important any issues are reported on-line.

The Police, including our PCSO, **can only respond** to incidents and issues if they are reported to 101 or on-line

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

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

<https://www.kent.police.uk/services/report-online/kent-police-online-reporting/>

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

Kent Police

How can we help you?

Report Tell us about Apply or register Request Feedback Your area

Report

Here you can report crimes, issues and incidents. Just choose from the options below.

Crime Road traffic incident Missing person

Antisocial behaviour Report fraud Lost or stolen vehicles

Lost or found property Civil disputes

Haven't found what you're looking for?

The service or information you need may be somewhere else on the site.

Tell us about


Possible terrorist activity How to tell us about events and processions

Learn this site

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

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

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

1 Nigmassht	2 CCCCC FESTIVE	3 TOFRANKUCH
4 STUN	5 TURKEY SSSSSSSS	6 STEL
7 A3 tortilla A4	8 PPPPPP Our planet	9 

CHRISTMAS DINGBATS



Answers on Page 7

KINGSWOOD WHIST GROUP

We meet every Tuesday afternoon from 2pm until 4pm. The Group is ever expanding and we are now attracting players from neighbouring villages. Over 20 players come along and enjoy 24 games of partner/progressive whist. At half-time we have tea, coffee, cakes and chat!

We welcome new players of any vintage so come along for a really enjoyable sociable afternoon- all for just £2.50!! The members take it in turns to provide the cakes and a couple of modest prizes.

Then to end the year we all enjoy an excellent Christmas lunch, basically paid for out of the year's entry fees.

No card sharps allowed, just folk who want a fun afternoon!! For further information please ring Mike on 844272 or just turn up at the Village Hall any Tuesday at 2pm.

You will be very welcome.



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Or Email info@theridgegolfclubkent.co.uk

Book online at www.theridgegolfclubkent.co.uk

Did you know that the first powered flights in Britain took place in Kent? Or that much of the early British aircraft development also happened in Kent? It seems a well-kept secret.

The Aero Club of Great Britain [AeCGB] was founded in 1901 to promote aviation, initially ballooning, which was then a rich man's hobby. They licensed *aeronauts* as balloon pilots were known, organised ballooning events and liaised with other international bodies.

When in 1908 the Wright brothers brought the latest version of their biplane [the Flyer] to demonstrate in France the AeCGB joined the throngs of spectators. The Wrights had considerably improved the original aircraft and were seeking Manufacturers to build their design under licence. The AeCGB recommended the balloon manufacturers Short Brothers who were also their technical advisers. The Shorts were keen to diversify into aircraft and applied for a licence to build six.



In Feb 1909 the AeCGB acquired land in Sheppey for the first ever flying field in Britain covering 400 acres at Shellbeach on the coast at Leydown-on-Sea and including Mussel Manor to be a club house. The land was purchased by a member Francis [Frank] Mclean [of Tunbridge Wells] and leased for a nominal rent. Short Bros also leased part of the site to build the first aircraft factory in the world. In addition to the six Wright planes they were building their own designs.

Flying began in April 1909. On 2 May John Moore-Brabazon [later Lord Brabazon] made the first officially recorded flights in Britain achieving a distance of 1500 feet in a French built Voisin. On 4 May the site was visited by the Wright brothers. He later sold the Voisin and purchased the second Short Wright aircraft in which he flew a circular mile on 30 October winning a Daily Mail prize as the first to achieve it in Britain. He later took Icarus the flying piglet up in a basket to prove pigs could fly.! He became the first person in Britain to qualify as a pilot, receiving RAeC Aviators Certificate No 1. [In 1910 the AeCGB had received the 'royal' designation].

By the end of 1909 it was becoming clear that Shellbeach had defects. While the level surface and lack of trees had led to its selection, the surface was rough and breached by drainage channels causing a number of landing accidents. Frank McClean came to the rescue, buying land at Eastchurch further inland and on higher ground which again he leased at a nominal rent. Shorts leased land for their factory.

Club founder the Hon. Charles Rolls [of Rolls Royce] made the first landing at Eastchurch on 20th November 1909. He was an experienced balloon pilot and rapidly built up experience in his new Short Wright. On 2nd June 1910 he made the first non stop double crossing of the English Channel. Sadly he became the first fatality of powered flight in Britain when he crashed on 12th July giving a flying display at Bournemouth.

1910 was a very active year in British aviation not least at Eastchurch where members were erecting hangars for their personal aircraft. There was much going on elsewhere in Britain, Frank McClean was very active not least in support of Short Bros. He was a great patron of the company and purchased fifteen of their aircraft. He was also initially their test pilot and flew many of their early products. Shorts rapidly grew as a company and developed an innovative range of products. They quickly moved from the Wright design to building tractor aircraft and abandoned the skid for wheeled undercarriages. They also built the first twin-engined aircraft. They also experimented with flotation and developed a range of sea-planes.

In February 1911 McClean approached the Admiralty with a proposal to train naval pilots at Eastchurch for free using his two aircraft and RAeC instructors. On 2nd March four volunteer officers reported for training which was completed by early May. Work began immediately on forming a flying branch of the Royal Navy. The Admiralty leased part of the flying ground to become a flying school and a ground school. It took over the entire project in 1914 and in 1918 when the RAF was formed it became RAF Eastchurch. The formation of the Royal Naval Air Service is another story much of it happening in Kent.

Want to know more? Mussel Manor is now the Muswell Manor Hotel with a fine display of photos and other ephemera about the 'early days'. Eastchurch is now HMP Standforth Hill but in a former air navigation classroom on the site is the Eastchurch Aviation Museum dedicated to flying on Sheppey with a large collection about the 'early days' <https://eastchurchaviationmuseum.org.uk>

KINGSWOOD & BROOMFIELD VILLAGE HALL

(Charity Number 264838)

Back in July we had the Summer Fair and Dog Show. It was a lovely sunny day and £500 was raised for Hall funds along with a further £200 from the coffee shop that takes place on the first Saturday of the month in the Village Hall.

For the first time there were scarecrows in the grounds made by some of the groups that use the Hall. They all looked magnificent. Mine lived in the garage for two weeks and my neighbours said I should have charged her rent! Well done to all the children that took part in the scarecrow colouring competition, I hope you all had fun. And thanks for all who helped on the day.

By the time you are reading this we will either have the Christmas Tree up in the hall or it will be being put up imminently. The tree is donated by Kingswood Christmas Trees and erected by some willing elves and then decorated. Thanks to all for your help.

Please support your Village Hall

To book the Village Hall for Children's Parties or for further information please telephone Val Clarke on 01622 843110.

Val Clarke

Kingswood & Broomfield Short Mat Bowls

We are a friendly group with 18 members at present. We meet every Wednesday afternoon from 2 until 4pm in the village hall with a break for tea and cake. New members are most welcome, and if you have never played before we have bowls for anyone to try out and members happy to show you. Our Christmas lunch is planned for December.



For further information contact Mike on 01622 842209

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Answers to Christmas Dingbats:

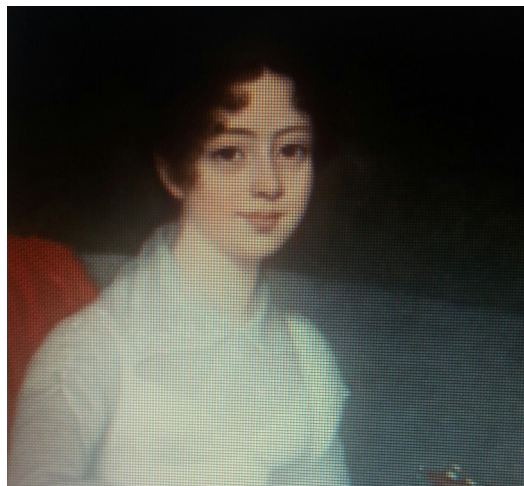
- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Midnight Mass | 2. Festive Season (Cs on) |
| 3. Frankinsense | 4. Mixed Nuts |
| 5. Turkey Leftovers | 6. Tinsel (t in sel) |
| 7. Wrapping Paper | 8. Peace on Earth |
| 9. Ho(e) Ho(e) Ho(e) | |



PEOPLE AND PLACES IN PROFILE

The Len Valley and Beyond

For over two hundred years the Stacey family maintained a status within Maidstone as successful brewers, bankers and land-owners. Three generations of the family produced sons who became mayors of Maidstone and soldiers who gained distinction in the Peninsula and Zulu wars. However, it was a daughter born in 1791 who linked the family name forever with the poetry of the Romantics through her brief, beguiling influence on, arguably, the finest and most radical of them all – Percy Bysshe Shelley.



Sophia Stacey was the eighth of nine children born to Flint Stacey and his wife Katherine. The family brewing business, Isherwood, Foster and Stacey, founded in Maidstone during the 17th century, ensured Stacey's position as a prominent local businessman on the inheritance of a partnership. Within a year of his daughter's birth he became Mayor of Maidstone; in 1793 he expanded his business interests by funding a private bank with fellow investors, Brenchley, Parker and Penfold. This profitable enterprise, which became known as The Kentish Bank, flourished well into the next century. Flint Stacey was rich, influential and prosperous – only tragedy could halt his winged progress.

Sophia's secure childhood was shaken at the age of five by the early death of her mother Katherine. In 1794 thirty-four year old Katherine gave birth to her last child, a boy called Edwin; she died before Edwin reached his second birthday. For the next five years Flint Stacey kept the family together. The bank and the brewery continued to prosper and he was elected mayor for the second time in 1801 – a year later, aged fifty-seven, he too was dead.

Events then evolved which would ultimately lead Sophia's destiny towards Shelley: On Flint Stacey's death the family of six surviving children were separated. Stacey's banking partners were appointed guardians to the youngest children; Edwin became a ward of his godfather Edwin Penfold, while eleven year old Sophia's guardians were Robert and Helen Parker. She remained with the Parkers for at least three years forming a close bond with Helen Parker, Shelley's paternal aunt.

After leaving the Parkers Sophia Stacey's story becomes sketchy for a decade or so. There are hints of royal connections through Maria Fitzherbert, companion of George IV. Portraits of her and Edwin were painted by the celebrated Court artist William Grimaldi, a close friend of their father. During these elusive years Sophia grew into an attractive young woman. Contemporaries describe her as dark haired with striking eyes, talented musically with a sweet singing voice and of, "some fortune." These attributes would at that time have given merit to her eligibility as a wife – but when she re-emerges in 1819 she is twenty-eight years old, travelling in Europe and still unmarried.

Sophia's continental travels are recorded as an undertaking of the Grand Tour. On reaching Florence in November 1819 she lodged with Shelley and his second wife Mary (author of *Frankenstein*) at their pensione on Via Valfonda. Her introduction to the Shelleys almost certainly came through Helen Parker. A heavily pregnant Mary Shelley, aware of her husband's creative, political and social free spirit – which so often shaped the nature of his female attachments – immediately befriended Sophia, possibly in a bid to hinder an *affaire de coeur*.

Regardless of Mary's efforts, Sophia and Shelley struck-up an instant rapport, delighting in each other's company and spending many hours together touring the sights of Florence. He wrote verses for which she composed music and sang to him as she played the harp. Shelley's biographer James Beiri states, "The lyrics Shelley wrote for the well named Sophia are among his most passionate." There were secret rendezvous and the strength of Shelley's sensibilities is expressed in his poem *Ode to Sophia Stacey* which begins:

Thou art fair and few are fairer...
Those soft limbs of thine whose motion,
Ever falls and shifts and glances
As the life within them dances.

At the end of November Mary Shelley gave birth to a son. The baby was named Percy with Florence added as a middle name at Sophia's suggestion – a name then unknown for a child. Shortly afterwards a daughter was born into that closely connected, upper middle-class circle residing in the city; she was christened Florence by her parents William and Frances Nightingale. Sophia Stacey had unwittingly established a new name which would one day become universally famous through this baby girl.

January 1820 saw Sophia's departure to Rome. On the day she left her diary entry reads: "...he is suffering and in very delicate state of health." Shelley's parting gift was a book of further verses. In Rome that spring she received a letter from him together with an inscribed poem, *On a Faded Violet* – which speaks of kisses, loss and weeping. They never met again and Shelley drowned two years later.

Sophia eventually returned to Maidstone and in 1823 her wedding to Captain James Catty was hosted by Maria Fitzherbert. The couple lived at Hill House Stockbury where their three children were born. In later years Sophia corresponded regularly with Percy Florence Shelley, an exchange in which he sent her unpublished lyrics written by his father. Some of their letters are held at the Bodleian Library Oxford. Sophia's memorial is at Stockbury's St Mary Magdalene church where she was buried on her death in 1874.

Following distinguished army careers, her brother Edwin and her son Charles continued the family tradition as brewers and mayors of Maidstone; through them the Stacey family's civil and business standing in the town remained strong. Prevented as a woman from pursuing such roles, Sophia Stacey's life is more essentially defined by those ephemeral moments, in which she exquisitely inspired the complex, tragic, visionary Shelley. In dedicating verses to her, the poet gave glorious focus to the intensity of their fleeting liaison, carving her name irrevocably within the narrative of early 19th century Romanticism.

Christina Wight

BROOMFIELD & KINGSWOOD TWINNING GROUP

The Twinning Group were so lucky to have chosen Saturday 19th October as the date for their Annual Autumn Walk. Previous days were very wet and windy, but the sun came out after a damp start. Stronger walkers joined with us and set off through the woods at the Cayser Drive end of Charlesford Ave. Picking our way through a bumper crop of chestnuts and acorns and dodging the muddier paths we made our way to the Ridge Golf Course. The second group of walkers met us there and we proceeded to have a leisurely walk through the orchards followed by lunch at the Ridge. The Twinning Group have 2 walks a year, one in the spring and one in the autumn. Please look out for our next walk in spring 2020.

A very warm welcome was extended to visitors from Colorado, U.S.A. on Sunday 10th. November. A year ago, Broomfield & Kingswood Twinning Group were approached about hosting visitors from various locations in Colorado. Five areas in Colorado eager to meet their "twins" in Europe.

Unfortunately, there were no residents from Broomfield, Colorado, on the trip but the village gave a warm welcome to 21 visitors from such places as Denver and Salida. The Kingswood Village Hall was the location for an afternoon tea where tables were set out with an eclectic mix of vintage crockery and table cloths.

People had kindly donated home-made cakes and biscuits and the cosy tearoom setting was ideal for chatting over a cuppa. With, at least 40 people present, it gave visitors, and residents, a chance to find out about each other's cultures.

At one point in the proceedings there was a short DVD presentation of local scenery and historic buildings. Then more chat ... and cake!

The American ladies commented on the china and requested cake recipes and both ladies & gentlemen present were interested in the significance of Remembrance Sunday. They took poppies home as small souvenirs and the History Denver Guides thanked us for our warm hospitality and a chance to meet "real" people. They said that their overwhelming impression was one of a warm-hearted welcome to a charming community. The Twinning Group want them to go back and spread the word.

KENT CYNOPHOBIA ASSISTANCE GROUP

Our group started in the Spring of 2015, and so far, we have helped in excess of 200 children from Kent, many of them from the village. Which means that we have changed 200 families lives, the children can now walk to school, go on holiday, to the beach or park without fear. Our helpers, handlers, and of course dogs come every week to help these families giving their time and energy.



We are holding our Children's Christmas party at the beginning of December and we then have a break until the New Year. We have Father Christmas coming and Leo the Lion, together with games, craft and food.

We are always in need of help, so if you have an hour to spare on a Monday evening do come along and join us. If you have a well-mannered dog that likes other dogs and people and would like to have him tested to see if he is suitable do ring Janet on 01622842209.

KINGSWOOD COMMUNITY SINGERS

THE CHOIR



The festive season is upon us and by the time you get this magazine the Choir will already have sung carols at the Annual Christmas Tree Lights Switch-on, that took place on Saturday 23 November at the village hall.

Also, this year, The Choir will be singing in the streets of Kingswood at the following times:

SATURDAY 7th. DECEMBER between 4pm & 5pm in the areas of

Kingsbroom Court, Peter Pease Close, Thorneycroft Close, Laurel Grove, Ashford Drive, and Whitehall Drive.

TUESDAY 10th. DECEMBER between 6pm & 7.30pm in the areas of Cayser Drive (by Hollytree), Wildwood Close, The Waldens, The Walk and the Cayser Drive end of Charlesford Ave.

All the above events are subject to weather conditions being favourable AND village support.

If YOU would like to join in on the 7th. & 10th. then please feel free to walk and sing with us. Or if you would like us to sing at a location then ring Sue Chambers on 843622 and we will see what we can do.

THE CHOIR WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU ALL

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

& A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

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Shukokai Karate Academy

It is now 12 months since the formation of the Shukokai Karate Academy, based in Kingswood Village Hall, and during that time there have been some exciting developments and achievements. The Academy has now been accepted as a full member of the English Karate Federation and is very proud to have achieved the approval of the Code for Safeguarding in Martial Arts, which ensures that all of our students can be confident of training in a safe and protected environment.

The club has continued to run classes on both Tuesdays and Thursdays in the village hall for students from the age of 4 upwards and pride themselves on involving not only traditional karate but also helping students to prepare for the sport side of karate, which is expanding all the time. The "Little Ninjas" classes are as popular as ever, giving our youngest students the opportunity to participate in some exercise and games whilst learning the basics of karate. Students have attended several competitions around the country and have had great success in winning many medals. The Academy also hosted its first Invitational Open Competition which attracted competitors from outside the club and was a great success and will be holding their annual club competition and presentation day in November.

The Academy has now published its own detailed syllabus, which enables students to follow their own progress and allows them to check on what they need to know to achieve their next grade.

Sensei Chris Simpson and Sensei Stephen Pereira have refereed at several National and local competitions, including the WKIF World Championships and have both progressed to qualified English Karate kumite judges. Sensei Katie Simpson and Luke Carpenter have both passed their English Karate Coaching exams and we anticipate several other students will follow on in due course.

Classes have been run for students at Ulcombe Primary school and currently in Kingswood Primary school and New Line Learning Academy.

The Academy has run training courses to which guest instructors have been invited, including international competitor and Olympic hopeful Alton Brown and former National coach Rafael Veras, which has given students the opportunity to widen their experience of karate. Courses are already being arranged for 2020 with some exciting and dynamic coaches lined up.

Remember, it is never too late to start! If there are any adults who have considered taking up karate, simply to learn the martial art, gain fitness or to just to enjoy burning off some energy after a hard day at work, come and join us; the first trial lesson is free.

As well as Kingswood the Academy now runs clubs at seven other different venues, Downswood, Lenham, Sutton Valence, Marden, Maidstone YMCA, New Line Learning Academy and Warmlake and once a member of the Academy students can train at any of the venues in an appropriate class. Full details can be found at our website www.shukokaikarateacademy.com or via www.kentkarate.co.uk or be contacting us on 07801 639052 or email kentkarate@gmail.com.



FRIENDS OF LEEDS AND BROOMFIELD CHURCHES

What a year it has been. The Curry and Soul evening in April was amazing with good food, music and company.



Plum picking in the summer raised approx. £3000 and more recently the sale of walnuts has raised £340 so far

Thank you to all who come and support our events which raise much needed funds for the upkeep of the two ancient churches in our villages. Events planned for next year include a Beer and Gin Festival and a safari supper. Look out for information on these next year.

If you would like to join the Friends and help keep our churches standing, please contact Pauline on 01622 863541



The hut has changed inside, Philip our quartermaster spent most of the summer break installing a new kitchen in the scout hut. It was one of those jobs that needed to be done some time back but like every thing waiting for the funds to come in.

This is why we have our 100 club, this is one of our fund raisers. There are 4 prizes a month and costs £12 for a full year. If you are interested to join call Alan 843019.

The winners for September are

Mrs Everden £20, Mrs Hancock £10, Mrs Hancock £10, Mrs Archer £5

October winners

Mrs Oliver £20, Miss McRae £10, Mrs Odam £10, Mrs Veness £5.

Beavers

We currently have 19 children invested and 5 children on our waiting list. We have 10 girls and 9 boys.

Over the summer we have visited the Kent Search and rescue base. Everyone had a great time and we thank everyone at the SAR team for beng so accommodating.

We have been Forest Caching. Cycling, and we've had a fantastic animal encounter with 'Petholics' who came in to give our beavers and cubs a fantastic show. The event had a 14ft Python, the largest one in Kent

The badges the beavers have achieved this term are Aviator badge and Cyclist badge.

I know there is a waiting list but if your child wants to be put on the list call Claire 07771937648

Cubs

We have 12 invested cubs, who have been busy this term achieving their badges. Athletics, artist, cooking and backwoods. They did a water event at Mote Park and attended a skills day at Hamlet Wood. With Christmas approaching they will be having carol singing.

If your child is interested in being a cub call Jane 862558 (there is no waiting list)

Scouts

There are 18 scouts and during the lighter months they had out side events like hiking and camping

From the group we hope you have a nice Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Alan Poulton Chairman

VILLAGE COFFEE SHOP

This year has been another successful one at the Village Coffee Shop particularly as all profits go towards the upkeep of your village Hall. The only exception to this is the October one which is held for Macmillan Cancer Support at which we raised £515!

The Christmas Coffee Shop will comprise various craft stalls for your gift ideas plus our Grand Christmas Raffle, all wrapped up with our delicious bacon and sausage rolls, homemade cakes, fresh tea and coffee and, of course the legendary Big Breakfast!

The New Year will see us do it all again on the first Saturday in January, as we do on the first Saturday of every month during the year, so do come and join us with friends old and new, from 10am until 12 noon.

Beryl Andrew



Kingswood Preschool

Kingswood pre-school has recently taken on a new manager Katherine Ross and Kingswood Preschool is now pleased offer two full days 9-3pm on Mondays and



Fridays. We have lunch clubs available (for 3 and overs) on Wednesday and Thursday till 12:30. We provide a daily snack and are a NUT free preschool.

Kingswood preschool still has some spaces available but are filling up quickly. We do accept 30 hour funded 3- 4 year olds, offering a total of 22 hours per week. We have strong links with the Aspire Academy trust and other surrounding primary schools.

Staff at Kingswood preschool are passionate about getting children ready for the next stage in their learning and offer dedicated carpet sessions to prepare children for school readiness and becoming independent learners.

Children attending Kingswood preschool experience a range of exciting and stimulating activities based around their interests and needs. Recently the pre-school children have enjoyed a nature walk, music and movement classes with Ms Steph from Dancing Bear and first-hand road safety activities.

In addition, we have had a Pyjama day for the Crackerjack children's charity and a McMillan coffee morning.

Please contact Katherine Ross (Manager) to discuss sessions availability and to register your interest

Sudoku

		5			7		2	
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	4					9		
	6					3		
			9		3			
			4	2	8		9	
7		4	3			2		
	3	1					4	
						1		5

Kingswood Christmas Trees

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Workshop on Knowle Hill, Ulcombe, ME17 1ES
Family home in Charlesford Avenue.
Free collect/return for Kingswood customers.

After the wonderful SATs results in the summer, it's been an exciting first term here at Kingswood Primary School. With the launch of the ASPIRE Federation on the 6th September, the new school year literally took off from there.



Ensuring that the children are inspired and engaged at every opportunity both academically and socially, alongside Teaching and Learning we have focused on pupil and staff well-being. It is important to teach children the tools to 'be well' through values, PSHE and an enriched curriculum, enhancing every aspect of their day, now and later on in life. Since September we have:

- Introduced DEAR time; Drop Everything And Read. Where staff and pupils are given 15 minutes each morning to read for pleasure; modelling great reading habits and promoting that reading isn't just part of an English lesson!
- Reading Buddy Assemblies – every Tuesday morning, Oak class read with the younger year groups. This encourages reading, as well as highlighting that it's nice to have someone to learn with.
- Launched our Federation Well-being Logo Competition – and found a winner!
- Found our pupil Kingswood Roles and Responsibility Representatives. Through an application process, we now have School Council Reps, House/Vice Captains, Librarians and Well-being Ambassadors.
- Well-being Focus Day. All pupils came off of curriculum, where they focused on positive ways to identify how they are feeling, as well as identify how others are feeling and ways in which to interact with them in a supportive way, twinned with our values of Kindness, Love, Boldness, Understanding, Patience and Honesty. Joining us on that day, we also had a professional child yoga specialist lead an hour session with each year group. The response from pupils was fantastic!
- We welcomed 18 children to Year R in September – you may have seen their photograph in the First Class supplement in the Kent Messenger in October.
- The Lenham School have come into school to do Outdoor Games with the Year 1, 2, 3 & 4 children and Gymnastics with Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 children.
- We have played a football match against Headcorn Primary School.
- We held our first Open Afternoon of the year – we have two more planned (see further on in the article for more details).
- All the donations received at our Harvest Assembly were taken to the Maidstone Day Centre for the Homeless.
- Chestnut Class made pizzas at Pizza Express in Maidstone.
- The Friends of Kingswood School have arranged an Autumn Ball for all children to take place later this week.
- We continue to offer guitar lessons to the children and other extra-curricular clubs including Dawn Raiders, Dance Club, Football, Film Club, and Crusaders.

Open Events for Prospective Parents

Open Afternoon – Wednesday 8th January –1.30-3.00pm

Do come along if you can – no need to make an appointment, just turn up on the day.

Quiz Night

FOKS are organising a Quiz Night on Friday 29th November from 7.00pm.

Christmas Performance

The Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance will be on 12th December. The Key Stage 2 performance will be on 11th December.

Storytime for Pre-School Children

If you have a child aged between 3 and 5 years, and would like to visit our school for a story with our youngest children, we would be delighted to see you on a Thursday from 2.45pm-3.05pm. No need to book – just turn up on the day.



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mrs Sanchez Daviu
Head of School



Kingswood Bluebells Group

The Bluebells Group is looking forward to its first birthday very soon, celebrating friendships both new and old, which is such an important part of our ethos.

Our first year has been quite eventful covering subjects from judging court appearances to making aromatherapy creams, visiting beautiful gardens to making our own design mark on china. We hope to continue with our diverse programme next year with members taking turns to organise each month, either at the Village Hall or out and about, so I am sure there will be some surprises.

We are rounding off the year with a Christmas celebration meal and looking forward to the New Year whatever it may bring.....so if you would like to join us, we meet at the Village Hall at 8 pm on the second Monday in the month and please ring for details on 01622 843431.

Beryl Andrew

Kingswood Church

There were great expectations of the England Rugby team as they took to the field in Yokohama, Japan on 2nd November to play South Africa in the final of the Rugby World Cup 2019. In the event England were well and truly beaten and England supporters were left wondering what happened?



What do we do in moments when life deals us a blow that we were not expecting? The psalmist says, 'I will lift up my eyes to the hills, where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth (Psalm 121:1). Sonya and I experienced the wonderful sights of hills and mountains as we travelled recently to Donegal in Ireland. There is such peace and serenity in these places.

There is more good news in the Christmas story as we remember that God sent Jesus into the world to save us from our sins. The gospel of Matthew tells us that 'All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet' Isaiah: "The virgin shall be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" which means, "God with us" (Matthew 1:23).

So the good news of Christmas is that God has not forgotten us but is with us. With us when things are going well and with us when times are tough. The Wise Men experienced this as they followed 'the star they had seen in the east that went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star they were overjoyed' (Matthew 2:9&10). They had 'reached their destination' and found the baby Jesus. May we too experience joy and peace as we gather together as families this Christmas time.

We look forward to welcoming you to 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

Kingswood Church Calendar for December 2019

Sunday 1st December (Advent 1) - 10:30am Refreshments/11am Cafe Service

Sunday 8th December (Advent 2) - 11am Nativity Play followed by festive refreshments

Sunday 15th December (Advent 3) - 11am Morning Service taken by Dave Tucker (Baptist)

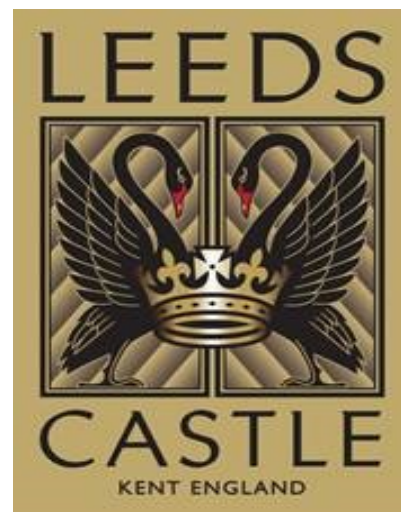
6pm Christingle Service (Anglican) followed by festive refreshments

Sunday 22nd December (Advent 4) - 11am Communion Service taken by Rev Mark Pavey (Anglican)

Tuesday 25th December—**10:30am Family Christmas Day Service taken by Peter Roberts**

Sunday 29th December - 11am Area Communion Service taken by Rev Mark Pavey (Anglican)

What a difference a day makes! I write this the day after the storm, and the first time that Leeds Castle has ever had to cancel a fireworks display. The Leeds Castle Fireworks Spectacular is generally recognised as one of the best displays in the South and attracts about 9,000 on each night. Many come from far away, staying overnight in local hotels, some then enjoying further hospitality that Kent offers. The event is over a year in the planning and execution, and many decide to join one of the overnight House Parties in the Castle, to make the visit very special indeed. We not only have our own caterers on duty, but many smaller, independent catering contractors accept our invitation to serve the many thousands of guests, allowing them to make an income during the quiet, early winter period. Cancellation, as you can imagine, is therefore a big deal. While those who were not able to see the display last night will be refunded the cost of their ticket, I am sure that they and their young ones will continue to be disappointed at not being able to enjoy this year's spectacular. I apologise to all of them but my foremost responsibility is the safety of all who come on to the Leeds Castle estate and, in all the circumstances, I simply could not guarantee yesterday the safety of our visitors. Today the sun is shining, the wind has dropped and I am in no doubt that 9,000 people will have the most wonderful time when we open the gates at 2pm, and the full thirty minute fireworks display starts in the early evening.



You will be reading this not too long before Christmas. For us at Leeds Castle, this has been a memorable year. The 900th anniversary celebrations are nearly over and I reflect very positively on what we have achieved. Every event has been spectacular but, two occasions stand out in my mind. The first was the visit by our Patron, Princess Alexandra, when she formally opened our woodland gardens in her name. We joke with her that she is the longest serving employee of Leeds Castle, and two years ago we presented her with her long service brooch! The naming of an area of the estate in her name was entirely proper and fitting, not least because we have done so much to transform the area, and make it a reason to visit Leeds Castle in itself. Her presence brought delight to all who work here and, when she laid the Time Capsule on the Castle Island Lawn, to be opened in 2119, we were joined by many young children from the local schools. The fact was not lost on me that, in all likelihood, some of those children could just be around in 2119 (medical science permitting!), to see the capsule opened, and will reflect back on that wonderful, sunny day in 2019.

The second event that stands out for me is the *Carnival of History*. A new and unique event for Leeds Castle, this not only brought the most wonderful celebratory party to Leeds Castle but, was a party delivered by the broadest cross-section of the wider community, including many who might not otherwise have dreamt of visiting the Castle. The sight of the local Nepalese community dancing on the Castle Island lawn, entralling others with their joy and passion, will never be lost on me. Likewise, seeing children dressed up and excited by the magic of the parade, was a sight to behold. A truly fitting tribute to a landmark heritage sight, at the heart of a diverse community in Kent.

The Christmas period is almost upon us. Our Christmas Market will be erected as soon as the fireworks display is over and we can expect (weather permitting), well over 40,000 people to visit over the four weekends that the market operates. They will also enjoy the decorated Castle, this year's theme being *Magical Birds and Festive Feathers*, reflecting Olive Baillie's love of birds. That will draw to a close an amazing year in which Leeds Castle has promoted itself on the national and international stage, celebrating an impressive milestone in its continuing story.

Some have asked me whether or not *Leeds Castle 900* has been a success. My answer is a resounding yes. Have we attracted thousands of more visitors than in previous years? Not really. However, from the very first month of the year when we featured on *Countryfile*, the very popular TV show, all the way through to this December when we will feature on another very popular TV series (to be announced), we have attracted interest from far and wide. We have established ourselves very firmly on the podium of the great Treasure Houses of England and we have used the good fortune of our age to best advantage.

Each Quarter, the Association of Leading Visitor Attractions (basically, those sites that attract more than one million visitors a year) conducts a survey to establish which of its 94 sites deliver the best experience to its

visitors. Leeds Castle is not a full member of ALVA because we don't attract over one million visitors a year but, because we work alongside places like Chatsworth and Blenheim, we are included in the survey. In the Spring survey, Leeds Castle was judged best in class and, most recently, we won the same accolade in the Summer survey. This is a remarkable outcome, especially when you consider that the competition includes the likes of Westminster Abbey, The Tower of London, the V&A and Windsor Castle. Leeds Castle may be small, but we punch way above our weight and I hope that you will be as proud of this achievement as I am.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year. I also finish by expressing my heartfelt thanks for all that you have done to support the estate throughout 2019.

Sir David Steel
Chief Executive

Lead the Way Dog Training

The last few months have been very busy, with some really lovely puppies coming through the classes. We had several dogs pass their Kennel Club Good Citizen Scheme Bronze award, and quite a few pass their silver. We are hoping to have another test morning as soon as everyone is ready, when we will be testing for Bronze, Silver and this time the Gold award. The next puppy course is 20th November, and the following will be early February. We will have our Christmas Party in December and then break until the New Year.

If you are walking your dog at night, please wear something reflective and put something reflective onto your dog. As a driver it's very difficult to see a dark dog and handler when you have headlights coming towards you. There have been a couple of narrow misses just recently.

With Christmas only a few weeks away, a reminder about some of the things that are very dangerous if your dog eats them. Christmas cake, Christmas pudding, sultanas, raisins, currants, grapes, chocolate. If you give them rich food such as a Christmas dinner, you won't be doing them any favours, it is far too rich and they could end up very ill. It is kinder to keep them to their normal food.

It is also a good idea to avoid the low-price chews that are being sold in some of the cut price shops. There are rumours that some of these are very toxic, the same with some of the cheap plastic toys if consumed.

Keep safe everyone and do please pick up.

Janet and Marion



Your Parish Council

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Tom Hoy tomhoy@bandkpc.uk
Janet Tandy janettandy@bandkpc.uk
Laura Hubbard laurahubbard@bandkpc.uk
Amiee Parker aimeeparker@bandkpc.uk

VACANCY



CHOCOLATE CARAMEL SQUARES

INGREDIENTS (SUFFICIENT FOR 8" SQUARE TIN)

BASE

200gms soft margarine
100gms light brown sugar
250 gms plain flour
80gms rolled porridge oats

CARAMEL FILLING

50gms block butter
50gms light brown sugar
397gms tin of FULL FAT CONDENSED MILK
(Half fat condensed milk DOES NOT SET!)



TOPPING

150gms chocolate (can be mixture of plain/milk if wished)
25gms white chocolate (optional)

METHOD

Pre-heat oven 180c/160c FAN
Grease and line 8" shallow square tin (baking parchment to be above sides of tin, to allow you to lift biscuit out easily, if you do not have a loose bottom tin)
Beat together the margarine and light brown sugar in a bowl until light and fluffy.
Beat in the flour and the rolled oats.
Use fingertips to bring the mixture together, if necessary.
Press mixture into the base of the tin.
Bake biscuit in oven (centre or just above centre shelf) for approx. 20 minutes (We look after 15 minutes – biscuit should be just golden brown and firm.

Place ingredients for caramel filling in a heavy base pan and heat GENTLY, Stirring until the sugar has dissolved and ingredients combined.
STIRRING ALL THE TIME, over a low heat, cook very gently for 3-4 minutes approx., until the mixture thickens. This part makes your arm ache! Mixture will suddenly be ready – take off heat and briskly stir. If not going thick, put on heat again. IF YOU DO NOT STIR CONTINUOUSLY, THE SUGAR WILL BURN!)

Pour caramel filling over the cold biscuit base and put in fridge to set.

Melt dark chocolate (or mix of milk and dark). Spread over the caramel mix.

Put in fridge till set. Lift out of tin.

If you wish – melt white chocolate and “spin” over top by quickly shaking melted chocolate off a teaspoon.

THIS IS VERY RICH AND WE CUT INTO SMALL PIECES. EXCELLENT FOR CAKE STALLS/PARTY/

Parish Council Meeting—3rd Monday each month

Kingswood Pre-school—Mon 9.00—3.30 (9.00 — 3.00 from Sept 2019)

Tues 9.00– 12.00

Wed 9.00-12.00 (Lunch club 12.00-12.30)

Thurs 9.00-12.00 (Lunch club 12.00-12.30)

Fri 9.00—12.00 (9.00—3.00 from Sept 2019)

Leeds & Kingswood Scouts - Beavers, Tuesday 6.00—7.15pm: Scouts Wednesday 7pm; Explorers Thurs 7.15pm;

Cubs Fri 6.30

Cynophobia Assistance Group Mon 5.30– 6.30—Village Hall

KCC Mobile Library Saturday (fortnightly) 12:50 - 14:20

Pre-school story time— Thurs—2.45—3.05—Primary School

Village Coffee Shop—1st Sat each month—10– 12pm—Village Hall

Lunch Club—Tues—12.15—1.45—Village Hall

Whist—Tuesdays—2—4pm—Village Hall

Karate— Tues & Thurs—6.30pm—Village Hall

Short Mat Bowls—Weds— 2pm—Village Hall

Dog Training—Wed—6.45pm Village Hall

Badminton—Thurs—1.30pm—Village Hall

Purple Yoga—Thurs evening—Village Hall



USEFUL CONTACTS

Kingswood church	Peter Roberts	01622 843625
KCC Councillor	Shellina Prendergast	shellina.prendergast@kent.gov.uk
KCC Community Warden	Dawn Riach-Brown	07773 397125
Member of Parliament	Helen Whately	020 7219 6472
MBC Councillor	Gill Fort	gillfort@maidstone.gov.uk
Neighbourhood Watch	VACANCY	
PCSO	Shivon De Rose	101
Primary School	Lynsey Sanchez Daviu	01622 842674
Baby & Toddle Group	Aimee Parker	07857 121160
Twinning Group	Sue Chambers	01622 843622
Village Hall	Val Clarke	01622 843110

Village Clubs

Badminton	Sue Orchin	01622 843626
Bluebells	Beryl Andrews	01622 843431
CANS	Sonya Roberts	01622 843625
Choir	Sue Chambers	01622 843622
Coffee Shop	Beryl Andrews	01622 843431
Dog Training & Cynophobia	Janet Tandy	01622 842209
Karate	Chris Simpson	07801 639052
Kingswood Church	Peter Roberts	01622 843625
Kingswood Pre-School	Katherine Ross	07729 499 508
Tuesday Lunch Club	Pat Lyne	01622 843672
Dance 4 Kent	Stephanie Wood	07898207973
Kingswood Whist Group	Mike Bean	01622 844272
Short Mat Bowls	Mike Tandy	01622 842209
Purple Yoga	Helen	07762 761905
Parish Council	Pam Bower	07719 317702 / 01622 843741

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PROSECCO THURSDAYS
Free glass of prosecco with
every main meal



CASTLE VIEW RESTAURANT

— LEEDS CASTLE —



“The Loveliest Castle in the World”

The oak-beamed setting of Castle View Restaurant at Leeds Castle offers delicious meals served in a relaxed atmosphere enjoyed with spectacular views across the terrace to the magnificent Castle. Parking is free and an entrance ticket to Leeds Castle is not required to dine in the evening.

To book a table online visit
leeds-castle.com/restaurant or call 01622 767819

