



# VILLAGE NEWS

[www.lowerkingswood.co.uk](http://www.lowerkingswood.co.uk)  
 Summer Edition 2013



## Chairman's Report to Residents

Welcome to our Summer 2013 issue of *Village News* [bob.gardner@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:bob.gardner@surreycc.gov.uk)

and we would like to extend a warm welcome to all those new residents who have moved into the village over the past few months. Please remember that *all residents* of Lower Kingswood are members of the Residents' Association, if you have any concerns about the Village, the Residents' Association Committee is here to try and help *you* and represent *your* interests.

### PLANNING

Members of your Committee attended the Public Inquiry held at the Town Hall on 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> May. The appellant had opted for an Inquiry following the Borough Council's refusal of a planning application submitted last autumn.

It was noted that quite a number of local residents also attended the Inquiry indicating the measure of their interest in the proceedings.

Although the Inquiry lasted only 2 days, instead of the 3 allowed for; it appears that it may be two or three months before the Inspector makes a recommendation, which will be submitted to the Secretary of State for a final decision.

### YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES NEED YOU

It is very important that Lower Kingswood residents continue to support OUR local businesses and services (both established and new ventures) otherwise we could find that the remaining ones will struggle to survive.

### VILLAGE NEWS

Once again thank you to all who have contributed articles and helped with both the production and distribution of this newsletter. *Village News* is distributed free to all households in (and around) Lower Kingswood, and this is only possible because of the assistance given by volunteers in its production and distribution. If you can help with distribution please contact our Chairman.

**Don't forget** - if you use the services of one of our advertisers, please mention that you saw their advertisement in *Village News*.

We would also like to acknowledge the continuing support of Fidelity Worldwide Investments.

### BREAKING NEWS

A meeting was held on 6<sup>th</sup> June, chaired by County Councillors Michael Gosling & Bob Gardner, with residents from Chipstead Lane, Green Lane & Smithy Lane with a view to finding a common approach to issues arising from traffic entering/exiting the Fidelity site.

After a full and frank debate, a number of residents were nominated to represent each road in a future meeting planned to be held with Fidelity representatives.

**Unlike most other local Residents' Associations there is no annual subscription payable – our running costs are met from the revenue of advertisements in our newsletter. So please help support our local businesses and advertisers.**

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of the Lower Kingswood Residents' Association took place on 21<sup>st</sup> May.

We should to thank our Borough Councillors Ros Mill, Simon Parnall & Joan Spiers, our County Councillors Bob Gardner & Michael Gosling and PC Kelly Houghton for attending and addressing the various issues raised by residents.

### LOCALISM

Members of your Committee - along with representatives from neighbouring Residents' Associations and some of their residents - attended a public meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> May.

The presentations focussed on the different possible approaches (Neighbourhood Forum or Parish/Village Council) and various advantages/disadvantages of each.

At the end of the meeting a straw poll was taken which failed to indicate that there was definitive support for taking the matter forward. In particular concern was expressed about the cost implications and the availability of suitable and willing volunteers to support these approaches.

The conclusion of those Committee members who attended the meeting was that there is little to be gained by taking matters further forward at present. However, we will keep the situation under review.

### NEW COUNTY COUNCILLOR

We should like to welcome Bob Gardner as one of our local councillors for the new Surrey division of Merstham & Banstead South following the elections held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. He has been a resident of Lower Kingswood for over 4 years and can be contacted by telephone on: 0845-643-1112 or email:

June 2013

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# Surrey County Council report

Dear Residents

I would firstly like to thank you all for your support in turning out and voting for me at the County elections, and I will be relentless in representing the views of you all in my duties going forward.

I will be holding a Councillor's Surgery along with a number of Colleagues and the Police on the morning of 22<sup>nd</sup> June, the full details are within this newsletter and I look forward to seeing some of you then.

As your County Councillor AND a resident of Lower Kingswood, we have a real opportunity of getting our voice heard and ensuring we do get strong representation to drive the many important services we need forward.

It will be no surprise that during the elections the poor road conditions featured very highly and the Council have undertaken a very far reaching road program over the next 5 years with Project Horizon and a £100m investment, full details can be found on the Surrey County Council website: <http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/>

In addition, I have also been asked by a number of you when we will be getting Superfast Broadband, and I am pleased to say that we are on target for everyone to have that service by the end of 2014 if not before. You can log onto the website: <http://www.superfastsurrey.org.uk/>, and this will give more road specific details of the rollout.

In closing, again I would say thank you to you all, and I look forward to working for you over the next 4 years.

Councillor Bob Gardner

Council Member for Merstham & Banstead South

Email: [bob.gardner@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:bob.gardner@surreycc.gov.uk)

Telephone: 0845-643-1112



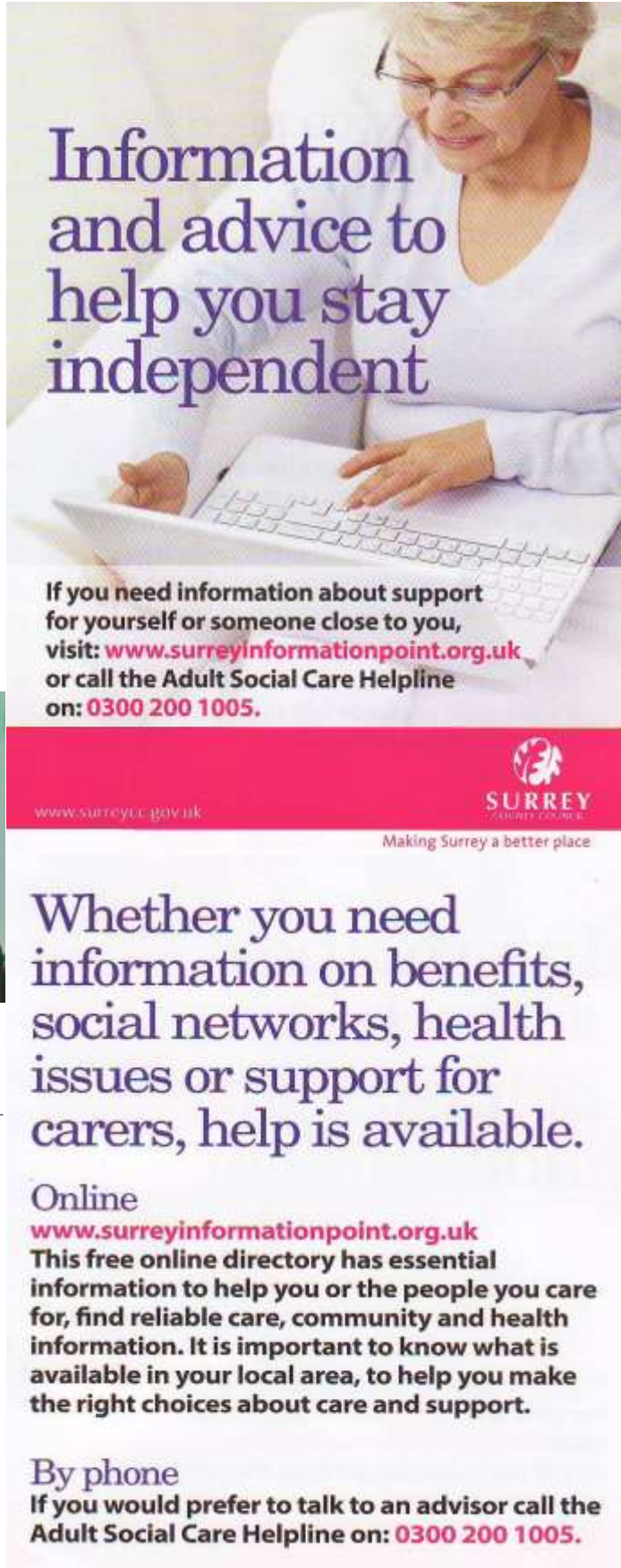
## **Editor's Note**

For those who are unfamiliar with using a computer and/or the internet, OnLine Basics has recently launched a short package of courses designed to help you get to grips with using computers and the internet. It covers:

- How to use a keyboard and mouse
- How to search and explore the internet
- How to keep in touch with email
- How to stay safe online
- The basics of using online public services

For those without access to a computer at home, public access computers are available at both Banstead and Redhill Libraries; both libraries are also designated as UK OnLine Centres. Such centres offer a range of free or low

cost computer and internet courses for people of all ages, along with help and support to learn digital skills.



The advertisement features a photograph of an elderly woman with short blonde hair and glasses, wearing a white top, sitting at a desk and looking at a laptop. The text is overlaid on the image. At the top, it says 'Information and advice to help you stay independent'. Below that, it provides contact information: 'If you need information about support for yourself or someone close to you, visit: [www.surreyinformationpoint.org.uk](http://www.surreyinformationpoint.org.uk) or call the Adult Social Care Helpline on: 0300 200 1005.' A red banner at the bottom of the image contains the Surrey County Council logo and the slogan 'Making Surrey a better place'. Below the banner, the text reads: 'Whether you need information on benefits, social networks, health issues or support for carers, help is available.' It then lists 'Online' and 'By phone' options with their respective contact details.

**Information and advice to help you stay independent**

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**Whether you need information on benefits, social networks, health issues or support for carers, help is available.**

**Online**  
[www.surreyinformationpoint.org.uk](http://www.surreyinformationpoint.org.uk)  
This free online directory has essential information to help you or the people you care for, find reliable care, community and health information. It is important to know what is available in your local area, to help you make the right choices about care and support.

**By phone**  
If you would prefer to talk to an advisor call the Adult Social Care Helpline on: **0300 200 1005.**

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# Surrey Police report

Dear All

Your local neighbourhood team would like to wish you all well!

You will be pleased to hear that burglaries have had a huge decline in the area, and I hope this continues, so please make sure you continue to take on board our crime prevention advice and keep your homes, vehicles and property secure.

I'd like to pass on my thanks to the organisers of this year's Village Fête, it was great to see so many of you turn out and was great for me to meet so many residents of Lower Kingswood.

If you see either of us out on our patrols, please come and say hello, we enjoy meeting the members of our community.

Any suspicious incidents or acts of anti social behaviour should be reported to Surrey Police on 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Please don't hesitate to contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Kind regards

PC 40040 Kelly Houghton

[Houghton40040@surrey.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Houghton40040@surrey.pnn.police.uk)



PCSO 14847 Hayley Keegan

[14847@surrey.pnn.police.uk](mailto:14847@surrey.pnn.police.uk)

## Editor's Note

*There is a new mechanism for viewing crime statistics, which can be accessed from the national police website*

[www.police.uk/crime](http://www.police.uk/crime) and this shows that, for the month of April 2013, there were a total of 11 instances of crime & anti social behaviour within a one mile radius of Lower Kingswood. These were made up of: anti social behaviour 3, burglary 3, shoplifting 3, vehicle crime 1 and violent crime 1. This website also allows these instances to be viewed street by street! However, comments from our local police officers have previously indicated that Lower Kingswood itself continues to have relatively low levels of reported crime. Nevertheless you should notify Surrey Police immediately of any suspicious callers or people loitering in your area, any unfamiliar vehicles, or any suspicious activity at neighbouring properties.

## VEHICLE CRIME UPDATE

(from the Surrey Police website - June)

Across Hooley, Chipstead and Lower Kingswood we have been experiencing a high volume of vehicle theft, and thefts from motor vehicles. We want the residents in this area to be particularly aware of, and vigilant towards this type of crime.

In the last month incidents of vehicle crime have occurred in Star Lane, Hooley, Hollymead Road, Chipstead & Stubbs Lane, Lower Kingswood.

If you have seen any suspicious activity, please report this on 101.

Vehicle theft and theft from vehicles make up almost a third of all reported crime. Commercial vehicle owners can be even harder hit. Theft of tools or work equipment can mean a business grinds to a halt, and no business means no income.

Thankfully, most vehicle crime is opportunistic and therefore easy to prevent. Following the straightforward advice below will help to lessen your chances of becoming a victim of vehicle crime.

### Protecting your personal vehicle

- Always lock your vehicle and close the windows and sunroof
- Remove all personal possessions - **not just 'sat navs', laptop/notebook computers and mobile phones** - but also loose change and clothing
- Look after your car keys and keep them out of sight and secure, even when you are at home
- Secure number plates with tamper proof or clutch head screws

### And some extra precautions:

- If possible, park your car in a garage and lock both the car and the garage
- When away from home, try to park in a well lit, open location, or a police approved 'Park Mark' car park
- If you have an older car, or one without an alarm, get one fitted, or use a steering lock
- Fit a tracking device to your vehicle (and ensure you know how to activate it)
- Have the vehicles registration number or vehicle identification number (VIN) etched on each window.

### Keeping your commercial vehicle safe

- Ensure your vehicle is always locked. Lock the back doors while driving.
- If your vehicle doesn't have an alarm, get one fitted. Insurance companies will often give a discount for properly installed and approved alarms.
- **Never leave personal documents in the vehicle's cab.**
- Never leave tools or equipment in your vehicle overnight.
- Keep your van keys safe while you are working. Never leave them in your vehicle.
- 'High clearance' vehicles are common targets for catalytic converter theft. Mark yours to deter thieves.
- Security mark all your tools and equipment to make items uniquely identifiable
- Don't buy cheap, second hand tools from a building site – they may be stolen. If you are suspicious – tell the police.
- Keep stops for fuel, food and other goods to a minimum. The fewer stops you need to make (leaving your vehicle unattended) the more secure it will be.
- Make sure you have fully comprehensive insurance for your vehicle. Thieves will often 'smash and grab' causing damage that is expensive to repair and may take you off the road for several days.

## Residents' Association Committee report

A Meeting of the Committee took place on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2013. In addition to Committee members, Councillors Michael Gosling & Simon Parnall were in attendance.

Although Police representatives were unable to attend the meeting, they had provided the Secretary with an update, which was given to the meeting on their behalf:

- Problems of anti-social behaviour had, in conjunction with Raven Housing, been addressed and such instances had reduced significantly.
- Concerns over speeding traffic on the A217 had been raised by residents at the last Police Surgery and, having contacted the Casualty Reduction Officer, it was confirmed that periodic speed checks are being made.

Councillor Gosling reported on:

- Recent suggestions by residents that wild flowers should be planted along the A217; he stated that various improvements and remedial work needed to be achieved before such matters could be considered.
- The reorganisation of local hospitals and noted that, whilst meetings were still continuing with the Minister and Hospital Boards, a reasonable future had to be decided for Epsom General Hospital. Two specific concerns were raised by Committee members - one involving excessive delays in obtaining GP appointments and the other involving a GP surgery using an 0844 number - Councillors Gosling requested that details of these should be forwarded to him.
- It was reported that the road markings at the junction of Stubbs Lane with Buckland Road were indistinct and that an accident could result, Councillor Gosling agreed to investigate.
- It was reported that part of the embankment at the southbound A217 approach to Green Lane had subsided, Councillor Gosling agreed to investigate.
- It was agreed that Councillor Gosling would arrange a meeting in the near future in respect of the various issues affecting Chipstead Lane, Green Lane & Smithy Lane caused by traffic entering/exiting from the Fidelity site.
- It was noted that the flooding problems of Chipstead Lane and the roundabout seemed to have been remedied.
- Following a query, Councillor Gosling explained the need for the pedestrian refuge in the central reservation of the A217 between Mill Lane and The Warren; he also outlined some of the outstanding work.

Councillor Parnall reported on:

- The likely date for the next Councillors' Surgery and noted that the recent Surgery in Kingswood had been very successful; it was agreed that the Secretary would circulate all concerned with a view to arranging the next Surgery in June.
- Following a query, Councillor Parnall explained that the Bowls Club now only had 17 members and the Council

felt that this did not justify the expense of maintaining the bowling green.

- The current position of the forthcoming Public Inquiry on the 'Highlands' planning application and stated that experienced Counsel had been appointed by the Council. Councillor Parnall added that enforcement proceedings in respect of other issues relating to 'Highlands' had been postponed until after the Hearing and noted that the decision would normally be reached about a month later.
- Various concerns expressed by several residents in relation to the development of the site adjoining the Kingswood Village Club on the A217; he added these issues were being dealt with.
- The Banstead Leisure Centre, which should be approved in April, and the Council's Core Strategy, which should follow later in the year.
- The possibility of the BMX facility on the Recreation Ground being expanded and noted that surplus equipment from other sites could be made available.
- It was noted that an approach had been made for the letting of the Pavilion for a pre-school/playgroup and it would involve refurbishment; Councillor Parnall asked for further details to be forwarded.

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# Kingswood Primary School



children are really enjoying using.

The Lower Kingswood Village Fête was a huge success, helped by the fantastic weather. The Year 6 children ran some stalls including the sale of ice creams and lollies, which proved popular in the heat.

Later in the term Year 6 will spend 2 nights camping at a local activity centre which will enable the children to have some physical challenges as well as great memories as their time at Kingswood comes to an end.

By the time this article is being read, all the children will be working towards their production of 'Beauty and the Beast', which they are performing in the Church Hall at the end of the

Earlier in the term Year 4 had three fantastic days on a residential trip focusing on team building and nature based activities. Luckily the weather was fantastic so the children could dry off after being waist high in mud! For many children this was their first trip away from home and they coped brilliantly.

This term includes many sporting events, one of which is the football week. All local schools attended this event at the end of April; our most successful team was Year 5 who won their tournament. We have also participated in a local cross-country event, cricket tournament and, as I write this update, children are preparing for the district sports. To help with the children's preparation we have recently had a long jump pit built which the

term. As well as this musical, the school choir will sing at the Beacon Secondary School in an end of term event involving over 300 children from local schools. The school is also participating in a musical event based on the West End production of 'Stomp'. A busy end to the year!

Finally I would like to wish Year 6 all the best as they leave Kingswood and start on their next stage in education.

*Duncan Steele*  
Head-teacher



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# The Wisdom of God Church

Dear Friends

At the end of this month of June I will be having my last service in the parish, a joint service at St Andrews at 10.30am followed by the Parish Fete in the Vicarage Garden at 12 noon. I along with my wife and family have been in Kingswood for 11 years and we shall be going to Canterbury where I hope not only to become involved in the life of the Cathedral and local churches, but also to continue my studies in cosmology and teaching on the interface between science and religion; so I intend to continue being busy!



One of the emphases of my ministry has been the teaching that creation is as important a part of the faith as redemption. We are all part of God's creation and our physical being & well-being and the well-being of our planet, are as important to God as our spiritual health. In light of this I have introduced the 'Season of Creation', which runs in September and October each year and includes not only 'the Big Bang, Evolution and all that' but also the animal kingdom (with our pet service) and health & wholeness (with our healing service) as well as other themes. I believe a balance between creation and redemption corrects some of the tendencies of the Christian faith may appear life denying. However, on the contrary, Jesus Christ came so that we might have life and have it abundantly (John 10:10).

During my time at St Andrews and the Wisdom of God I have endeavoured to teach a gospel of grace. It has been very important that the church should be a happy non-judgemental accepting community into which other people would want to join and commit themselves.

As I look to the future I am confident that despite many challenges that the future of the parish is secure if the church is centred on a living faith in Jesus Christ and its people concentrate on being his faithful disciples. That does not mean that change will not happen, for on the contrary it is inevitable, however the church is called to be a pilgrim people and the change will present new opportunities to discover God's presence and grace.

*Garth Barber*

Vicar - St Andrews with the Wisdom of God, Kingswood

## PARISH SERVICES OVER THE SUMMER PERIOD

23 <sup>rd</sup> June at 9:30	Wisdom of God	Holy Communion
11:00	St Andrews	Holy Communion
30 <sup>th</sup> June at 10:30	St Andrews	Holy Communion Joint
		<b>Vicar's Farewell Service</b>
12:00	Parish Fete in the Vicarage Garden	
7 <sup>th</sup> July at 9:30	Wisdom of God	Holy Communion
11:00	St. Andrews	Holy Communion
19.30	Wisdom of God	Evening Family Service with Communion
14 <sup>th</sup> July at 9:30	Wisdom of God	Holy Communion
11:00	St Andrews	Holy Communion
21 <sup>st</sup> July at 10:30	Wisdom of God	Joint Service – Feast of Dedication

28 <sup>th</sup> July at 10:30	St Andrews	Joint Service
4 <sup>th</sup> August at 10:30	Wisdom of God	Joint Service
11 <sup>th</sup> August at 10:30	St Andrews	Joint Service
18 <sup>th</sup> August at 10:30	Wisdom of God	Joint Service
25 <sup>th</sup> August at 10:30	St Andrews	Joint Service

## Church Hall

The Hall remains busy with regular bookings, charity events and parties. There is currently availability for regular bookings on Monday and Thursday mornings. Last month, the Hall was used once again as a local polling station for Reigate & Banstead.

The new Hall Committee is still finding its feet and getting to grips with all the many areas that need to be addressed and dealt with over the course of the year, as well as setting out plans for the future.

It was fantastic this year that sunny weather accompanied the Village Fête in May and there was no need for a "wet weather" plan which usually comprises using the Hall facilities. Many thanks to everybody who came to have a go on the Church Hall's 'Golf Pitching' stall.

We would like to thank everyone who uses the Hall on a regular basis and please consider using the Lower Kingswood Church Hall when you are next planning a function.

Please contact Laurie & Marianne Kaye for booking information and prices on 01737-832848.



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## Lower Kingswood Evangelical Church

Have you ever had the experience of being out and about and having your breath taken away by something in nature? Maybe it was a beautiful sunset or a view from a mountain-top or a winding coastline. In my case, the view from Colley Hill never fails to take my breath away. What is happening in those moments when we are moved by the beauty and complexity of the world around us? We are picking up something of the witness in the world to the existence and power of the God who made it. The Bible tells us that '[God's] eternal power and divine nature ... [are] clearly seen, being understood from what has been made' (Romans chapter 1 verse 20). Just like a Van Gogh painting displays his skill or a piece of wonderful music reveals the genius of the composer, so the world around us shows us the skill and genius of its Maker.

The problem is that when we pick up something of this witness we tend to get distracted by other things, we move on with life and push these thoughts to the edges of our lives or we imagine that the world popped into existence without a Creator. Instead, in those moments, we should ask ourselves the questions: 'What must the God be like who made this wonderful world?' or 'How can I get to know him myself?' or 'What does he expect from me?' These are the ultimate questions of life and something that we are passionate about as a church and love helping people to investigate. We believe that God provides answers to these questions and we exist to share them with other people.

So, the next time you find something in the world around us



taking your breath away, don't miss the opportunity to ask those deeper questions – and if we can help you with this in anyway then you would be more than welcome to join us at one of our services on a Sunday. We meet at our church premises at 47 Smithy Lane at 10:30am.

If you would like to find out more, then do contact us on the internet at [www.lkec.org.uk](http://www.lkec.org.uk) or you can e-mail me at [pas-tor@lkec.org.uk](mailto:pas-tor@lkec.org.uk). We look forward to welcoming you!

*Jim Murkett*

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## CAMEO Club - 'Come And Meet Each Other'

Eventually CAMEO resumed for 2013 in April! We were sad that some are no longer able to come to the meetings, but glad that new members are still coming along. In April, Ian Cooper, the Pastor of Tollgate Evangelical Church, gave an illuminating presentation on the Pilgrim Fathers, following a recent visit to several related sites in New England. Most of us knew something of their story, but we all came away with a fresh appreciation of their story.

In May we were off to Wales – or rather Wales came to Lower Kingswood – as we sampled some of the delights of that beautiful land through a personal selection of highlights ranging from the enchanting countryside, impressive castles and soaring mountains to the isolated Ty Mawr, now tucked away in the middle of no-where but once on the ancient equivalent of a motorway.

We seek to maintain a varied and interest-

ing programme, and if you would like further information, simply come to a CAMEO (Come and Meet Each Other) and meet us on the second Monday of each month.

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## Lower Kingswood Strollers

Like most things this year, Strollers has had a somewhat shaky start for various reasons, but we are operating! So far we have had two strolls, in March and April, each of them revisiting familiar haunts – though with variations. Family, medical and travel clashes meant that that numbers on both occasions were limited to only 3 of us, but a different 3.

March saw us return to Margery Woods and Colley Hill. Although the weather was dry, and had been for several days, there are sections of sheltered path around Margery that remain waterlogged, which we had forgotten, but it was an enjoyable excursion. In April, with a different trio, we ventured over to Heathley Heath, a location we had not visited for three years. It is evident that much creative conservation work is continuing on the

Heath and it remains a delightful area to explore, not least since the on-going work means it is constantly being renewed.

Meanwhile, the regrets of many who have been regular strollers will hopefully be replaced with the joy of reunion as 2013 progresses and the demands of appointments and health restrictions ease. Even more to the point, although we have had several new friends join us in the past six months more are always welcome. If you would like to join us in our explorations, we usually meet at 2:00pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month.

# Crumbs



Lower Kingswood Evangelical Church Parent & Toddler Group

We've enjoyed meeting with mums and children who've been coming to Crumbs for a while, and also welcoming new friends. We aim to be friendly and welcoming whether it's your first time or your fiftieth!

Now it's the summer term, more of us are heading outside to play, and it's been nice to get the sandpit out again! At the time of writing, it hasn't yet been warm enough for water play, but we're hopeful that it might be before too long...

There's usually playdough and drawing in our Craft Area and we try to have something to make every week. Painting is especially popular!

At about 10:20am we all stop for Story Time. This term we've been hearing stories from the Bible about Jesus' Unstoppable Mission, how news about him spread all over the world. While we're all sat down together, we enjoy singing some of our favourite songs and rhymes, sometimes getting out instruments too.

The smell and taste of fresh coffee is usually accompanied by cake, and often one or more of us have had chance to bake something to bring and share, which we all enjoy!

Do give us a call or pop along if you'd like to come and join us on Friday mornings between 9.15am and 11:00am at Lower Kingswood Evangelical Church on Smithy Lane.


## Mogador Rangers Youth Football Club



Mogador Rangers are a local youth football club based at Kingswood Primary School. This season we have run teams at Under 7, Under 8, Under 9 and Under 12. We also run a Saturday morning Soccer School for years R and 1. We are a friendly and inclusive football club who try to encourage their players to enjoy their football. The majority of our players come from within the village but we also welcome children from the surrounding areas. All of our teams have FA qualified coaches and we work to all current FA guidelines. We are now entering our 34th year.

Next season we will be running teams at under 7, 9, 10, 11 and 14 as well as the ever-popular Soccer School.

New faces are always welcome at our club. The Soccer School runs from 9:00am to 10:00am most Saturdays during term times and also some Saturdays during the holidays. Our teams all play in the Epsom & Ewell Youth League during the playing season and have training sessions during the rest of the year; times and dates vary so for more details please contact our Chairman by email on: [smithalan17@aol.com](mailto:smithalan17@aol.com)



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(just off junction 8, M25)

We are both B.H.S. & A.B.R.S. approved





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## Kingswood Parish Events Committee

We have planned a summer outing to Longstock Water Garden, in Hampshire, on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July. The seven-acre garden is owned and managed by the John Lewis Partnership and includes around two and a half acres of lake. It has earned a universal reputation amongst horticulturalists and has been voted the 'finest water garden in the world' by the International Water Lily Society. A morning visit of the garden and the plant nursery attached to it will be followed in the afternoon by a guided tour of Winchester Cathedral. The price is £34 per person and includes morning coffee and cake at Longstock Park Nursery. The coach will leave from the St. Andrew's car park at 9:00am and there will be an additional pick-up from Lower Kingswood shortly afterwards. We should be back in Kingswood by about 5:30/6:00pm.

For those who don't know us, let us just introduce ourselves. We have been organising a wide variety of outings for local residents since 1989. Although we are attached to the local parish, we positively encourage all in our community to come and share in our activities. Why not try us if you have never been on one of our trips? And don't hesitate to bring a friend along!

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## The Thirteen Society

Many long term Kingswood residents are unaware of The Thirteen Society, now in its 68<sup>th</sup> year, and this is particularly so in Lower Kingswood. We would therefore like to extend a warm welcome to all to join us next season.

During the Second World War a friendly spirit pervaded the people of Kingswood and Tadworth. Most were members of one Defence Service or another and it was felt that the comradeship that resulted should be preserved when peace returned. A few enthusiasts got together to see what could be done with this end in view. It was members of the 13<sup>th</sup> Platoon of the Surrey Home Guard who first proposed the idea of a society and so it was agreed that it should be called The Thirteen Society. Speakers would be invited from all walks of life and refreshments served during the evening.

Today the Thirteen Society members are a group of mostly retired professionals, aged between 50 and 80. They meet in the local village hall, in Waterhouse Lane, on the second Monday evening of the winter months. The current membership totals just under 100. The audience is generally between 50 and 60 in number. Evenings begin at 8:00pm with a coffee break of 20 minutes or so, and end about 9:45pm.

To give you an idea of what to expect, last year we had talks on the singer Kathleen Ferrier, Wildlife in South Africa, Grant Ford from the 'Antiques Roadshow' speaking about Sotheby's, etc. etc.

Our new season begins in October and in the September edition of this magazine I will give more details of our new programme.

The annual fee is £15 or individual lectures are £4.

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## Surrey's home composting campaign

Around a third of all household waste could be composted which would save the county an estimated £11 million in a year in reduced landfill and green waste disposal costs (Source: July 2012). Therefore we're encouraging composting by offering cut-price compost bins to Surrey residents from as little as £15, available in two sizes. We've sold 13,500 in the last three and a half years, helping to divert almost 6,700 tonnes of waste from landfill sites. Composting also is the greenest, most natural way to deal with your food and garden waste.

### HOW TO COMPOST

- Find the right site

Site your bin or heap on bare soil. If space is limited, put your bin on concrete, tarmac or patio slabs, but make sure there's a layer of soil or existing compost on the bottom so garden creatures can colonise. The site should also have good drainage, easy access be in sun or partial shade.

- Add the right ingredients

Fill your kitchen caddy with everything from vegetable and fruit peelings to teabags, paper towel and egg shells. Take care not to compost cooked food, meat or fish.

- Fill it up

Empty your kitchen caddy and your garden waste into your bin or heap. Remember, a 50/50 mix of greens and browns is the perfect recipe for good compost. If your compost is too wet and gives off an odour, add more browns. If it's too dry and is not rotting, add some greens.

- After 9-12 months

The ingredients you have put in your bin or heap should have turned into a dark brown, earthy smelling material at the bottom of the bin, which can be dug out, with the newer material being left. Don't worry if your compost looks a little lumpy with twigs and bits of eggshells – this is perfectly normal. Simply sift out any bits and return them to your bin or heap.

- Ready!

Once your compost resembles thick, moist soil and smells very earthy, it's ready to use.

- Collect the compost

Instructions will be delivered with your bin. But all you have to do is lift the bin slightly or open the hatch at the bottom and scoop out the fresh compost with a garden fork or spade.

- Use it

And watch your garden bloom. Compost can be used for all types of planting needs – vegetable plants for allotments; general potting (if mixed with ordinary soil); or flowerbeds and enriching new borders by mixing it into the existing soil.

## Charlie Dimmock supports Surrey composting

### CHARLIE DIMMOCK SAYS GET IN YOUR GARDEN

Now that spring has finally sprung and summer is nearly upon us, television gardener Charlie Dimmock is telling Surrey to go green, get composting and help the environment.

She said: "I'd encourage everyone with space in their garden to give composting a go. It's much easier to get started than people realise and great for the garden and the environment.

"Even those who already compost at home might be able to do even more by adding things like shredded paper or the contents from their vacuum cleaner."

Whether you're a keen gardener or just want to choose the greenest, most natural way to deal with your food and garden waste, composting is the perfect solution.

### How to compost

Grass cuttings, leaves, twigs, vegetable peelings and even the cardboard from empty cereal boxes are just some of the ingredients that can go into a compost bin or heap.

An equal mix of greens (e.g. grass cuttings or vegetable peelings) and browns (like cereal boxes or twigs) is the perfect recipe for good compost.

After 9-12 months compost will be ready and can be used to feed the lawn, enrich borders and maintain vegetable patches and flower beds. You can also compost a wider range of materials such as meat and bones, using digesters like Green Cones, Green Johannas and Wormeries.

### Why is composting important?

Compost is a nutrient-rich food product for your garden and will help improve soil structure and maintain moisture levels, while **helping to suppress plant disease**. It's **natural and peat-free**, which means it is good for the environment outside your garden too.

### Get started

- To buy a compost bin from only £15 (RRP £40) call 0844-571-4444 or visit [www.surreywastepartnership.org.uk](http://www.surreywastepartnership.org.uk) where you can also "dig up" more advice.
- To pick up great tips on composting through the seasons, email [getcomposting@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:getcomposting@surreycc.gov.uk) to sign up to our e-newsletter.
- If you're on Facebook, follow our loveable composting character, Compo, in the garden at <http://www.facebook.com/surreymattersgetcomposting>.



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## Lower Kingswood Village Fête - May 2013

Well, whatever happened to the weather for this year's Village Fête? Where was the rain, the sleet, the wind? In fact, we really think it was our turn for a nice hot sunny day! It was fabulous weather, the Recreation Ground looked really colourful and a comment overheard was that the Recreation Ground is a really attractive setting for such an event.

We hope you all enjoyed the day and found some new attractions. Those daring enough to climb it enjoyed the climbing wall or even, got a chance to climb it as there were queues all day. We would especially like to thank Ben Austin and James Sargeant who were persuaded by Sarah Young to assist with the climbing wall for free. All of these currently work at High Ashurst Activity Centre.

Thank you too to all of you - for coming, for spending to such a great extent that all of the 12 local groups who took part benefited from a nice fat cheque to the value of £400 each.

Thanks also go to Michael Baker, the electrician who advertises in this newsletter, for kindly checking that all the electrics were safe and sound.

Those of us on the organising group discussed last night whether we should/could hold a Fête next year. The answer seems to be that YES, WE CAN - BUT NOT WITHOUT SOME EXTRA HELP. This year the load fell very heavily on a very small number of individuals. We only met 5 times between September and May but a little bit more help and some other ideas will all help put together a fun time in 2014.

If you could offer to help if only in a small way, please contact our Chairman.



May and June is the busiest time of year for me as Club Secretary. The season is over, but we are asked by the County FA and the various leagues that we have played in the previous season, to register for the next one. We therefore have to try to recruit new players and managers to take the club forward.

We have many methods to advertise our trials each season and this year we opted to attend the Lower Kingswood Village Fête and man two stalls to hand out some fliers and we also spent quite a lot of money on a large banner with the dates and times of our trials which we hung on the fence outside the Recreation Ground. It was therefore with

great disappointment that I took a call a few weeks ago and was told that someone had taken a blade to our banner and completely vandalised it presumably with the aim of disrupting our advertising and therefore our trials. I must admit to be a little gobsmacked! Needless to say this incident was subsequently reported to the Police.

Even if you missed the opportunity of taking part in our trials we are always interested in hearing from potential new players. We are also looking for new managers and other volunteers to help run the club. If you are interested in coming to see what we are about or you know someone who might be, then call Denis on 07900-581769 or e-mail us at [Kingswoodfalconsfc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Kingswoodfalconsfc@hotmail.co.uk)



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9<sup>th</sup> Reigate Scout Group  
**The 'Ron Stoneman' Scout Hut**  
Buckland Road, Lower Kingswood  
[www.9thReigate.co.uk](http://www.9thReigate.co.uk)



Lower Kingswood's own scout group has three sections in Lower Kingswood - Beavers Cubs and Scouts.

The Beavers for 6 to 8 year olds run a fun programme with games and inspiring learning. For Burns Night we had the haggis delivered by a kilt swinging Scotsman. Since then we have had an evening concentrating on Australia - Beavers children can readily imitate kangaroos! At the end of April we celebrated St George's Day by dressing as knights and other fancy dress characters and practicing jousting. Growing numbers has reflected the attractiveness to the children, so that we are now full to capacity; this means that any aspiring Beavers may have to go on the waiting list. Of course with more adult help we could take more!

We have a very active Cub pack (aged 8 to 10½ years) of 20 Cubs and 4 leaders. This year, September to July, as well as our weekly meeting, we have taken part in several District events. We are going to Cub Camp in June - a weekend away and the highlight of the year. This year is also our tri-annual County

event where Cubs from all over Surrey come together for an activity day known as SCRAM, in other words have fun, try new and varied activities and make new friends.

The Scout section (aged 10½ to 14) is not quite so numerous and indeed we are actively welcoming any newcomers. We work in co-operation with the Scouts of Chipstead and thus mutually benefit from shared facilities and of larger numbers. Recently **the troop has been at B&Q to carry out an activity for the 'DIY badge', visited a Hindu temple and cooked their own pizzas at Dominoes - food items always seem popular!**

As a Group we have been bag packing in Asda and run stalls at the Village Fête to raise funds for the Hut upkeep and equipment.

To find out more about us check out our group website: [www.9thReigate.co.uk](http://www.9thReigate.co.uk) or contact our Group Scout Leader on 0844-414-2215 or email: [GSL@9thReigate.co.uk](mailto:GSL@9thReigate.co.uk)

**Lower Kingswood  
Parent & Toddler Group**

Refreshments  
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Games

**Every Thursday, 10am - 12noon**  
The Church Hall, Buckland Road,  
Lower Kingswood

£2 entry

During the past few weeks we have continued to have many new faces join us for our Thursday mornings of fun! It is always lovely to welcome new mums, grandparents and carers to our group.

As always we have had many fun activities and games for the children to enjoy. The children particularly enjoyed making Easter baskets and filling them with chocolate eggs.

Unfortunately as our children will be moving on to "Big School" in September we will be stepping down from our roles as running the group when we break up in July. We are looking for anyone who is prepared to take over the running of the group from September. This is not a major commitment, we usually arrive at the Hall at 9:00a.m. and have packed and left by 12:15pm. If anyone is interested, please contact either of us as soon as possible so we can begin the handover.

Obviously we would welcome even more new Mums, Dads, Grandparents and children - the more the merrier! So if you would welcome some company on Thursday mornings while your children play please do come along a join us.

We run every Thursday morning from 10:00am to 12 noon (term time only). The charge is just £2 for you and your child and 50p for every additional child. This price includes unlimited tea, coffee, juice & biscuits and of course chat.



# Yummy Mummy Coffee Morning

Hello everyone, we have had a chilly, but fun packed spring, in which we were visited by the Easter Bunny and had a very successful Easter Egg Hunt.

Our summer term is always fantastic, as it means more time playing in our child friendly garden. It is also the last term for all our big children, who will start school in September (sad, but exciting too).

We are growing nicely and more and more people are coming with little ones, which is lovely. We have also become a 'pit stop' for parents who have dropped off children at school, which is high praise indeed and we love catching up with them all. Please come and join us, Child not essential! Scones, with clotted cream & strawberry jam, have been added to our menu! Well it is Summer now!

Every three weeks we have a Beauty therapist offering OPI Gel nails, at fantastic reduced rates and, from time to time, we are visited by businesses, offering other services that our customers have asked for.

If you have a baby, toddler or both, are a parent, carer, grandparent or child-minder and would like join in the fun, please just turn up. We open at 9:00am and finish at 11:00am on Wednesday mornings during term time - sometimes in the holidays as well! We also arrange picnics, days out and have been known to have nights out too (without the children)!

The cost is £3 for one adult and the first child, each extra child costs 50p. All drinks & biscuits are included along with muffins, cakes, crisps, scones & bacon sandwiches from 30p to £2.

If you want to know more, our contact details are below. Please 'Like us' on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/YummyMummyCoffeeMorning](http://www.facebook.com/YummyMummyCoffeeMorning). See you soon.

## 1st Lower Kingswood Brownies

The Brownies once again have a very busy term ahead.

We hope that as the weather gets warmer (hopefully) we can be outside a lot more and begin to start playing games on the Recreation Ground. We have already had a lady visit us from Cats Protection, where she brought her cat Alfie to show and she explained about the charity and what help they give to the cats within the county. The Brownies really enjoyed it, and all were allowed to give Alfie a treat.

We have arranged for a tennis coach to come and visit us so the girls can learn some new skills. We will be also completing our 'Out & About' and 'Brownie Traditions' badges, which will involve a walk to the Old Pheantry, to explore the grounds and find bits and pieces on a treasure hunt.

We will also be doing activities, which will be linked to 'Water Safety Awareness Week' and 'National Epilepsy Week'.

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Qualified teacher (CRB checked) with experience teaching whole classes and providing individual tuition for Year 5/6 children offering tutoring in a range of subjects for children aged 6-12. Contact Eve Murkett for more information on: 01737-831078 or email: [lowerkingswoodtutor@gmail.com](mailto:lowerkingswoodtutor@gmail.com)

## **RED CARPET ENTERTAINMENTS**

We provide entertainment acts for parties, weddings etc. and can also provide discos, live bands and tribute acts. Telephone: Susie Homes 07958-478620 or Ray Lowe 07852-351620 or email: [info@redcarpetentertainments.co.uk](mailto:info@redcarpetentertainments.co.uk) or see our website: [www.redcarpetentertainments.co.uk](http://www.redcarpetentertainments.co.uk) (follow us on Twitter @redcarpetents)

## **S.D. SERVICING**

Mobile mechanic. Telephone: 07877-107246

## **SEETHRU WINDOW CLEANING**

Residential & business. Telephone: 07877-107246

## **STONEMAN FUNERAL SERVICE – 5<sup>th</sup> generation family funeral director**

Local offices at Redhill (01737-763456), Reigate (01737-243164) & Tadworth (01737-814406) – also see main advert in Village News

## **THE STRAND - hairdressers for ladies & gents**

Colours - highlights, wash, cut & blow-drying, perms – shampoo & sets. Telephone: 01737-832835.

## **SURREY & SUSSEX CARPENTER**

Excellent experienced quality craftsmen. Telephone: Paul on: 07946-628601

## **THOMAS PLUMBING & HEATING**

Boiler & central heating installation, servicing & breakdown and plumbing work from tap washers to bathroom installation. Gas safe registered. Telephone: 01737-832836 or 07834-607082. See our website: [www.thomasplumbing.co.uk](http://www.thomasplumbing.co.uk) or email: [info@thomasplumbing.co.uk](mailto:info@thomasplumbing.co.uk)

## **WINTech COMPUTERS Ltd**

Sales of computers, laptops and peripherals. We also offer a repair and upgrade service, networking and broadband. Contact us on 01737-225520 or email: [sales@wintechcomputers.com](mailto:sales@wintechcomputers.com) or see our website: [www.wintechcomputers.com](http://www.wintechcomputers.com) – also see main advert in Village News

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