

VILLAGE NEWS

www.lowerkingswood.co.uk
Winter Edition 2014

December 2014

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Chairman's Report to Residents

Welcome to our Winter 2014 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' 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; if using the services of one of our advertisers please mention that you saw their advertisement in *Village News*.

CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations to Mr Rod Ashford who has recently been awarded the Neighbourhood Watch Volunteer who has contributed most in Surrey in 2014. This was voted for by local residents and chosen by the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Surrey and the Surrey Neighbourhood Watch Association.

As a matter of interest Mr Ashford has recently joined the Association's Committee as a co-opted member.

POST OFFICE QUESTIONNAIRE

Following the recent changes made to our own Lower Kingswood branch, the Post Office has issued a questionnaire seeking the views of customers on the various changes made - including those made to opening hours.

There is a stock of these questionnaires available in our own Lower Kingswood branch, which can be completed and returned via a FREEPOST address. Alternatively comments can be submitted by email, telephone or textphone, but it would be helpful to quote the reference code: 150023.

DOG FOULING

We have received a number of complaints from residents about dog fouling in the Recreation Ground and some other local roads - in particular Josephine Avenue. It should be noted that a number of official complaints have been made and it is likely that the offender(s) may well face action from the Council.

Can we please remind those dog-owners who are exercising their pets that there are a number of bins

located in the Recreation Ground specifically for depositing dog mess.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON LOCAL TRANSPORT

Surrey County Council is carrying out a review of local transport services in the county, covering bus services, community transport and concessionary travel.

The Council has launched a public consultation, running until 14th January 2015, and plans will only be drawn up after residents have had an opportunity to have their say.

If you are a regular (or irregular) user or totally reliant on public transport this is your opportunity to have your say.

This questionnaire can be completed via the website: www.surreycc.gov.uk/transportreview or, for those without access to the internet, paper questionnaires are available from libraries and local council offices or can be posted to you by calling 0300-200-1003.

[NB. See page 9 for further details - remember the deadline is 14th January 2015.]



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 a number of volunteers. If you would like to help, in particular with distribution, please contact our Chairman.

AND FINALLY....

Whatever our beliefs, Christmas gives us all an opportunity to reflect on its true meaning and also to take the time to think of family & friends as well as those less fortunate than ourselves. On behalf of the **Committee of the Residents' Association**, we should like to take the opportunity of wishing all residents of Lower Kingswood a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Prosperous New Year.

Reigate & Banstead Borough Council report

Dear Residents

During the last few months we have worked with a significant number of Lower Kingswood residents who have come to us with a range of problems and difficulties: housing, parking, refuse collection, the traveller incursion onto the recreation ground, public health and various planning related issues. As ward councillors we are ready to tackle problems for you - so please don't hesitate to call or write to me or to my colleagues - Councillors Joan Spiers and Ros Mill - if you think we can help. We work closely with County Councillor Bob Gardner, who handles a different range of topics and - between ourselves - we'll work out who is best placed to help you.

I would like to pick up one issue from the list above - planning - which relates not only to what you might want to do with your own property, but where you have concerns about developments that neighbours are planning or (as sometimes happens) executing without existing permission to your knowledge. We are here to help you in any of these situations - maybe to point you at the right way to apply for permission or to make your comments **about others' plans, or to seek the help of officers when things are clearly not right.**

Finally, when the traveller incursion onto the recreation ground happened a few months back the Police, Councillors and Officers became involved, but so did the community - and I was so impressed to see how young people from Lower Kingswood **went out and played football with the travellers' children.** We listened to one young man's account of his interaction, building a bridge that helped significantly in bringing the situation to resolution quickly and peacefully. Our thanks go to him and to his friends for what they did.

Happy Christmas



Councillor Simon Parnall
Member for Kingswood with Burgh Heath
Email: Cllr.Parnall@reigate-banstead.gov.uk
Telephone: 01737-830888

Councillor Joan Spiers

Member for Kingswood with Burgh Heath
Email: Cllr.Spiers@reigate-banstead.gov.uk
Telephone: 01737-276021 (P.A. at Town Hall - Alison Ellis)



Councillor Rosalind Mill
Executive Member for Leisure & Wellbeing
Email: Cllr.Mill@reigate-banstead.gov.uk
Telephone: 01737-833705

Residents' Association

Committee reports

A Meeting of the Committee took place on Tuesday, 8th July 2014. In addition to Committee members, Councillors Joan Spiers & Ros Mill were in attendance.

Councillor Spiers reported on:

- The appointment of Cllr. Victor Broad as the new Leader of the Borough Council.
- **The approval of the Council's Core Strategy.**
- The current situation regarding outstanding work in Woodhatch & Nork. The issues of potential improvements to the car park and playground facilities in Lower Kingswood's recreation ground were raised; Cllr. Spiers responded that the issue was funding and, given the continuing financial constraints, these could not be dealt with in the immediate future.

Councillor Mill reported on:

- Her newly amended Portfolio, which included sport. She added that this would include such matters as the proposed improvement of the BMX facility in the recreation ground and she would be monitoring the situation.

Other matters included:

- The on-going parking issue in Buckland Road caused by football teams using the recreation ground (particularly on Sundays) was discussed. It was conceded that any mitigation might have to wait until such time as the parking facilities in the recreation ground were improved.
- It was again noted that, although already officially reported, the pedestrian traffic lights (on the southbound A217/Brighton Road) were still defective and taking an inordinate time to change and allow pedestrians to cross.

A Meeting of the Committee took place on Tuesday, 9th September 2014. In addition to Committee members, Councillors Bob Gardner & Simon Parnall were in attendance.

Councillor Parnall reported on:

- The current situation regarding two specific planning applications.
- His suggestion regarding the development of a 'Village Plan' (as an adjunct to the Borough Council's Core Strategy) and cited the plans recently developed for both Kingswood & Burgh Heath. After lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the Association would form a sub-Committee to pursue this matter.

Councillor Gardner reported on:

- Remedial work that would soon be undertaken by the County Council on verges and footpaths in Lower Kingswood, especially along Mint Lane, Beechen Lane and the A217/Brighton Road. It was pointed out that there were specific issues in the vicinity of Holly Lodge and the junction of Green Lane with the A217.

[continued on page 3]

[continued from page 2]

- His wish to have a pedestrian crossing installed in the vicinity of Holly Lodge, which would be of particular benefit to the local residents.
- Complaints that had been made about the size of some of the trees in Buckland Road and noted that these would be trimmed in the near future.
- Various issues in respect of yellow lines, which had been introduced into parts of Lower Kingswood. He added that much of this work had been undertaken at the behest of residents and noted that parking was time limited.
- It was reported that the phasing of the pedestrian traffic lights (on the southbound A217/Brighton Road) was still defective. It was also noted that, although traffic generally slowed for the speed camera by the recreation ground, vehicles then tended to accelerate towards the Buckland Road/Smithy Lane/A217 junction and thence the pedestrian crossing.
- It was reported that the speed of traffic using both the local roads in Lower Kingswood and the A217/Brighton Road continued to be a major concern; in the ensuing discussion a number of possible ideas were put forward.

It was reported that a number of residents in some of the roads in the village were seeking approval to “drop” the kerbs so as to be able to park their vehicle(s) on the frontage of their property, it was noted that this could in turn exacerbate parking issues. Cllr. Gardner added that the costs associated with making such an application were not inconsiderable.

port in less accessible areas.

In a separate decision, the Council has also put aside £5 million extra into repairing the 200 roads in most need of fixing from cold weather damage.

RECYCLING

Surrey residents are being urged to recycle one extra plastic bottle a week and save the county over £200,000 a year to go back into frontline services.

Only 27 per cent of recyclable plastics - such as bottles, pots, tubs and trays - are currently being recycled in Surrey's households, and the County Council is supporting the national 'Pledge 4 Plastics' campaign (see www.pledge4plastics.co.uk) urging residents to recycle more.

If each of Surrey's 983,000 adults recycled one extra plastic bottle a week, it would save over £200,000 a year in waste disposal charges and ease the council's budget pressures in areas like the demand for school places, with an additional 13,000 such places already in the process of being created.

Surrey County Council's Cabinet Member for the Environment - Mike Goodman - recently commented: "Recycling helps us improve Surrey's environment and the council's finances, so this small pledge could reap big benefits. Once a plastic bottle has been collected, it can be reborn as a football shirt, children's toy, furniture or even a new bottle."

Anyone who pledges to recycle one extra bottle a week could win a limited edition mobile phone cover made from 80 percent recycled plastic bottles. Interior designer Abigail Ahern, who recently starred in Channel 4's 'Get Your House in Order', created it.

Surrey County Council report

Dear Residents

ROADS

An action plan to keep Surrey moving in severe winter weather was approved at the end of November.

More than £2.5 million is being spent on a programme that includes using more than 40 specialist vehicles, hi-tech monitoring equipment, weather stations and 16,000 tonnes of grit to prepare for the winter ahead.

At a meeting of Surrey County Council's Cabinet, the Winter Service Plan was given the green light. Highlights include:

- Providing 39 gritters fitted with location trackers and salt spreading monitors
- Installing six weather stations providing real-time updates on air and road temperature, rainfall and salt and ice levels
- Preparing more than 1,800 roadside salt bins across Surrey
- Extending a trial of alternative vehicles like quad bikes in the winter clear-up
- Having a standby team of 51 farmers to give extra sup-

FLY TIPPING

I am sorry to report that this dreadful dumping of rubbish is back, we need to keep our eyes open to report this offence when it occurs, only this week in Gatton Bottom a pile of concrete was dumped on the verge, then just a few metres up the road, domestic waste was left on the other side of the road.

If you see any of these offences either in the act or rubbish being dumped, then report it to Reigate & Banstead Council please help us to keep Lower Kingswood (and Surrey) clean and fly tipping free.

Regards

Bob Gardner

County Councillor for
Merstham & Banstead South

Email:
bob.gardner@surreycc.gov.uk

Telephone: 0845-643-1112



Surrey Police report

Dear All

With Christmas approaching, I would like to remind you all to keep your property and possessions safe.

This time of year generally sees an increase in burglaries and, whilst we don't want to alarm you, we would like to emphasise how important security is.

Remember to Lock, Light and List!

To register your personal items go to www.immobilise.com

I hope you all have a fantastic Christmas and New Year!

Kelly

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.



PC 40040 Kelly Houghton

Houghton40040@surrey.pnn.police.uk



PCSO 13719 Chris Wright

13719@surrey.pnn.police.uk

Editor's Note

The mechanism for viewing crime statistics can be accessed from the national police website www.police.uk and this shows that, for the month of October 2014, there were a total of 19 instances of crime & anti social behaviour within a one mile radius of Lower Kingswood. These were made up of: anti social behaviour 7, bicycle theft 1, criminal damage & arson 1, drugs 1, other theft 8 and violence & sexual offences 1. This website also allows these instances to be viewed street by street! – and even show historic data back to 2011.

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.



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www.lowerkingswoodsocialclub.co.uk



Kingswood Primary School



emphasis on children learning how to program. Because of this, we have had to buy new equipment and train staff. The children's initial responses to their computer learning have been positive and enthusiastic.

At the beginning of the autumn term the school was successful in applying for 'Artsmark' status. This is a national award, which recognises schools that promote dance, drama, music and art within the curriculum and extra-curricular activities. It gave staff a good opportunity to review the provision for our children and the school some areas to further develop.

In the middle of November the school held a curriculum themed week entitled 'Our place in the world'. It included learning about the importance of Remembrance Day,

finding out about different countries, including dances such as The Haka and The Capoeira and finished off with learning about the Children In Need charity through a "soak the teacher" fundraiser!

We are now approaching Christmas and this is always an exciting and busy time of the school year as children will be practising their Christmas plays and performing to their parents/carers. On that note I hope everyone has a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Duncan Steele
Head-teacher



Our new Reception class has been in school for nearly a term and has settled so well. One of our school priorities is to use the outdoors to enhance learning so Reception children are about to start using Margery Woods on a regular basis. The aim is to develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a natural environment. It is very exciting for the children and I hope it proves to be a big success!

Since September the new National Curriculum has been implemented. It sets out higher expectations for children along with some changes to the subjects being taught. All Junior children will now learn a language on a regular basis and at Kingswood we have chosen French to link in with our trip to France in Year 6. The computing curriculum has changed significantly with an



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The Wisdom of God Church



The Church begins its new year on the fourth Sunday before Christmas - the period is known as Advent. It is a time of new beginning.

This year it will be a time of special new beginning because on 2nd December The Rev'd Christine Colton will be licensed as the Priest In Charge of Kingswood. I am sure you will all join with me in wishing her well and look forward to meeting her.

I shall be continuing my Ministry under the direction of Rev'd Chris.

The time before Christmas is always busy, not only in the Church but in the secular world as well. We think about what presents we can give to our families and friends. Those presents are tokens of our love and good will. In the Church the very heart of our celebration is the coming of Jesus Christ into our world. The message that announced his birth was also peace on earth and good will to all people. We may wish to consider as we approach Christmas how we can foster those attitudes not just for our families and friends, yes that is important, but in the wider world too; and help them to last all the year and not just at the Christmas period.

In November as I write this I have followed with amazement the space probe 'Rosetta' as it approached a comet 500 million miles away and after a ten year journey. The lander 'Philae' then landed on the comet. It brought back memories of Christmas 1968 when three men circumnavigated the Moon for the first time. These are feats of great ingenuity. Yet for some there is the question - surely all this ingenuity would be better spent on making life better here on earth. However there is often a spin off from these events. For example the first pictures of Earth taken from the Moon helped us to realise what a delicate world we have; we need to take care of it! All through the history of science there have been unforeseen applications from those discoveries. For example the discovery of electricity; then the advances in computer technology. Many of us are glad to have spectacles, cars, warm homes, telephones and above all a good supply of food.

To improve, however, the life of many we need something more than "brainpower"; we need attitudes of peace and good will and love, which are to all people - the very principles of the Christian Faith.

With my blessing to all

Arthur Bowyer

Honorary Curate - Parish of Kingswood

Church Hall

The Church Hall in Buckland Road is an ideal venue for any type of function! Whether it is a wedding, christening, fund raising evening, adult or children's party!

There is ample parking, a large hall area with tables and chairs for use, a stage, toilets, disabled toilet and access, a large well-equipped kitchen with range cooker and two ante rooms for use on request.

The Hall is in fairly constant use for many weekly classes such as Pilates, Bridge, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Music Movement, Zumba, Parent & Toddler, Junior Church, Yoga, WI, Scottish Dancers, Maths Masters and Encore Arts as well as a Monthly Coffee Morning.

If you are interested in joining any of the above groups please see the notice board at the entrance of the car park for details or contact our bookings officers - Laurie and Marianne Kaye on 01737-832848.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all users of the Hall.

Church Hall Committee

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

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Lower Kingswood Evangelical Church

We would like to bring you our greetings as the Christmas season draws near. With the dark nights, cold mornings and grey skies, its comforting to remember the many joys and blessings of this special time of year. We hope that you will have a time of peace and joy as we celebrate the birth of Jesus - **God's greatest** and most precious gift to a world in need.

Ian Cooper

Pastor

Tollgate Evangelical Church & Lower Kingswood Evangelical Church

We invite you to join us on Sunday 21st December at 10:30 am for our Family Christmas Worship. All the family are welcome to this service which includes a visit by the Kingswood Recorders. We will be singing well-known carols and reflecting on the real message of Christmas - "Glory to God in the highest and Peace on earth to men on whom his favour rests."

Please note that we will not be holding a service on Christmas morning this year, or on the 28th December, as we will be joining with friends at other local churches.

You can also find us on the internet at: www.lkec.org.uk, where you will find the latest information.

Lower Kingswood Evangelical Church
Smithy Lane

Invites you to
Christmas Family Worship

Sunday 21st December
10:30 am

All the family are welcome to this
service of carols and reflections on
the true meaning of Christmas

Refreshments follow the service

"O come let us adore Him, Christ the LORD"

CAMEO Club - 'Come And Meet Each Other'

At our September meeting we enjoyed a video of a trip around Scotland on the old paddle steamer 'Waverley'.

Then in October we had a representative from the Romanian Aid Foundation who we have supported for some years. Members brought "shoe boxes" they had filled to be distributed in Romania for Christmas and we saw a video and heard more

about the work being done by them in a very poor area of the country.

In November we had a very enjoyable afternoon with the WI hand-bell ringers. At the time of writing this article, we are looking forward to our Christmas Cameo on Monday 8th December.

We do not normally meet in January but have decided to meet this year for an in-

formal afternoon on Monday 13th January, subject of course to the weather.

Do come and join us, you will be very welcome. We meet at the Evangelical Church in Smithy Lane at 2:00pm on the second Monday of each month.

Lower Kingswood Strollers

In September we had a local walk to Colley Hill and then in October we had a stroll from Reigate Heath to Priory Park.

We will not meet in December but hope to resume again on Monday 26th January. During January & February we will meet

at 1:30 pm at the Evangelical Church in Smithy Lane.

You are very welcome to join us.

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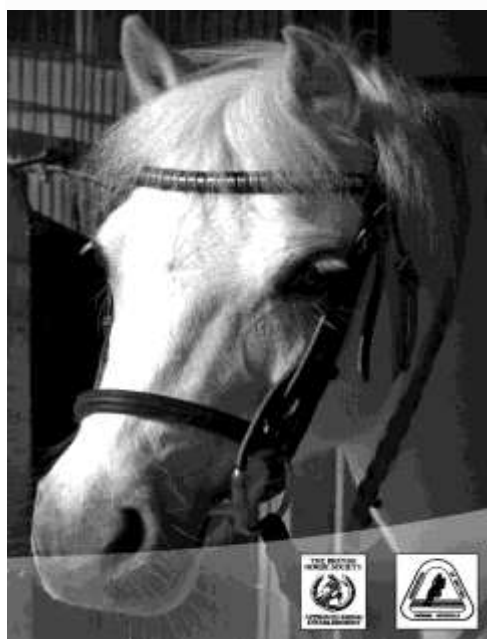
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The Courtyard Theatre

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SEASON

Wednesday 7th to Sunday 11th and
Wednesday 14th to Saturday 17th
January 2015

'All that Glitters' (Family Enter-
tainment)

by Peter Van Manen

Monday 23rd to Saturday 28th Feb-
ruary 2015

'Wife After Death'

by Eric Chappell

Wednesday 8th to Saturday 11th
April 2015

**'Say Goodbye to Satchwell
Road'** (Youth Theatre)

by Peter Nixon

Monday 1st to Saturday 6th June
2015

'Proof' (Drama)

by David Auburn

Sunday 12th to Saturday 18th July
2015

'An Inspector Calls' (Drama)

by J B Priestley

The Courtyard Theatre is located
at Hazelwood Lane, Chipstead,
Surrey, CR5 3QU and tickets for
performances can be booked by
post, from the Box Office (01737-
555680), or online from the web-
site: [www.chipsteadplayers.org/
index.html](http://www.chipsteadplayers.org/index.html)

For any queries please contact by
telephone (as above) or email:

[boxof-
fice@chipsteadplayers.org](mailto:boxoffice@chipsteadplayers.org)

Lower Kingswood Village Fête - 4th May 2015

The second meeting of the Lower Kingswood Village Fête Committee was a really good brain-stormer! We had some great suggestions from a local website for small, fun games which groups may wish to take on such as balance a 20p piece on a lemon which is floating in the water or try and get a ping pong ball into an empty 'Pringles' box from a set distance. Both are aimed at the skill of the player.

Lots of ideas came forward and subsequently a number of bookings have been made. We are planning to have a circus theme with demonstrations, a workshop and stilt walkers along with a 'Laser' game. Both of these still have to be confirmed. We are pleased to welcome Mogador Rangers FC as a

participating group.

We could still do with more help so - don't hold back! If you've got ideas come along to our next meeting on Thursday 15th January or Thursday 26th February 2015 in the Lounge of the Evangelical Church in Smithy Lane. A warm welcome plus a cuppa awaits all who come!

Don't forget to put Monday 4th May in your new 2015 diaries!

Have Your Say on Local Transport

The Residents' Association has recently received details from Surrey County Council of a public consultation exercise that they are undertaking into its spending on supporting local bus services, community transport and concessionary travel.

They have asked for our assistance in advising residents about the consultation and encouraging participation. Quoting from the accompanying letter:

"Increased demand for essential services such as adult social care and school places, means Surrey County Council needs to review its spend on all the services it provides for the county's residents."

"As part of this we are carrying out a review of local transport services in Surrey, covering bus services, community transport and concessionary travel."

"The aim of the review is to make savings while maintaining the services that residents rely on most. To achieve this, we have launched a public consultation, running until 14 January 2015, and plans will only be drawn up after residents have had their say."

The questionnaire can be completed on-line via the following website: www.surreycc.gov.uk/transportreview or, for those without access to the internet, paper questionnaires are available from libraries and local Council offices or by calling 0300-200-1003.

Remember, the public consultation is only running until 14th January 2015.

Have your say at:
surreycc.gov.uk/transportreview
by 14 January 2015

Paper questionnaires are available from libraries and local council offices or by calling 0300 200 1003

On the subject of public transport, Lower Kingswood residents are probably aware that our two local bus services (420 – Sutton to East Surrey Hospital via Reigate/Redhill and 460 – Epsom to Crawley via Reigate/Redhill) each only run at hourly intervals and start at around 5:00am and finish by around 7:00pm.

However, there is a possible alternative – the National Express 'A3' coach service from London (Victoria Coach Station) to Gatwick (North & South Terminals). This is a 24-hour service with one coach every hour in each direction with, obviously, intermediate stops en route; in Lower Kingswood the stops are those near/opposite the Royal Gurkha/Fox on the Hill.

Fares from Lower Kingswood to Gatwick start from £6.30 (single) with a journey time of around 30 minutes and, from Lower Kingswood to Victoria Coach Station, fares start from £9.80 (single) with a journey time of around 1 hour 15 minutes. Return fares are generally some 25% cheaper than two single fares and there a number of other "discounted" journey options.

Bookings can be made on-line via the following website: www.nationalexpress.com or, for those without access to the internet, booking can be made by telephone on: 08717-818181 (calls cost 10p per minute plus network charges). Alternatively tickets can be purchased from certain designated travel shops e.g. Metrobus at Redhill Bus Station or Reigate Travel (in Reigate).



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:

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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

Our latest newsletter can be downloaded from:
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Lower Kingswood Rainbows

Firstly, I would like to say how grateful I am for being welcomed in as the new Rainbow leader this term. We went straight into action and the girls have been working on their get healthy badge, which included a pyjama party to get the girls creative minds thinking! The girls also were fascinated at our dental hygiene week in which they all got goodies to take home after successfully putting their teeth skills to test on a model.

Additionally, a number of girls joined us at the Harvest Festival Church service in October and contributed generously to the harvest. The remainder of the term continues to look exciting with a fun filled array of activities. We are all looking forward to joining up with two other local rainbow units for a Christmas party to end the term in style.

We are always happy to see new faces at Rainbows, if your 5/6 year old child is interested in becoming a rainbow please go to: www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested to join the waiting list.



TO ALL
GIRLS
WHO ARE
10 YEARS
OLD

Have you thought about becoming a Guide? Guides are a movement that has been going strong for over 100 years. It aims to give girls between the ages of 10 and 14, the chance to develop their individuality, grow their life skills, while making new friends and getting involved in the community.

What we have been up to:

This term we have been busy out and about in our wellies and coats. We have joined our friends, Tadworth Guides for a bonfire night with sparklers and toffee apples. We had a tricky treasure hunt around the recreation ground looking for balloons to help us find the hidden treasures. We have also completed many badges and go for its including first aid, which we used makeup to create fake seeping wounds, science experiments with sloppy slime and healthy eating with some fruity smoothies. This term we still have our pantomime to look forward to and our advent candles to make!

We were also very happy to celebrate our Guide leader Sharon Brown's 20 years in Guiding!

Do you like the sound of this? We would love to have you come along and meet us and discover what we do and help our unit grow. We are happy to welcome you to any evening meeting, at 7:00pm on Fridays (term time) at the Church Hall in Buckland Road.

Kingswood W.I.

2014 has, so far, been a very active year for the Kingswood W.I. Every second Wednesday of the month we meet for tea and cake and have speakers or musical entertainment. So far this year we have had talks on New Zealand, Victorian Christmas, an eventful talk from Hydestile Animals when the owl flew up to the rafters and would not come down!! and much more. Parham House and Highclere Castle and lunch at 'The Clink' were popular outings, as are the monthly lunches and breakfasts.

As well as these activities we have a hand-bell team (which meets weekly), a monthly craft group, a play reading and art group. Our hand-bell team play for local Care homes clubs and groups within the Borough. This year the team won a cup in the local Reigate Music Festival.

Surrey WI has a choir to join – 'The Surrey Serenaders', they have just won a heat to take them to Birmingham for the final in March 2015, one of our WI members sings with this group. There are photographic groups, science, drama, craft groups and much more open to all WI members.

Why not to give us a try and join us at the Church Hall, Buckland Road at 2:15pm every second Wednesday of the month for tea and cake and chatter.

The Thirteen Society

Talks scheduled for 2015 are as follows:

January 12th

Ham and Petersham - Surrey Villages to London Suburbs

Sir David Williams will look at the way rural Surrey villages have changed to become urban communities. David is a superb speaker whatever his subject.

February 9th

Cantering through a Funny Life

A talk by a past PA to John Betjeman, Susan Howe, who is also a Blue Badge Guide and foreign tour guide.

March 9th

Hidden Treasures of the Vietnam War - The Ho Chi Minh Trail

Dr Virginia Morris will talk about the Ho Chi Minh trail, which she has walked once and is about to visit again, this time cycling with her husband and children.

We welcomed several new members this year and for those of you who don't want full membership, but one lecture is of great appeal, remember you can always pay at the door for individual evenings. Our meetings are always held at 8:00pm in Kingswood Village Hall, Waterhouse Lane, on the second Monday of the month from October to March.

Looking forward to seeing you.

KINGSWOOD NEWS

POST OFFICE opening hours extended

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Monday – Friday 7 pm to 11 pm

Saturday 12 noon – 3 pm & 7 pm – 11 pm

New Members Welcome - We are a family friendly local club. Check out our website for event schedule.



9th Reigate (Lower Kingswood)

Scout Group

www.9thReigate.co.uk



The Scout Group in Lower Kingswood is growing steadily with strong numbers in both Beavers (6 - 8 years) and Cubs (8 - 10½ years) and a gentle increase in the Scout section, in which we run a combined section with colleagues from Chipstead. We continue to provide a widely balanced programme of fun activities with strong values delivered via an ordered array of badges.

The Beavers have been enjoying team games and sports whilst collecting badges towards their Chief Scouts Bronze award before they progress to the Cub section. Most Beavers do achieve this. Along the way they held a spooky Halloween night and a visit to High Ashurst for outdoor activities.

The Cub section tried their hands at Archery at Jordan Heights - Reigate District's camp site - and joined in the district competitions for cross country running in which they came third and push karts which they won handsomely! The target highest badge for Cubs is the Silver award and nearly all cubs get there.

The Scout section has been bell ringing, casting metals and learning about Japan - the venue for next year's international Jamboree. A bag packing session at ASDA by the Scouts has helped raised funds to send a leader in support of this. The Chief Scout's Gold award is the top of the Scout section tree and this is proportionally difficult for this age group. However, two

Scouts have just reached this, one from Lower Kingswood and one from Chipstead. Congratulations to both for this significant achievement.

The group is holding three Christmas events this year:

- Singing for the elderly at Furze Hill in Kingswood,
- A local Christmas tree sale at the School - good quality non-drop trees at reasonable prices with local delivery offered and
- A Christmas post service for cards to be delivered within Lower Kingswood and Mogador for a suggested 30p donation.

We would like to express a Happy Christmas wish to the whole village.

Geoff Dunstan
Group Scout Leader

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Crumbs



Lower Kingswood Evangelical Church Parent & Toddler Group

Crumbs are a friendly and welcoming Toddler Group in Lower Kingswood.

We meet on Friday mornings during term-time between 9.15 and 11:00am at the Lower Kingswood Evangelical Church on Smithy Lane. We play with different toys each week indoors and outside (weather permitting!), and we try to provide a craft activity every week too.

At about 10:45am we all stop for Story Time, where we listen to a true story from the Bible **being retold**. **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 contact us or pop along if you'd like to join us on Friday mornings at Lower Kingswood Evangelical Church on Smithy Lane – you will be sure of a warm welcome.



D.I.Y. disasters - or "should've gone to Specsavers"!

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