



VILLAGE NEWS

www.lowerkingswood.org.uk
 Autumn Edition 2009

Chairman's Report to Residents



September/
 October 2009

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Welcome to our Summer 2009 issue of *Village News* 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.

Unlike most other local Residents' Association there is no annual subscription payable – our running costs are met from the revenue from advertisements in our newsletter. So please help support our local businesses and advertisers. Please remember that, without the continuing support of local residents, our local businesses – both old and new – may find it difficult to survive.

COUNCILLORS' & POLICE SURGERY

A date for your diary - the next meeting will be held on Saturday 14th November (between 11:00am and 12 noon) at the Church Hall in Buckland Road.

KEEP LOWER KINGSWOOD TIDY

Although we have the benefit of our local "recycling centre" in Stubbs Lane, it is clear that some people (hopefully not residents of the village) periodically use it for "fly-tipping". If you see evidence of this please initially notify the Borough Council (on 01737-276000) or report it on-line via their website so that the waste can be removed.

At the same time we would like to remind those residents out walking their dogs should ensure that any mess that may be left – particularly in the Recreation Ground – is cleared up at the time; there are bins available for this very purpose.

We have also had a few reports of areas within the Recreation Ground being used as a public toilet; any such anti-social behaviour should be reported to the Police.

POLICE NEWS

We are fortunate that instances of criminal activity within Lower Kingswood remain low; but that is not to say we should be complacent.

If you have access to the internet and would like further statistical information on the levels of crime, you can now access a "crime map" which allows information to be obtained for a given locality or even post code: <http://surrey.crimemapper.co.uk/>

Our local officers (PC Ed Ferris & PCSO Laura Nolan) have stressed the importance of reporting all crimes to the Police as that may well help them build up a case against those responsible. This even includes instances of break-ins to outbuildings. **Don't forget, ANY suspicious activity in your neighbourhood, should also be reported to the Police.**

PLANNING ISSUES

There have been a couple of recent applications that have been approved which have given some cause for concern amongst local residents.

Another organisation has taken over the site previously occupied by Elliot Books and their application was approved by the Borough Council on the basis that the existing use was continuing. If this proves not to be the case this should be reported via one of our Borough Councillors.

YOUR RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOU

We appreciate that ALL the voluntary organisations in the village are dependent on what seems to be a small nucleus of dedicated volunteers who are willing to give freely of their time and effort. Your Residents' Association Committee is no exception to this in that we all have our "day jobs" and yet are willing to give up some of our free time to try and represent the interests of our residents – including lobbying our local Councillors and Police representatives on a variety of issues.

If YOU feel that you have something to offer the local community, why not contact our Chairman and offer to stand as a member of YOUR Residents' Association Committee?

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, printing and distribution. If you can spare the time to help – particularly 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 continued support of Fidelity Investment Services.



Surrey Police report



"I am PC 3029 Ed Ferris and have been a serving officer for seven years now. I have spent my career to date in uniform and in the Reigate & Banstead Borough area. I have spent nearly four years as a response officer and some time with 'proactive' work and minor crime investigations. I hope that this puts me in good stead to take over the good work started by PC Thorne & PCSO Hughes and continued by PCSO Johnson in your neighbourhood.

We also have a new PCSO, Laura Nolan who started with us at the end of March whom, I am sure, will be as proactive and committed to making our local area a safe place to live and work. I am a fairly straightforward copper, and will treat people in the manner they treat me. I believe in positive action I am keen to deal with neighbourhood priorities directly and you should see or hear of me out and about, conducting stop checks. I am also fairly approachable and if anyone has any issues they want to discuss, they will receive an honest and direct response."

PC Ed Ferris

FIN: 3029

Email:

Ferris3029@surrey.pnn.police.uk

Phone: 0845-125-2222



I joined Surrey Police in January 2009 and have been part of the Banstead team since April. I work alongside PC Ed Ferris to cover the neighbourhoods of Lower Kingswood, Hooley and Netherne-on-the-Hill. My role is to ensure that you are safe and that you actually feel safe in your own community, so I will be working with you to address any local issues you may have and to provide reassurance where I can.

I really enjoy meeting and getting to know people so please do stop me when I am out and about on patrol. In the meantime please feel free to call or email me if you have any urgent issues you would like address

PCSO Laura Nolan

FIN: 13709

Email: Nolan13709@surrey.pnn.police.uk

Phone: 0845-125-2222



HOME SECURITY

1 - When leaving your property always make sure that the windows are closed and secure and you lock and close the front and back doors.

2 - Never leave upstairs windows open when you go out even if it is for a short period of time.

3 - If you have a house alarm, set this when leaving.

4 - Remove valuable items from view of windows and doors, never leave keys in view and place them away from the front door.

5 - Security mark your property with your postcode. If you are unfortunate enough to be a victim of a burglary and your belongings are recovered they can be returned to you.

6 - If you are going away on holiday, use timers on your lights and even a radio to come on at different times. If you have neighbours you know well ask them to keep an eye on your property while you are away.

BEWARE OF BOGUS CALLERS

Householders in Reigate & Banstead are being warned not to give any home security details out over the phone after a spate of bogus phone calls to residents in the area.

Several Reigate & Banstead residents have reported bogus calls from people claiming to be working alongside Surrey Police as part of a crime prevention initiative. The callers have asked the householders questions about their current home security, claiming to be offering them a free burglar alarm or the chance to win a burglar alarm worth £1,000.

Neighbourhood Inspector Charlotte Rimmer said: "It is important that you make sure you know exactly who you are talking to when you are cold-called by someone in this way. If you do get a call from someone claiming to be an official of some kind that you aren't expecting, ask them for a number you can call back so you can either check with Directory Enquiries that they are from a real company, or you can call a switchboard for the organisation they say they work for and ask to be put through to them.

"Be aware that when someone asks you when you are in or whether you have an alarm fitted, you are also telling them when you are out and what security measures you already have in place.

"If someone calls or does come to your front door, keep the chain on, ask for identification of some kind, and if you have any concerns call the Police. With your help we can stop bogus callers duping innocent householders and prevent them committing criminal activity."

If you have information about crime and don't want to leave your name, call Crimestoppers on:

0800 555 111



If you have a genuine emergency requiring the attendance of the police, such as a crime is in progress or someone is in immediate danger, call:

999

(Minicom users: 01483 539999)

For non-emergency policing matters only, call Surrey Police on:

0845 125 2222

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Perhaps the most successful crime prevention scheme ever conceived Neighbourhood Watch is well established in East Surrey.

However, we are always keen to hear from potential new members in areas not currently covered by the scheme. NHW membership carries numerous benefits. Please contact us for more details.

Editor's Note

Statistics for the area comprising Tadworth, Walton, Kingswood, Lower Kingswood, Hooley & Netherne covering the 3 months July to September 2009 with the same period in 2008 show an average increase of 2.3% with the largest increase in vehicle crime (54.5%) and anti-social behaviour (25.7%). However, whilst most types of crime are described as "average", burglary is described as "below average". Full details of the crime statistics can be found on the Surrey Police website. However, comments from our local PC & PCSO appear to indicate that Lower Kingswood itself continues to have a relatively low level 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.

Street surgeries are to be held outside Kingswood Primary School, Buckland Road on Monday 9th November (8:30 – 9:00am) and Thursday 17th December (3:00 - 3:30pm).



Do you want to do something positive to benefit your local community?

If so, how about becoming a **Special Constable?**

Surrey Police
are now recruiting

Special Constables

Special Constables are volunteer police officers who wear the same uniform and hold the same powers as Regular officers. Working for a minimum of 16 hours a month you will be an important part of our Neighbourhood Policing teams. We welcome applicants from all backgrounds who are reasonably fit and are of good character. For more information and an application pack:

Call on Freephone 0800 3287597 or
Email: PersonnelSpecialConstabulary@surrey.police.uk



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Reigate & Banstead Borough Council report

Well the winter weather is closing in with the darker start to the day and the same for the early evenings, so we all need to stay very aware when leaving our homes and our cars - so please lock up. The Surrey Police team have been with us all the way with cracking down on crime and being there at our regular Street Surgeries which take place outside Kingswood Primary School in Buckland Road. We welcome your response to any concerns you may have.

At my last meeting your concerns included unsociable parking on grass verges and sight lines leading to the A217. I am please to say that, with the help of Surrey Police, we have managed to get some of these problem resolved but we are always willing to hear from you if you are not happy.

It has been good news regarding some very old trees that lay behind numbers 20-32 Josephine Avenue thus helping to screen and reduce noise levels from the A217 Brighton Road. The Tree Preservation Order officer and myself felt that they needed to stay and so TPOs have been awarded to them but, most importantly, we need to keep our trees which are so often cut down to make way for new developments.

It's now almost a year from the Borough Leader's report and Doynings Leisure Centre will get its make-over but, as I hope you will all appreciate, we are still in a recession and we have had to keep our spending distributions down and allocate spending towards alleviating the major problems. Nevertheless, we are confident that we have managed to keep that portion of your Council Tax (which goes towards funding the Borough Council) down with no increase envisaged for the forthcoming year.

However, we understand that in the present economic climate many of our residents may need advice & assistance and we have therefore funded and opened a further Help Centre for the Citizens Advice Bureau to cope with the increasing number of our residents needing such help.

By now you all should have received a letter detailing your new refuse & recycling collection dates; please read this and be aware of any changes to these days & times. We aim to give you a more efficient waste collection service, this will save money by reducing the number of collection vehicles and reducing the number of journeys made by consolidating collection dates within specific areas of the Borough – this will lead to more efficient and economical use of our collection vehicles. We would also appreciate your co-operation with making sure that you allow enough space for these vehicles to access your road by putting any vehicles off the road onto your own drive ways wherever possible.

It remains for me to say that I am only a 'phone call away. If I can help in any way please call me - if I can't, I will know someone that possibly can!

If you know of anyone that needs our help or some care let us know we are here. Do please remember that we all will need a helping hand one day whatever it may be or whenever it may strike us down.

Stay safe and warm.

Julie Tomlinson

Councillor for Kingswood, Lower Kingswood & Burgh Heath
e-mail: cllr.Tomlinson@reigate-banstead.gov.uk

telephone: 01737-831471



Kingswood Primary School

I can't believe that the summer is now over and a new academic year has begun. Our old Year 6 children will now have started at

their secondary schools and I hope that they have all settled in well and begun to get used to their new routines and new learning environments.

I would like to welcome our new reception children who have only just started school for the first time and their new teacher, the recently married Mrs. Benson. I wish her all the best as she starts her teaching career at Kingswood. We have also appointed a part time music teacher, Emily Assen, who helped raise the profile of music last year by setting up the school choir. Her enthusiasm and energy will be a tremendous asset to Kingswood as we continue to build up the provision of music within the school.

The school's main priorities are very similar to last year. Firstly, we want to embed all the good teaching and learning of reading that happened last year. Secondly, we are going to develop the ways in which writing is taught in school, ensuring that it is not

only stimulating for the children but also ensuring the children know what they have to do to improve their own work. Thirdly, **we want to continue to enhance the school's environment both internally and externally** so that the children can be given the best opportunities to help them in their learning when at Kingswood. This will include developing our garden area, which still needs a lot of work. Again as I have written in other issues, the school would always welcome any additional help or advice with this. Finally, we are also evaluating and developing the curriculum that the children experience so that it is always relevant and as stimulating as it can be. We are looking forward to making links with schools in the local area, schools in Malawi as well as links with a school in France, which the year 6 children will hopefully visit.

We have a number of adults from the community, male and female, who regularly help in school and if anyone feels that they have some spare time and/or a specific interest or skill that they feel would benefit the children please come and see me at the school.

Duncan Steele

Headteacher



Surrey Fire & Rescue Service



Surrey Fire and Rescue Service is responsible for fire-fighting and many safety issues in the Borough of Reigate and Banstead.

The SFRS has 17 full-time fire (and 7 part-time) stations strategically situated across the county of Surrey serving a population of over 1 million along with over 60 miles of motorway and proximity to 2 major airports. The local fire station is located at Croydon Road, Reigate which has 2 fire engines and is crewed 24 hours a day.

The SFRS aims to do much more than fire-fighting, and works hard with others to make Surrey a safer place to live, work and do business. The service also aims to raise awareness among the most vulnerable people in order to reduce the suffering caused by fires and other emergencies.

FIRE PREVENTION

We believe that in order to make Surrey a safer place to live, every effort must be made to prevent fires in the home. Surrey Fire and Rescue Service attend between 500 and 600 accidental fires in Surrey homes each year.

The causes of these fires vary but, in the vast majority of cases, can be attributed to human error, where someone has either made a mistake or forgotten to carry out a simple task. Often these mistakes are caused by misunderstanding the nature of the fire hazards in your home. These can involve: candles, chimney fires, chip pan fires, electric blankets, electrical wiring & appliances, matches & lighters, portable heaters, smoking materials etc.

HAVE YOU GOT A SMOKE ALARM?

Have you got a smoke alarm in your home? If so, when did you last check the batteries? Or is there a battery still in the smoke alarm? Surrey Fire and Rescue Service urges people to check

their smoke alarm batteries once a week.

Tragically, there is a high human cost for not checking your smoke alarm is working. Nationally, the death rate in domestic fires where there is no working smoke alarm is two times higher than that in homes fitted with a working smoke alarm.

HOME FIRE RISK CHECK

All Surrey households can receive a FREE Home Fire Risk Check, as part of our on-going drive to reduce the number of fires in the county. Many fires can be prevented and a Home Fire Risk Check will help you to do so.

The Home Fire Risk Check will involve a visit from your local fire station at a convenient time for you. Fire-fighters will use a simple questionnaire to look at potential problem areas in your home and offer advice on the installation and maintenance of smoke alarms. They will also give guidance on how to stay safe from fire including kitchen hazards, safe disposal of smoking materials, candles, heaters, electric blankets and dangers from harmful substances.

The Home Fire Risk Check focuses on the three key areas of fire safety - Prevention, Detection and devising an Escape Plan.

To arrange a FREE Home Fire Risk Check within Surrey call the request line on Freephone: 0800-085-0767.



Lower Kingswood Village Fête

The final meeting of the 2009 Fête Committee was held on 24th June at the Old Pheasantry, thanks go to Claire Larbey for her hospitality. Discussions were held on the way the 2009 Fête went with positive ideas for next year. All were pleased to welcome back Anne Newton after her difficult health problems. Anne was able to give the financial news of the Fête. Each organisation received a cheque for £303. Thanks were expressed to all who worked hard that day and, despite the cold and gloomy weather; it was felt to be a successful year.

By the time this issue of Village News is published the first **meeting to start planning next year's Fête will have been held** (on 30th September at the Church Hall in Buckland Road). However, even if you have missed this meeting we welcome anyone with fresh ideas and enthusiasm to join us.



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at
Banstead Library
The Horseshoe
Bolters Lane
Banstead SM7 2AN

The **BANSTEAD HISTORY CENTRE** offers an extensive range of resources including census records, parish registers, large scale maps, directories, illustrations and photographs covering the following local areas:

BANSTEAD	NETHERNE-ON-THE-HILL
BURGH HEATH	PRESTON
CHIPSTEAD	TADWORTH
HOOLEY	TATTENHAMS
KINGSWOOD	WALTON-ON-THE-HILL
LOWER KINGSWOOD	WOODMANSTERNE

Volunteer stewards are available to help:
1st and 3rd Tuesdays in each month from 2.30 - 4.30 pm
Every Saturday between 10.00 am and 12 noon

NEW VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Further details from:

banstead.history@ntlworld.com

Banstead History Centre

It is now 5 years since Banstead History Centre (based in Banstead Library) opened. This is one of 7 Local History Centres based in Surrey Libraries and is closely supported by Surrey History Centre in Woking; each of the Local Centres also rely extensively on local community organisations to provide organisational and volunteer support.

Banstead History Centre exists to encourage interest in local and family history not just in Banstead but also Burgh Heath, Chipstead, Hooley, Kingswood, Lower Kingswood, Netherne-on-the-Hill, Preston, Tadworth, Tattenhams, Walton-on-the-Hill and Woodmansterne. The Centre holds an extensive range of resources including census records, parish registers, large scale maps, directories, illustrations and photographs. Equipment includes a microfilm and microfiche reader-printer and there is access to the internet on the library computer terminals.

Based in the Library, the Banstead History Centre is staffed by volunteer stewards on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month between 2:30pm & 4:30pm and every Saturday between 10:00am & 12 noon. The stewards are available to help in the use of resources and equipment. If they can't answer a question, they can refer to local experts or Surrey History Centre and, when the Centre is not staffed, written queries can be left.

Over the past few years a series of displays have been put on show in the Banstead History Centre, featuring a particular locality within the original Banstead Urban District Council administrative area (i.e. that part of the present Reigate & Banstead Borough Council north of the M25). The current display features Banstead itself and forthcoming displays will feature Woodmansterne as well as a special display to coincide with the opening of the rebuilt Waitrose supermarket in Banstead. Lower Kingswood featured in a display put on show a couple of years back.



9th Reigate Scout Group (Lower Kingswood)



We are the village group based in the wooden Scout Hut next to the Church Hall in Buckland Road, Lower Kingswood. We invite young people (boys and girls) to join our Beaver, Cub or Scout sections. Just pop in to any of our meetings, or call the number below to find out more...



Beaver Scouts are aged 6 to 8.
Our Beaver Colony meets Thursday evenings at 5.00 pm.
Find out more from our Beaver Scout Leader.



Cub Scouts are aged 8 to 10½.
Our Cub Pack meets Thursday evenings at 6.30 pm.
Find out more from Cub Scout Leader Clare Franklin (Akela).



Scouts are aged 10½ upwards.
Our Scout Troop meets Friday evenings at 7.30 pm.
Find out more from Scout Leader Jon Woodhouse.

**For any information about 9th Reigate Scout Group contact:
Mike Buzwell, Group Scout Leader on 0844 414 2215**

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The Wisdom of God Church

Monthly Autumn Taizé Sunday
Services

22nd November at The Wisdom of
God

13th December at St Andrews
- all at 6.30pm

*Churches Together in Tadworth,
Walton, Headley, Kingswood and
Lower Kingswood*

**Service for One World Week -
Sunday 18th October at 6:30pm**
in Christ Church United Reformed
Church, Walton Street, Walton on the
Hill

(next to Walton Primary School)

**All Souls Evensong
Sunday 1st November**
6:30pm at The Wisdom of God

**Remembrance Sunday
8th November**

10:45am services at the Wisdom of
God and at St Andrews

Parish Events Committee

Visit to BBC Television Centre,
Shepherd's Bush -Wednesday 18th
November 2009. Afterwards to
Westfield Shopping Centre for lunch
and Christmas shopping.

£21 for adults; £20 for concessions
(over 60s).

**Toy Services
Sunday 6th December**

Family Worship at 9:30am at The
Wisdom of God and 11:00am at St
Andrews

Information on all Parish Events
available from our Parish
Administrator
Lindsay Cole - telephone: 01737
-830167



Church Hall

The Church Hall has been quite quiet lately, and so not much to report. We are still waiting for the painting to be done in the side rooms and kitchen. We have also been looking into a safer way to access the loft. It is used for the storage of the Fête equipment.

Litter continues to be dropped in the grounds; please use the litterbin located just outside in Buckland Road. We do appreciate the villagers who do pick up litter in the Hall and Church grounds. Sadly there is still a problem with dog mess in the Hall grounds. It would be nice if dog owners cleared up after their pets especially as the Hall and Hall grounds are used by so many young people's groups.

Many organisations will be returning in September to use the Hall including Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Maxixe Dance Group, Tap Dance, Sequence Dancers, Yoga and Pilates, Musical Movement and Junior Church. The Hall is a good venue for children's parties etc.

Thanks again to those who do use the Hall and for their care when using it.

There will be a Christmas Band Concert on Tuesday 1st December. The South London Concert Band will once again be playing in the Wisdom of God Church at 8:00pm. Ticket prices will be publicised later.

For bookings and more information please contact Marianne & Laurie Kaye on 01737-832848.

Councillors' & Police Surgery

Come and ask your local
representatives a question
(or two) !!

11:00am - 12 noon

SATURDAY

14th November 2009

Church Hall, Buckland Road

Lower Kingswood Evangelical Church



No matter how carefully we plan, we are never sure of what is going to happen: the best laid plans etc. In the Evangelical Church meeting in Smithy Lane we have repeatedly been surprised as events have unfolded in recent months, but should we be? We believe that God is active in the affairs of the human race and has made many promises about what He will do and how He will act in certain situations. As He has brought about some of those situations in recent months we have seen Him act according to those promises – we thank and praise Him for it, but should not have been surprised.

An old saying goes: “*If God seems far away, guess who moved?*”. Most of the time we reckon we get along quite well without God, thank you very much. Most of the time we are too busy – or bored – to take much notice of what God may be doing or saying. Certainly the thought that we should set aside time to try to find out what He might have to say to us rarely crosses our minds. As a result, when God does or says something that gets our attention we often do not realise what is happening – we barely notice it.

God is doing something in Lower Kingswood. He has been

quietly making sure that the new premises in Smithy Lane are fully operational and bringing to us younger folk keen to be involved in what God is going to do in the years to come. James and Eve Murkett are settling into the church flat, and by the time this is published James will have been commissioned as our Pastor, working with Ian Cooper from Tollgate. God has done a great deal to bring this Church fellowship to this point in its history. Although plans for future events and activities are being prepared, we do not know what the future holds – but God does.

The Church website www.lkec.org.uk includes an account of what God has done in the past. He never leaves a job half finished and the future is as yet unwritten. Can anything really special happen here? Why not come and see?

We are here to share the Good News of the Christian Gospel through what we say and do.

If we can be of help to anyone, why not come to one of the services or contact us through the website.

CAMEO Club—‘Come And Meet Each Other’

Many new members have come along to CAMEO recently who have read about us in the *Village News*. We welcome both men and women of all age groups to our informal meetings, which finish with a light tea. If you are looking to make new friends or to renew old acquaintances this is the meeting for you. Newcomers to the area are given a warm welcome and an invitation to join us at CAMEO. Just come along at 2:00pm on the second Monday of each month and join with us in our new premises in Smithy Lane.

By the time the autumn issue of *Village*

News is printed, we will have recommenced the meetings after the August break. The first meeting was held on 14th September when we invited Mrs Molly Toomey, a friend of one of our members, who told us about her hand made dolls. Then on 12th October when we will have had a return visit from Christina Ward, a very talented lady who sings, plays the piano & guitar, recites and generally entertains us.

The meeting planned for 9th November will be a return visit of the R.N.I.B choir from Redhill. The choir was booked to

come earlier this year but they had to cancel due to staff sickness; this led us to booking another speaker who told us so much about the healing properties of plants. This brings us to 14th December – our ‘Christmas Special, when we have once again a very popular singer David Battley, singing “western style”. Then we do not meet in January but restart on 8th February 2010.

Lower Kingswood Strollers

Just as we did not do much strolling during Winter or Spring months, so also we did little during the early Summer! The April stroll was rained off – “April showers” did not really apply and the July stroll fell victim to family and other commitments. Believe it or not there is life outside of the Strollers, but May and June were not going to escape as well!

In May we explored yet another route variation on Walton Heath. Several maps of the Heath are available, and you really need all of them to have a comprehensive survey of the various footpaths, bridleways and permissive ways. Among the features on the OS maps are several ancient enclosures. They are difficult to identify clearly on the ground because of the trees, but the archaeological survey for Surrey lists a number of important finds on this land. The landscape is ancient, and the footpaths are ancient – but the strollers are not too ancient to appreciate the beauties and delights of this landscape, no matter how often we may visit it.

In June we returned to Banstead Woods, not to explore the woods themselves but to discover unexplored areas of Stagbury

Down, the sloping landscape between the woods and Outwood Lane. This is also an ancient landscape, and we found evidence of a number of initiatives to manage it so as to preserve its ancient riches of flora and fauna. Although the terrain slopes, the hills we climbed were gentle – it was a matter of walking along slopes rather than climbing them for most of the way. We eventually, after a slight navigational error, found ourselves crossing the railway line to Tattenham Corner before descending to the valley floor and returning to the car park on level footpaths parallel to the road. One of our members lives nearby and welcomed us home to a welcome cup of tea.

By the time this newsletter is published the August “special” (a secret to which only Strollers are privy) and September strolls will have taken place – weather permitting!

We would be glad to welcome anyone who would like to share some gentle exercise in this beautiful part of the world. We meet at about 2:00pm on the fourth Monday each month.

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It's not just long haired, or clipped breeds that are bathed. I often do short and smooth haired dogs as well, e.g. Labradors, Jack Russels, Boxers.

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Village Hall Fund

The Trustees wish to remind residents within the Parish of Kingswood the existence of the above fund.

The Village Hall Fund is a charitable trust set up in 1964 with a capital sum being the proceeds of the sale of land first purchased with a view to building a village hall in 1938. Time and circumstances changed the original intention and the capital was invested by the Charity Commissioners and a scheme was set up for the administration of the income from this for the benefit of local groups and organisations. This is allocated by the Trustees within the terms of the Trust and where other provision is not made through public funds.

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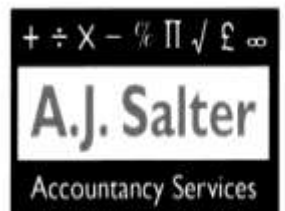
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9th Reigate Scout Group

Lower Kingswood



I write this in the summer break whilst the Scouts are on holiday and the Leaders are taking a well earned break. At the end of June we held our very successful Summer Social and AGM for which leaders prepared an Annual Report for the preceding Scouting year. I thought I would share the main points of that report with the residents of our village...

Group Review 08 / 09

2008 was our Group's 70th anniversary year and we held a number of special events to celebrate. All 3 sections enjoyed an adventurous and fun-filled program throughout the year. Our numbers have grown and we now have over 50 young people in the Group, not just boys - we have during the year established "scouting for girls" in all 3 sections.

Whilst our Group had a successful year, we have been unable to grow the Leadership team, which is increasingly a problem. The Group only has 4 warranted leaders, and we rely upon the invaluable support from Val and Geoff Dunstan and a small band of other non-uniformed helpers. This is a situation we must address!!

Our Group Executive has been active during the year raising funds and maintaining the Hut. We appointed a new Treasurer – Bob Gunn who has done an excellent job, not just keeping "the money straight", but reviewing and overhauling our administration. I must pay tribute to Ken Newman who is stepping back as Group Chairman. Ken has been one of the driving forces of our group in the last 5 years and without his hard work and pushing we would not have a refurbished headquarters and such a thriving and active group. Thanks from all the Leaders to Ken and to the executive committee. I am pleased to report that Bill Birch has agreed to take over from Ken as Chairman.

Beaver Scout Colony

In September I inherited 7 Beavers, but with a recruitment drive at the school there are now 15 in the Colony. We started off going back to basics. In September, we had a visit from Livingstone from Uganda. He presented us with 2 African drums in recognition of the fund-raising that we do for his school in Mit-yana.

During the year we have planted daffodils for Mums, made Christmas crackers for Dads, made spooky masks and hanging decorations for Halloween, made bird cake to feed out feathered friends, learned about Inuits for the Friendship challenge, worked hard and achieved our safety badge, joined in the group's Christmas fund raiser, made Mothers days cards and bookmarks and Easter Eggs baskets, had Easter egg and scavenger hunts outdoors, made junk models of monsters, decorated biscuits, built boats and sailed them in gutter pipes. The result of this is that most Beavers earned lots of badges, I hope that all Beavers earn their Chief Scout's Bronze award before they join Cubs.

Cub Scout Pack

Yet another good year in the Pack - it started last October when we finished an excellent joint 3rd in the District Push Cart event. In November we went to Pack Holiday at Gilwell. December saw us at the district carol service - those of us that went enjoyed it. We also sung carols for the elderly residents at Kingswood. New Year saw us come a fantastic 3rd place in the District Swimming Gala. April saw us at the St. George's Day parade at Gatton Park and in June, 7 older cubs entered the District Calf horn competition and had a great time. In June 16 of the pack camped at Bentley Copse and worked towards a variety of badges including naturalist, camper, outdoor challenge and nights away.

Scout Troop

This year we decided to enter as many events as we could. In the Cow horn incident hike we came a creditable 5th and in the swimming gala we came 7th, with Ian powering home in the leaders race! We had many patrol competitions, including Scout Masterchef, Scout Charity Apprentice, Mission Impossible, Photo and TV challenges.

The strategy this year was to increase our Scoutcraft knowledge, in particular knotting, map/compass, and first aid. Our adventures included Autumn Camp at Boidierhurst, Spring Camp at Tolmars, plus a few watery, up hill and down dale adventures. The water fun day at Godalming was a lot of fun with everyone getting wetter on dry land than in the river.

The Search & Rescue Dog Association brought one of their dogs along to show the Scouts their vital work in tracing lost people. The vicars from Wisdom of God and St Andrews introduced us to the world of Astronomy and we did a bit of stargazing. We also visited the Evangelical Church who broadened our spiritual knowledge. We took part in the 'Big Tidy Up', an initiative with the Keep Britain Tidy Campaign and Reigate Borough Council to help make our community a better place to live. As a result we won an award from the Mayor of Reigate. Also we stewarded at the annual village school firework display.

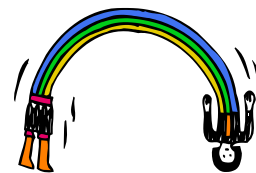
Mike Buzwell

Group Scout Leader

9th Reigate (Lower Kingswood) Scout Group

Telephone: 0844-414-2215

Lower Kingswood Rainbows



Rainbows is a member of the Girlguiding group for girls aged between 5 and 7 years. Girls reaching the age of 7 would then hopefully then go on to join Brownies.

We have a fun-packed programme of activities including arts and crafts, baking, sharing news and working together towards badges and of course we always get to play group games at the end of the session.

Last term we made a fabulous banner for the Rainbows to hold during the Lower Kingswood Fête parade, we celebrated **Father's Day** by making special treats for our dads and we went on an outing to a ceramics studio to decorate bowls, plates and mugs – they all looked beautiful.

We meet in the Church Hall, Buckland Road, on Thursdays between 4:30pm and 5:30pm. Please note there is currently a waiting list, so ideally you should contact us prior to your daughter turning 5 years old so that we can add her name to it.

1st Lower Kingswood Brownies

The Brownies had a busy Summer Term with our remaining new Brownies making their Promise while parents and siblings were entertained by other Brownies completing their Hostess Badge. They enjoyed a visit from the Red Cross learning about the recovery position, bandaging and other first aid skills and earning their First Aid Badge. Dads and Granddads were rewarded on **Father's Day** with book mark magnets and personalised bags. The lighter evenings allowed them to work up an appetite walking to Walton on the Hill duck pond where they enjoyed fish and sausage and chips al fresco. The ducks were well fed too! The Brownies were also able to join with other Brownies at Jordan Heights for an evening singing round the campfire. They also completed activities learning about the changing climate for the Changing the World Project focusing on their chosen charity

The World Wildlife Fund. The Summer term ended with a lively party in the grounds of The Old Pheantry. As they return for the Autumn term the Brownies will be embarking on Adventure 100 in line with the Centenary in 2010 as well as joining the annual swimming Gala. As always, many of the activities will help the Brownies to earn more badges.

1st Lower Kingswood Brownies meet on Mondays at the Church Hall, Buckland Road from 5:00pm to 6:30pm.

Gardening hints & tips

After a very difficult summer for gardeners - too hot, then cold and wet, windy, dry and windy, cold nights etc.; it's now time to start clearing up for winter.

Many herbaceous perennials are well past their best, and need cutting back. Leave a good 10" or so of top growth on more tender ones, this will protect the crown over the colder weather. This includes Penstemons, Fuchsias, Ceratostigma, and white Japanese anemones to name a few. Quite a few plants have developed mildew in this dry spell, and these can be cut back and the diseased leaves removed. Plant mildew, unlike the mould we get in damp corners, is caused by dry conditions at the roots.

It is time to plant spring flowering bulbs, except tulips which are best left until October. Daffodils are best put in now, to give them time to get a good root system. Christmas flowering Hyacinths need to be potted up and left in a dark cool place until the growing tips are seen, then brought into the light but still cool, only bring them indoors when a well developed flower head is seen, this stops them growing too tall and flopping over.

Many spring bulbs are available at the Allotments shop in Smithy Close; this is open every Sunday morning from 9:00am until 12 noon.



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Lower Kingswood Bowls Club



The 2009 season has now ended and we have enjoyed an enjoyable season doing well in our league matches finishing mid table. However we still find it difficult to put out full sides so if next year you fancy bowling come and meet us at the Recreation ground. See the banner by the main road and the details below

Watch out for our Famous Race Night at the Lower Kingswood Social Club in 2010

We meet at the bowling green in the Recreation Ground
Buckland Road at 6:00pm (for a 6:30 start) on Tuesday evenings between 1st
May and the 30th September; then socialising afterwards in the local Village Club.

(Beginners welcome – but flat-soled shoes essential)

Gas Safe

Many people seem unaware that the new Gas Safe register replaced the CORGI register on 1st April 2009.

There is only one gas safety register that is now in use. You need to look for the yellow Gas Safe Register triangle not the orange CORGI registration badge.

Anyone carrying out work on gas must be registered with Gas Safe Register. If not, they are breaking the law.

Only a Gas Safe registered engineer is legally allowed to install gas appliances, boilers, hobs, ovens or fires in your home or workplace.

You should only use a Gas Safe registered engineer for any type of gas work, including installation, maintenance and servicing.

Kingswood, Walton & Tad- worth Horticul- tural Society

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday 18th November 2009 at
7:30pm

Church Hall of Christchurch United
Reform Church, Walton on the Hill

The usual AGM business and refresh-
ments will be followed by an illustrated
talk by our Vice Chairman, Sue Ed-
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Councillors' & Police Surgery

Come and ask your local
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11:00am - 12 noon
SATURDAY
14th November 2009
Church Hall, Buckland
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