



The

# Kingsclere Tower

What's On & Local News  
December 2024/January 2025

# The Kingsclere Tower

EDITORS: Mike Stokoe, Steve Steare, Steven Gaines, Cathy Williams  
 ADVERTISING: Brian Elborn b.elborn345@btinternet.com ☎298704  
 DISTRIBUTION: Brian Elborn ☎298704  
 ASSEMBLY: Andrew Kitch ☎299743  
 PRINTERS: Kingsclere Design & Print Ltd  
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Christmas is a good time to be in our Village. The traditional Church services are advertised in the middle pages of this magazine including carol services and Christingle.

The Kingsclere Players are presenting “Babes in the Wood and Robin Hood” at the beginning of December (see p9) followed by a number of festive family events hosted by The Kingsclere Singers (see p11).

Nathan is also putting on his annual Christmas Cabaret, a popular show at the Fieldgate Centre on the 14th December (p25). Other festive activities at the Village Club and The Fieldgate Centre.

A huge thank you to Emma Rivers who is leaving her post as administrator for the Church parish this month. She has contributed enormously to the Church and to the organisation of the Community Larder. We will miss her.

A farewell also to Rod Eldred who died last month. A talented local artist he also, together with Diana Tait, wrote Nature Notes in The Tower for over 20 years. A wonderful contribution full of their love for the natural world.

Thank you Rod.

**The Editor**

Neither the Editor, nor the Management Committee accept responsibility for the opinions expressed or the goods and services advertised in the Kingsclere Tower. The Editors reserve the right to omit, amend, or condense any item submitted for publication.

### To all “Tower” Contributors

Copy for February to the Editor at [kingscleretower@gmail.com](mailto:kingscleretower@gmail.com).

**NOT LATER THAN 12th January 2025**

If possible please submit articles as a MS Word document, A5 page size, font Times

New Roman 11, single spacing. If email not possible post to

23 Swan Street, Kingsclere, Newbury RG20 5PP.

**Will ALL contributors please include full name**

**& home phone number/e-mail address.**

## Kingsclere Parish Council (KPC)

**Chairman:** Cllr Clive Mussett

**Email:** [clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@kingsclere-pc.org.uk)

**Telephone:** 01635 298634

**Office:** 37 George Street, Kingsclere RG20 5NH



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all at the Parish Council

**FESTIVE BIN COLLECTIONS** - Christmas can mean extra rubbish. Therefore, for the first collection after Christmas ONLY, Basingstoke and Deane will collect extra rubbish sacks left by your grey bin. It is also an opportunity to recycle as much as you possibly can. B & D will collect extra recycling as long as it is inside a clear bin liner. In dry weather you can leave extra cardboard next to your recycling bin. Please ensure it is flattened and no bigger than 1m x 1m. Wrapping paper cannot be recycled, so please put it in your grey waste bin. **CHRISTMAS CARDS** – Cards without glitter and ribbons may be recycled.

### Festive Rubbish Collections - ALTERATIONS

#### Normal collection date

Wednesday 25 December

Wednesday 1 January

Wednesday 8 January

#### Festive collection date

Friday 27 December

Thursday 2nd January

Thursday 9 January

Unless adverse weather affects bin rounds, collections should return to normal from **Monday 13th January 2025**.

**GARDEN WASTE** - There will be a two-week break for garden waste collections over the festive period. Collections will stop after **Friday 20 December** and will resume on **Monday 6 January 2025**

**CHRISTMAS TREES** – Garden Waste customers can leave real Christmas trees out for collection next to their garden waste containers. Trees over 6 ft should be cut in half and all decorations should be removed.

**GREEN WHEELY BINS & GLASS RECYCLING** – the collections dates are **Wednesday 11th and 27th December** and **9th January 2025**

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – The next full Council Meeting will be at **7:30pm on Monday 27th January 2025** in the Village Club. We welcome the attendance of all parishioners at our meetings and anyone who wishes to raise any matters of concern will be given the opportunity to do so during Public Questions.

The Parish website [www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk](http://www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk)

 [@kingsclerepc](https://twitter.com/kingsclerepc)  [facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil](https://facebook.com/KingsclereParishCouncil)



**Basingstoke  
and Deane**

## The Town and Village Centre Fund

The Town and Village Centre Fund aims to support high street businesses and landlords with making improvements to their premises.

The Fund will provide grants to existing and new businesses to upgrade shop fronts and building facades as well as grants for new internal fit-outs and for the creation of outdoor seating areas. [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/town-and-village-centre-fund](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/town-and-village-centre-fund)

**Free help to save hundreds of pounds on energy bills**—Every household in the borough could potentially save hundreds of pounds each year on their energy bills by booking themselves in with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council for a free energy-saving home assessment. People can book in to get free energy-saving help at [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/home-energy-saving-initiatives](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/home-energy-saving-initiatives)

**Consultation launched on council plans to keep investing in services**—Residents, businesses and community groups are encouraged to share their views on Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's plans to continue its significant investment in front line services over the next year. More information on the proposals and the opportunity to give views in the consultation that runs until Friday 3 January 2025, is available on the website at [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/budget2025](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/budget2025)

### From your Borough Councillor

The Borough Council affects all our lives in many ways so it was my great honour this year to be elected to represent Kingsclere where I love to live, on the Council in Basingstoke. I've already served on the Parish Council for several years so am well aware of the local issues. There isn't another election for a while yet (thank goodness!) but I do want to keep in touch and hear from you.

It's been a busy six months already with announcements on recycling, housing and grants to name but a few. Housing is a constant challenge, so I'm pleased that in October the Manydown scheme near Basingstoke was at last signed, which will be a great help in taking development pressure off the villages and provide more affordable housing. But in a new twist, the new Government is proposing to increase the number of houses we need to build by 37%, which we are opposing.

Finally, the other Ward Councillors and I are planning to run local surgeries next year so if you have any issues that you think we should know about or we may be able to help with, then please do come along to meet us. Or, please just email me at [cldr.david.conquest@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.david.conquest@basingstoke.gov.uk), call on 07887 871105, or find me on Facebook at 'Cllr David Conquest'.

All the best and have a wonderful Christmas and New Year

**Cllr David Conquest**

## Watership Down Health

### Adult Flu and Covid vaccination programmes (uptake figures at 30/10/24)



Good progress is being made on both the Covid Vaccination Autumn programme 2024 and the Flu programme. At the time of writing, 89% of care home residents and 60% of those aged 16-64 with a risk factor or aged 65 years up, have received Covid vaccine through the practice.

Covid vaccinations are still being given through the National Booking Service: <https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/covid-19-services/covid-19-vaccination-services/book-covid-19-vaccination/>

If you have not had your Flu vaccination and are over 65 or have been invited (underlying health condition reason), please call the practice and book an appointment. Please note that the Flu vaccination programme goes on until the 31 March 2025 or as long as Flu supplies last. At the time of writing, 62% over 65 yrs, 50% 2 - 3 yr olds, 42% 18 - 64 yr olds at risk and 31% under 18 yrs had received a Flu vaccination (inc. all providers).

### Child Flu Clinics

We have contacted all the parents of eligible children who are aged 2 - 3 yrs or aged 4 - 17 with an underlying health condition which puts them at greater risk. Children in years R-7 will be vaccinated in school by the School Health Service.

### Christmas and New Year Opening Times:

Saturday 21st	Closed	Friday 27th	Open
Sunday 22nd	Closed	Saturday 28th	Closed
Monday 23rd -	Open	Sunday 29th	Closed
Tuesday 24th	Open	Monday 30th	Open
Wednesday 25th	Closed	Tuesday 31st	Open
Thursday 26th	Closed	Wednesday 1st January	Closed

Monday 16th to Friday 20th December 2024 – Open

When the practice is closed, please call NHS 111 for further advice. The practice will display the Christmas and New Year Community Pharmacy Opening Times rota (once received) on our website and main front doors of each practice.

**From All Our GP Partners, Doctors, and Team, we wish all our Patients and their Families a Very Happy and Festive Christmas and New Year.**



The Fieldgate Centre is run by the Kingsclere Community Association as a charity (No. 1168366). The association is made up of volunteers who rely on the support and participation of the community.

The festive period is upon us and the centre has a fully packed December! The usual programme of exercise classes, sports club matches, blood donor sessions, activities and private events continues. Check our website for full details and come and join us for Pilates, Clubbercise, Ceroc, Slimming World, Badminton, Darts, Monthly Meet Up and Songtree. Check out our calendar for full listings.

December gets off to a fun-filled start with the **Panto - Robin Hood and Babes in the Wood** on **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday 6<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>**. Full details of timings are on the website and tickets can be purchased through [ticketsource.co.uk](https://ticketsource.co.uk).

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>** brings in the annual fun of **Nathan's Christmas Cabaret** with 2 shows at **2.45pm and 6.00pm**. Book your tickets through the QR code or [ticketsource.co.uk](https://ticketsource.co.uk)

The festive fun continues with the **Sing-a-Long** taking place on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**. The bar will be open **from 6pm** and singing starts at **7.30pm**.

Then, as if that wasn't enough, the **Christmas with Gary Myles** evening takes place on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December**. There will be live music, the bar will be fully stocked and open from **6.00pm**, and the **pizza van** will be back. Come along and join in the fun!

Contact us if you need any further information about our activities or if you would like to hold your event at The Fieldgate Centre. Please visit our website or Facebook page for more information.

[www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk](http://www.thefieldgatecentre.co.uk)    01635 298497  
[fieldgatecentre@outlook.com](mailto:fieldgatecentre@outlook.com)    Facebook

### Wolverton Market.

The next 2 markets are on **Saturday 7th December and Saturday 4th January**. Doors open from **9.30am to 11am**.

All the usual stalls will be available so please come along and enjoy a browse and hopefully grab a bargain or two. We look forward to seeing you and we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

**Wendy Morgan 01635 297538**

## Kingsclere Twinning Association

Kingsclere goes to Cormicy:

At the beginning of November, 23 of us spent a very enjoyable time in Cormicy, Kingsclere's twinned village in the north of the Champagne region of France.

To mark the strength of the friendship between the two villages, a video conferencing room in the Mairie (Town Hall) was named the Kingsclere Room. There was a special inauguration ceremony, followed by a reception with speeches and the exchange of gifts.

We were treated to two delicious suppers in the festively decorated Salle Polyvalente (community hall) and we visited a "Champagne Experience" at Pressoria in Ay-Champagne, where the entire process of champagne making was brought to life.. Altogether it was a memorable weekend. We now need to start planning for Cormicy's visit to Kingsclere in 2025.

Join us for a friendly **Bingo Night** on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January** at the **Village Club**. Doors open at **7pm**. Eyes down at **7.30pm!**



**£15 for 8 games of Bingo** – the money you pay becomes the Prize Pot. The more people who play, the higher the winnings!

**£5 entry fee** including Hot Dog and light pudding.

**Bar serving wine, beer, soft drinks and dabbers!** (Over-18's only event).

Proceeds from the entry fee, bar and raffle will go towards the Kingsclere Twinning Association. If you would like to attend, please email [kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kingscleretwinning@yahoo.co.uk) to reserve your tickets, or for further information about the Kingsclere Twinning Association and Kingsclere's connection with the beautiful village of Cormicy, please contact Sue Watson on 01635 298940.

## Royal British Legion

Kingsclere RBL wish to thank you all for joining us in this year's Act of Remembrance. Once again there was a fantastic turnout on a par with much larger towns and even military garrisons.

We are looking into 2025 already with a prominent celebration in early May, the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day). This anniversary marks the end of the war in Europe.

Your local branch of the RBL meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7.15pm in the Kingsmill Room at St Mary's Church. Anyone is welcome to become a member and join us. We meet in December for our AGM and then in February 2025.



## Kingsclere Rugby Club

**Women's Walking Rugby** – Despite the darker evenings and colder weather, this is still proving to be popular. You can either come along on a Wednesday evening and join the men for a mixed game or turn up



on a Thursday evening for a women's only game. Both the Wednesday and Thursday evenings are held at The Fieldgate Centre between 7-8pm. The game is suitable for women from 18 to 70+. Walking Rugby is a very easy game to learn, no experience of rugby is needed and can be played with just 4-a-side. It's a great way to exercise, walking as fast or as slow as your body allows with low impact on all your joints. You don't need to be fit to play. The main aim is to enjoy yourself, make some new friends and get a little bit of exercise at the same time.

In October an article on the club's women's walking rugby section was published by England Rugby in its Community Rugby magazine. Thank you to Geoff Curtis and Robin Ketteridge for arranging and putting together the article. It can be found on <https://www.englandrugby.com/follow/news-media/queens-kingscleres-walking-rugby>

For more information, please contact Joanna Reed-Moreton **Secretary-Kingsclererfc@outlook.com** or Geoff Curtis **Youth-coach-Kingsclererfc@outlook.com**

**Adults' Rugby** – It is not too late to start playing. If you feel the urge, you are more than welcome to come and join for training on Wednesday evenings between 7- 9pm. In October we played league games against Farnham 4ths away and won convincingly 31-12. The man of the match was Jacob Aldridge. On Saturday 19th October the team travelled away to play Winchester Knights and lost 42-19 in a hard-fought game. The man of the match was Danny Lachazc. There will be home games on **Saturday 7th and 14th December** against Farnham 4ths and Winchester Knights respectively - the kick offs will be at 2pm. The first home game in the New Year will be on **Saturday 18th January** against Alresford 2nds – kick off will be at 2pm. Please feel free to come and support.

**Men's Walking Rugby** – In October the team participated in a mini festival at Thatcham RFC together with Newbury RFC. Please feel free to come and join us on Wednesday evenings between 7 – 8pm.

**Minis Rugby** – The club hosted a sparkling rugby festival between Burghclere, Ecchinswell and St Martin's West End primary schools at The Fieldgate Centre on 15th October. Thank you to Geoff Curtis for refereeing and Chris Hunter for helping.

To find out more information about the club please visit our Facebook and Instagram pages.

## Kingsclere Community Library

We are delighted to announce that our fund raising through the Good Exchange has recently received **matched funding!** This means for every £1 donated, the Greenham Trust will give us another £1. If you are able to help us pay our rent and bills, please donate through the Good Exchange Website, looking up Kingsclere Community Library, or use this link: <https://bit.ly/4fneK6F> Thank you!

**Does your family enjoy Jigsaw Puzzles at Christmas?** We have a large selection! You may borrow as many as you like and keep them as long as you like.

We are pleased to be hosting the Calligraphy Club from the Kingsclere CE Primary School in January! Do come along and admire their work from 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

**HOURS** Tuesday & Thursday 1:00pm - 5:30pm  
Saturday 10:00am - 1:00pm

**CLOSED** Christmas Eve, Boxing Day, New Year's Eve

Nicki Lee, Library phone 01635 297464

[Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Kingsclerelibrary@gmail.com) [www.kingsclerelibrary.co.uk](http://www.kingsclerelibrary.co.uk)



### Kingsclere Photo Club

Friendly and thriving club covering many aspects of photography for most ages and abilities, with an emphasis on sharing work rather than competition.

**EXHIBITION PHOTOS** – We hope you enjoyed seeing our recent exhibition, if anyone missed it you can see the panels of photos on our website at [www.kingsclerephoto.org/2024-exhibition](http://www.kingsclerephoto.org/2024-exhibition)

**2025 CALENDAR** – Now a Kingsclere tradition, with local images, available while stocks last from the following outlets @ just £7:

Swan Street Stores

M.O.L. Photography (George Street)

#### FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:

At the Village Club, George Street, doors open 7.15pm to start at 7.45pm

**Weds 4<sup>th</sup> Dec** AGM followed by our 'Print of the Year' competition.

**Weds 8<sup>th</sup> Jan** Framing and cropping review and discussion.

Launch of 'Weather' Challenge.

Membership only £10 for the year (January – December), members £2 entry per meeting, guests £3 (first visit free for prospective new members)

For any information see our website: [www.kingsclerephoto.org](http://www.kingsclerephoto.org) or email at [kingsclerephotoclub@gmail.com](mailto:kingsclerephotoclub@gmail.com)



Our next Repair Cafe is  
Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 10am-12:30pm,

Please register your repair at our website. We try to fix a number of items: electrical, mechanical, toys, fabric items, crockery/porcelain (with clean cracks) etc.

**We will be collecting for recycling:** Bras, small batteries, milk bottle tops, eyeglasses and printer cartridges. Sadly, we can no longer collect medicine blister packs.

We have discontinued The Clothes Rail as there was not enough participation by the community.

In partnership with Kingsclere Community Association.

Nicki, Sarah, Lucinda & Sue [greenerkingsclere@gmail.com](mailto:greenerkingsclere@gmail.com)

[www.greenerkingsclere.co.uk](http://www.greenerkingsclere.co.uk)

### Kingsclere Players

Kingsclere Players in partnership with  
Kingsclere Community Association present...

#### Babes in the Wood and Robin Hood

For tickets visit [www.kingsclereplayersgroup.com](http://www.kingsclereplayersgroup.com)



Don't miss out on this season's fun and fantastic pantomime. The show is running until the **8th December** at the **Fieldgate Centre** - limited tickets may still be available.

Kingsclere Players are preparing for their next show in **June 2025**. If you've ever thought about having a go onstage or offstage, come along and meet the group on **Wednesday the 15th January and Tuesday the 21st January** when the group will be having play readings for the spring production - everyone is welcome!

**Play On!** Written by **Rick Abbott** is a comedy about a community theatre's chaotic attempt to produce an amateur murder mystery, rife with script changes, disgruntled actors, and last-minute disasters. This light-hearted play, featuring an ensemble cast, humorously showcases the hilarity of theatre production mishaps.

The show has a cast of 7 females and 3 males. We are very much on a talent search for anyone wishing to play male roles. A big shout out to the village, make yourselves known and get involved!

**Auditions - Wednesday 5th February 2025**

**Show dates - 6th, 7th, 13th, 14th June 2025**

Fancy getting involved but not ready for the limelight? We are always looking for backstage support too! Get in touch.

For more details visit [www.kingsclereplayersgroup.com](http://www.kingsclereplayersgroup.com)



## KINGSCLERE VILLAGE CLUB

Est. 1921 CHARITY 1189234

Website <http://www.kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/kingsclerevillageclub>

*Season's Greetings*

Don't miss **Kingsclere's Christmas Market, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 10am to 1pm.** Free entry. See you there for a mince pie and a warming glass of mulled wine!

### Community Café

**December's Café** is on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> 10am to 1pm** with Christmas Craft for adults & children, a quiz 11-12 noon, festive snacks and seasonal cheer.

**January's Café** is on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>**, with a quiz, craft table, Christmas Card recycling and the opportunity to make a lantern for ...

### Lights & Lanterns Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January 5.30pm to 7.30pm

A magical display in the Club garden. Free entry. Help us to light up the garden and banish the January gloom! Make a lantern at the Café or at home (ideas on our website) and drop it off at the Café.

Hot & cold drinks available.

You are welcome to bring your own snack. All ages welcome.

### Monday Creativity

If you are interested in joining our Craft Club or learning watercolour painting, please contact Helen (below) for details.

### Mrs Baker's Company

The wonderful actor, **Alison Neil**, returns to the Club on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm** with her one-woman show, 'A Tale of Rogues and Vagabonds'. Meal included, please let us know of any dietary requirements. Tickets £18 from [www.wegotickets.com/event/639721/](http://www.wegotickets.com/event/639721/) or Helen (below)

### And finally

There are two groups of people to thank for their understanding: our Hall users who had to vacate during redecoration, and the Library for coping when the outside lights failed. We're hoping 2025 will run a little smoother. Thank you all!

**Helen 01635 297390 or [events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk](mailto:events@kingsclerevillageclub.co.uk)**

## Kingsclere WI

Kingsclere and Headley Woodlands WI had an excellent meeting in November when we welcomed John Ledger from MAF telling us of their extensive work once again, two of our members provided cakes for us to enjoy with our tea/coffee.

This month we have our Christmas celebrations when we will be having a buffet lunch provided by Gay and Maureen, two of our very talented members, assisted by Celia, another of our members. Our ladies and guests are looking forward to a fun afternoon. The meeting on **11th December**, for this month only, will start at 1pm and is at our usual meeting place, the Village Club.

Why not join us in January for our usual meeting, we would love to meet you and as you can see, we generally have a very varied programme. **8th January 2025** sees us return to our normal meeting time of 1.45pm at the Village Club, our speaker this month is Rev Jill Bentall telling us of historical Food Fads. Want to know more? Then come along and listen, chat and enjoy a cup of tea and biscuits with our members, you will be most welcome.

**Margaret Geary President 01635 297197**





## Kingsclere Singers

**Presents Christmas Yule Sing**

That time of year is upon us again, Christmas is only just around the corner. Whether you have a great faith or just love the joy, warmth and excitement this time of year brings for you, family and friends. What better way to kick start and/or get you in the spirit of the session than to join the Kingsclere Singers throughout the run up to the big day. Come and join us free of charge (donations welcome), for some family friendly fun and a festive raffle. You could even bring friends and make a night of it.

**Events include**

**Sat 14th Dec 3pm** Traditional Carols at St Mary's Church  
**Sat 20th Dec 7.30pm** The Community Xmas Party at the Fieldgate Centre  
**Sun 22 Dec 6pm** Traditional Carols at St Paul's Church

**Follow us on Facebook! [www.kingsclere-singers.co.uk](http://www.kingsclere-singers.co.uk)**



## Dear Friends

This is both the last edition of The Tower for 2024 and the first of 2025! So, in time-honoured fashion, I wish you a “happy” Christmas and a “peaceful” New Year... But if we reflect on the action of the first Christmas which will be celebrated in our churches across the coming months, they are not always the first words that spring to mind.

I do not know of many pregnant mothers who would be happy about travelling a significant distance just days before going into labour in an animal shelter; I am not sure that many people are happy when their territory is taken over by a neighbouring power and their way of living is dismantled; I am sure that the great fear experienced by the shepherds on the hillside was both sudden and petrifying in equal measure.

The situation in Bethlehem was far from peaceful... there was insufficient accommodation for those who had travelled on the orders of the Romans to be accounted for in the census; contrary to the words of the carol “little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes”, I suspect there was a lot of noise from the newborn baby matched by the noises of the animals around the place; there would have been Roman soldiers and officials going about their business with the census and local merchants cashing in on the sudden influx of additional disposable income...

And then a few days later, we learn that visiting dignitaries have arrived with camels... who are not usually known for their happy and peaceful disposition!

So why do we still use these words around this season?

Could it just be that, somewhere deep in our psyche, we are all seeking for that place where we can be happy with who we are, where we live and what we contribute to the life of the world? If we share the word “happy” often enough, might it be that it will take on a life of its own, as we realise all the joyful things we *can* share together across this small blue planet?

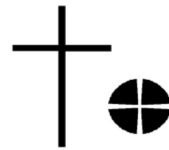
“Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me...” says the hymnwriter. St Paul, writing to the church in Rome, says, “If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all...”

Is there space in our preparation for the coming festivities for us to consider how we can make those two words a reality for those around us, not just at Christmas and the turn of the year, but on every single day of our lives? The angel announced “Don’t be afraid! Listen! I bring good news, news of great joy, news that will affect all people everywhere.”

Perhaps this year, we could “Hush the noise... and hear the angels sing”

**Rev Rachel Borgars**

Peace,



*Rachel*

## Worship in our Churches December 2024



Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>9 am</b>	Traditional Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Headley
	<b>10.30am</b>	Contemporary Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10.30am</b>	Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9 am</b>	Traditional Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>9.30am</b>	Bubble Church	St Paul's, Ashford Hill
	<b>10.30am</b>	Contemporary Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10.30am</b>	Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9am</b>	Traditional Communion	St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>9.30am</b>	Family Carol Service	St Peter's, Headley
	<b>10.30am</b>	Contemporary Communion	St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>4pm</b>	Christingle Service	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10.30am</b>	Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>9am</b>	Traditional Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>10.30am</b>	Contemporary Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>6pm</b>	Candlelit Carol Service	St Paul's, Ashford Hill
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>6pm</b>	Carols in the Churchyard	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve	<b>4pm</b>	Nativity Service	St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>11.30pm</b>	Midnight Communion	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Day	<b>9.30am</b>	Christmas Day Communion	St Paul's, Ashford Hill
	<b>10.30am</b>	Christmas Day Communion	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9am</b>	Traditional Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Communion	St Paul's, Ashford Hill
	<b>10.30am</b>	Contemporary Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere

# Worship in our Churches

## January 2025



Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9 am</b>	Traditional Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Headley
	<b>10.30am</b>	Contemporary Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10.30am</b>	Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9 am</b>	Traditional Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>9.30am</b>	Morning Worship	St Peter's, Headley
	<b>9.30am</b>	Bubble Church	St Paul's, Ashford Hill
	<b>10.30am</b>	Contemporary Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10.30am</b>	Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9am</b>	Traditional Communion	St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>9.30am</b>	Morning Worship	St Paul's, Ashford Hill
	<b>10.30am</b>	Contemporary Communion	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>10.30am</b>	Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9am</b>	Traditional Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
	<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Communion	St Paul's, Ashford Hill
	<b>10.30am</b>	Contemporary Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10.30am</b>	Morning Worship	St Mary's, Kingsclere

### Saturday Coffee

Fresh brewed coffee, tea and delicious home-made cakes.

All welcome – please do pop in!

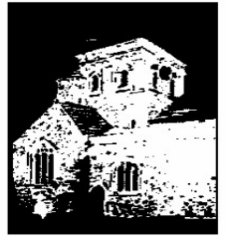
**10.00am-12.00** in the Kingsmill Room, St Mary's Church

**December 7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>**

Volunteers welcome – if you're able to pour coffee, welcome people or make cakes occasionally please do contact the church office on 01635 299528

### Lighting up St Mary's

The sight of St Mary's Church when it is floodlit is truly beautiful. Many people sponsor these lights (£15 per evening) to celebrate an occasion, such as a birthday, wedding, anniversary, christening, or some other special day in their lives. To book, contact Emma, our Church Administrator on 07422 687125 or email administrator@stmaryskingsclere.co.uk



#### November

30<sup>th</sup> Dearest Rod on your birthday. So loved. D.

#### December

9<sup>th</sup> In memory of Allen Appleton, Dad, on his birthday. Richard and Elaine x

15<sup>th</sup> Paul Read. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear. "Always", Alyson, Eleanor and James. xxx

19<sup>th</sup> For Marjorie

19<sup>th</sup> Hildres Alderman. Miss you always, Mum.

24<sup>th</sup> In loving memory of Janet Bradley. Such a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother. We miss you every day and will be forever be in our hearts. From John, Alison, David and all the family.

25<sup>th</sup> For Jean and Mervyn Hiller. Remembering all the happy days and thinking of you at Christmas and always. All our love from Susan & Mark, Julie & Bob, Gina & Tom.

25<sup>th</sup> In memory of Neil, you are loved and missed so very much. Elaine, Christopher, Suzanna, Chris, Tom and Oliver. Love Always x

26<sup>th</sup> In loving memory of Stewart Vaughan at his favourite time of the year. You will be greatly missed at Christmas but are in our thoughts always. All our love Pam, James, Laura, Robin, William and Alex. xxx

#### January

14<sup>th</sup> Dearest Eileen, on the anniversary of your death, Loving you Always, Anne x

30<sup>th</sup> In loving memory of Gloria Olariu-Stead born sleeping 30 January 2019. Always in the hearts of Oana, Michael, Emily, Vasile, Cornelia, Gina and Andrew.

31<sup>st</sup> Remembering Paula Tait on her 70th birthday always in our thoughts, loved and missed by all her family.

Thank you to everyone for cards, flowers and kindness in the loss of Rod Eldred. Diana Tait

Ann Jameson died Saturday 2nd November aged 87. Beloved wife, mother and grandmother.



## Kingsclere Methodist Church

### December 2024 and January 2025 Services

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Mrs Helen Watson	10am
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Rev Rachel Borgars	10am
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service	6.30pm
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Mr Peter Frank	10am
Christmas Day	Mrs Maggy Wallace	10am
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> December	Joint Service at Whitchurch Methodist Church	10.30am

### January 2025

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Worship Leaders	10am
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Epiphany Carols	6.30pm
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Rev Rachel Borgars (Covenant service)	10am
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Rev Ruth Midcalf	10am
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Worship Leaders	10am

### Coffee Morning every Thursday

apart from Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December) 10.30 until -12

Hall available for hire contact details at back of this magazine

### Fund Raising Event

Quiz night Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 7 pm.

Teams of up to 6 £5.00 per person

Bring your own soft drinks and nibbles. Hot drinks and some nibbles available, plus cake stall.

**Please contact Rev Rachel Borgars at Rachel.Borgars@methodist.org.uk**

**Or Hazel Barker on 01635 299316 (leave a message)**



## Kingsclere Bowls Club

### New Members Required

Your local club is actively seeking to increase its membership. We welcome anyone with an interest in bowls whether you are new to bowls or an experienced bowler new to the area. Whoever you are, we would like to meet you and welcome you to our club.

There is an urban myth that bowls is something you do when you retire. If you have seen bowls on TV you will know that the National squad are mostly in their twenties and thirties. Please contact Steve Kendrew for more information.

### Presentation of Trophies

On Saturday 2nd November we held our annual presentation of trophies. The men's singles trophy was won by Billy McGhee with runner up Andy Fisher. The lady's singles was won by Nina Horner and runner up Maggie Howard. The men's pairs trophy was won by Mark Stillings with Martin Cooper and runners up Billy McGhee and Rodney Rosier. 2 wood singles men was won by Uwe Brown with runner up Bobby French. The lady's pairs trophy was won by Louise Arbon and Heidi Fowler with runners up Nina Horner and Maggie Howard. The men's novice singles trophy was won by Nick Rampton and runner up Syd Charlton. The lady's novice singles was won by Louise Arbon with runner up Anna Brown. **Steve Kendrew 07929876831**



## Nature Notes

Many people in the village will know of the kingfisher who is regularly sighted on the lake near St Mary's Church. The shallow, slow-moving water is ideal territory as it allows this expert fisherman to more accurately see the fish moving beneath the surface. I have often experienced the thrill of seeing its electric blue body streak past, but this month I heard it call for the first time. Indeed, I heard it before I saw it - a piercing, single high note - not at all what I expected. I caught sight of it just before it dove into the water, splicing the surface with its amazing spear-shaped beak.



A moment after the kingfisher, I heard a commotion in the sky above - the distinctive undulating whistle of a Red Kite. But instead of sounding like a lazy call, high in the air, it was very close by and frantic - then suddenly two kites, locked together, fell down through the tree cover and - just a few feet from the surface of the water - they separated, and swept away in opposite directions. I have never seen this behaviour so close to the ground (or water!) before, and I wonder whether it was a territory tussle, as surely it is not the time of year for a spring mating ritual?

We are blessed on the Tower Hill estate with several mature cherry trees. Over this month, we have been privileged to enjoy watching their long green leaves transform into ruby reds and bright, mustard yellows, set against glorious blue autumnal skies, before they too, like the kites, tumble down to the ground.

Falling leaves have also been a great source of fun for our little girl. A couple of weeks ago I pointed out a 'magic' leaf, seemingly suspended high above the ground. She was captivated, watching it dance in mid-air. I broke the spell by explaining that it was caught in a spider's web but this made it no less fascinating: I lifted her up to swing at it with a stick and she collapsed into giggles as she inadvertently batted it down from the web and straight into my upturned mouth. 'Mummy ate a magic leaf' has been a great joke in our house ever since.

I revel in these silent days without a breath of wind, where the only sounds are solitary leaves spinning down to embrace the earth with gentle, crunching kisses, or the manic laughter of ducks as they soar overhead. It is the calm before the coming storm of festive activity and, as this is the last Tower edition of 2024, may I wish all readers a very Merry Christmas and a nature-filled New Year.

**Lydia Harley-Tomlinson**  
[lydia.harleytomlinson@gmail.com](mailto:lydia.harleytomlinson@gmail.com)

## December in the garden

What a beautiful autumn it turned out to be, the colours from the trees were stunning. There are several spots locally where the beech trees were exceptional. On the way to Aldermaston you can drive through a tunnel of beech trees. Beech hold on to their leaves longer than most trees, an extra bonus.



Sadly, by December that colour will disappear and we will be left with bare branches. It has been lovely to watch the many varieties of birds enjoying the berries. We have several Rowan trees and they have been inundated with the birds.

The largest job to be done now probably is to gather up those fallen leaves. If left they will spoil the lawns and encourage unwelcome creatures. Sheds and fences need to be protected from the winter, choosing a preservative that will not be harmful to plants that climb in those areas. Other jobs to be done, including clearing moss from the paths and making them safer to travel. Products are available to remedy this problem, but a mixture of water and bleach will get the job done, avoiding any plants growing nearby.

Diseased and damaged wood on deciduous trees and shrubs should be removed, being careful not to prune those that flower in the winter and spring, otherwise those flowers will be lost. Moths and insects rely on winter flowering plants for nectar.

As the weather becomes colder, many plants will need protection. It is a tedious job but it is worth the effort as replacing plants has become an expensive exercise. Pots can be moved to a sheltered position. This will help as will some sacking or old fabric wrapped around the pot.

If the soil is still workable, plant new shrubs, bare rooted roses, and trees.

The vegetable garden will need tidying up and cleared of old crops. Brassica leaves that have gone yellow should be removed from the plant to prevent disease. Prune blackcurrants as they fruit on both old and new wood, cut them into an open bush taking out the really old wood.

Amaryllis bulbs make nice gifts for Christmas. The bulb should not be planted too deeply in the pot. After planting, place the pot somewhere cool and light. They are rewarding to plant, as they grow very quickly.

This is the time now to browse through the seed catalogues and plan for next year. With the days being so much shorter, we have less daylight to garden. Let us hope that next year will be easier as gardening has been difficult in 2024, terribly wet most of the year with lots of growth on some plants but many did not perform well in the wet.

Plants to enjoy this month:- Cotoneaster, Winter Jasmine, Holly, Mahonia Charity, Spotted Laurel, and the many varieties of Elaeagnus.

**Denise Allen**

## Kingsclere Gardening Association

For our October meeting, Kathy and Keith Flanagan gave a talk with slides of their huge collection of cacti and succulents. It was enlightening to learn that many cacti flower more than once a year, several producing large and vibrant coloured flowers. These plants have become such a passion for the Flannigans that they have moved house to accommodate their collection.

Our next meeting is in January when the Village Club will be the venue for our AGM on **January 9th at 7.30pm**, followed by cheese and wine. As with many clubs and societies we have vacancies on our committee. We would be delighted to welcome new members to our team.

Best wishes for Christmas and the new year.

**Denise Allen, chairman 01635297966**

**denise.allen47@icloud.com**



## Kingsclere Local History Association

Our next meeting will be on  
**THURSDAY 12th DECEMBER**

when **IAN PORTER** will give us a talk entitled  
**" THE GOLDEN AGE OF TRAVEL 1836-1936 "**

This will be a return visit by Ian who is a historian and tour guide now living locally. Ian will start with the coming of the railways and how Thomas Cook used this to start the package travel industry. We will hear of the Orient Express and Cook's venturing to Egypt. Next will follow all about the great liners including, of course, the Titanic. Then it's on to the building of the great tunnels, rail and road, that opened up winter sports and the development of European Spas. In more recent times there's the coming of the aeroplane and the Zeppelin. Certainly, a Golden Age. The meeting will be followed by Christmas wines and nibbles.

We start 2025 on **THURSDAY 23rd JANUARY**

when **DAVID CLOW** will present

**" THE HISTORY AND PRODUCTION OF GLASS AND STAINED GLASS "**.

David is a local historian and an expert on all types of glass. He will cover glass manufacture from the original inception right up to the present day. David will tell of interesting glasses around the world as well as some in our own area. He will also cover the stained glass manufacture he himself carries out with great skill. A very interesting specialist subject. Our meetings are in the main hall at Kingsclere Village Club commencing at 7.30pm. Visitors are very welcome at £3 p.p.

**Michael Leah Chairman/Secretary tel 297403**



## Friends of St Mary's Kingsclere

A reminder that we have a selection of attractive items available for sale which will make good Christmas gifts/stocking fillers. See our website for full details.

**200 Club** renewal is due by 31st December. Existing participants will have been contacted direct, but anyone wishing to join in the lottery should contact Mark Wray at [mark.wray55@gmail.com](mailto:mark.wray55@gmail.com)

We start 2025 with our **Quiz Night at The Fieldgate Centre on Friday 7th February**. This is always a popular event and last year it was again sold out. Start putting together your team of up to 8 people. Smaller groups are most welcome and, where possible, may be grouped together to fill tables. Tickets are £17 per person and include **a substantial ploughman's supper, plus 2 bottles of wine per complete table of 8**. There will also be a cash bar and raffle. Tickets will be available from early January from Swan Street Stores, or **Peter Turner on tel. 01635 298434, email [fieldcorner@hotmail.com](mailto:fieldcorner@hotmail.com)**. **Each team will need to complete an Entry Form**, with name of team, contact name, telephone number, email address and number in team. Forms available from Swan Street Stores and Peter Turner.

The other main event scheduled for later in the Spring is the **Plant Sale in St.Mary's churchyard on Saturday 31st May**. Watch this space for details and later fixtures.

I also take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and successful and happy New Year.

**Peter Turner, Chairman**

Website: [friendsofstmaryskingsclere.org](http://friendsofstmaryskingsclere.org)

For membership & enquiries email: [fosmkingsclere@gmail.com](mailto:fosmkingsclere@gmail.com)



### FOSM 200 Club

The winner of the November Draw was

John Price---No.102.

**Congratulations, John.**

Next month's Draw will take place at Bel and the Dragon at about 7 pm on  
**Tuesday 3rd December.**

## Kingsclere CE Primary School

Kingsclere CE Primary School very much enjoyed taking part in the Remembrance Parade and Service in the village. The following week, the whole school took part in a Remembrance Service where children shared remembrance poems, joined together in song and lay wreaths they had made to remember together the end of the First World War in 1918 and the importance of peace in the world in which we live.

We have launched our Happy Mind programme which is NHS approved and helps support children's wellbeing. The programme combines the latest research, science and technology to help children develop lifelong habits and learn to thrive.

Our local PCSO, Kieron Venn, provided a super presentation to each year group recently all about the role of the police and how they support communities. The children also enjoyed seeing the police van and the equipment the police use to help keep themselves and others safe.

We had an excellent Fireworks Festival with over 860 visitors joining us at the school. It was great for so many families to come together to watch the fireworks as a community. A huge thank you to our Firework Committee, PTA and the local scouts for putting together a great event enjoyed by many.

We are looking forward to seeing our children perform in our Christmas Nativity at school and our Christmas Cantata in the church this December.

The staff, governors and children of Kingsclere CE Primary School wish everyone in the community a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Jo Messenger, Headteacher



### Age Concern

Volunteers needed to support new Social Groups

Age Concern Hampshire is seeking dedicated volunteers to support the expansion of its community social groups. Volunteers play a crucial role in facilitating activities, providing companionship, and creating a welcoming environment for participants.

Call Kate Harrison on 07501 553230 or by visiting the website for more information:

<https://www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk/job/basingstoke-social-group-volunteer-sng/>

**AGE**  
*Concern*



## The Gang are back with multi award-winning variety show!

Basingstoke Gang Show returns to The Haymarket Theatre for its 29th stunning variety show extravaganza!

Get down with the Gang as they showcase a series of sensational songs, comical choreography, super sketches and more.

Basingstoke Gang Show is recognised as the **best-selling** and **longest running 'family variety show'** in the South of England. Audiences will be entertained as the cast of 70 take to the stage to perform the 45th anniversary show across 11 performances in February 2025, many over half term week. This best-selling amateur production is not to be missed, as it showcases the very best of local talent in the Scout & Guide associations.

Tickets are on sale now via [www.anvilarts.org.uk](http://www.anvilarts.org.uk). Book early so you, your friends and family experience this feel-good show at The Haymarket. Dates are **Thursday 13th to Saturday 22nd February 2025**, excluding Sunday 16th. Matinee performances are also on **Saturday 15th and 22nd February**.

Ticket prices: Adults £23, Children £16 and last night (Saturday 22nd) all seats £24. Ticket prices include £3 booking fee via Anvil Arts.

**Group booking discount** of £1.00 off each ticket for every 10 purchased before 31st January 2025. Discounts not available with online bookings. Local businesses can apply to be a sponsor of Basingstoke Gang Show with packages from as little as £100 up to £2,000. To find out more go to [www.basingstokegangshow.com/sponsorship](http://www.basingstokegangshow.com/sponsorship)

**u3a**  
Overton & District

### Young Dickens and how he came to 'invent' Christmas

Ian Porter is an historian, novelist, and public speaker and for our December

meeting he will deliver a most apt talk for the season.

This is Dicken's life before he became a star. Once he became well known, he came to need a money-spinner, and Ian explains how this led to "A Christmas Carol" and other things we now associate with the season.

This talk is just 7 days before Christmas!

Mince pies and mulled wine will be served after the talk.

**Wednesday 18 December at 10 a.m.**

St Mary's Hall, Overton

Free to members - Non-members £3 on the door



## Shipinnarts

(The Ship Inn Country Hotel, Ashford Hill RG19 8BD)  
<https://shipinnarts.org/> Email: [shipinnarts@gmail.com](mailto:shipinnarts@gmail.com)  
 01189 814504



### DECEMBER 2024

#### December 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Festival of Light 3 -5pm – FAMILY EVENT

An immersive and creative afternoon.

Lights out at 4.30pm to show our glowing creations.

“The Night before Christmas” will be read. Tickets £5, pay cash on the door. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

email: [shipinnarts@gmail.com](mailto:shipinnarts@gmail.com)

#### December 6<sup>th</sup> Friday Open Mic 7pm

**December 7<sup>th</sup> Saturday** Flautissimo II with Alison Pickering. Come and join us for our monthly rehearsal at 12 noon - 1pm.

[alisonjpickering30@gmail.com](mailto:alisonjpickering30@gmail.com)

#### December 10<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Crafts at Shipinnarts 11am -2pm

#### December 13<sup>th</sup> Friday 6.30pm Carols and Cakes at The Ship

***A FREE event. Do come and join us celebrating Christmas.***

### JANUARY 2025 Events at Shipinnarts

During 2025, Open Mics will be announced by Jon Whitfield on our Website and on our Shipinnarts facebook.

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> January** 7.30pm - 8.45pm Recorder Choir (18 years and up). Come and join us! Bring your recorder if you have one.

Alison has some to lend if not. Please bring £5 cash each practice.

Contact Alison Pickering, [email:alisonjpickering30@gmail.com](mailto:alisonjpickering30@gmail.com)

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January** 12 – 1pm - Flautissimo II with Alison Pickering.

Come and join us for our monthly rehearsal. 12noon - 1pm.

Contact Alison Pickering, email: [alisonjpickering30@gmail.com](mailto:alisonjpickering30@gmail.com)

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January** 3pm -5pm Celtic Song, Throat Singing and Overtone Workshop with Laura Wilcock and Visy

*Come and join us, welcoming the New Year together here at Shipinnarts!  
 (This is a non-Shipinnarts independent workshop – the workshop in 2024 was much enjoyed, Laura is a highly knowledgeable and talented teacher)*

Tickets: £20.00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/celtic-song-throat-singing-and-overtone-workshop-tickets-1058620465309>

## Kingsclere Youth Club

Where: The Fieldgate Centre

When: Mondays 5.30pm-7.30pm

Entry fee: £3.50 First session is free.



In November, we practiced our sewing skills, making felt poppies for our wreath that was proudly presented at the village War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

We’ve been busy with other homemade crafts including cupcake-case flowers and cardboard snowflakes and filling our decorated shoeboxes with donations for the Samaritan’s Purse Operation Christmas Child appeal.

We’ve also been delving into witches and ghosts this month, making our own talismans to keep unwanted spirits away... By the end of the month, we hope to get everyone in the kitchen to prepare a Christmas pudding for Stir Up Sunday!

In December we look forward to making mince pies, creating our own Christmas decorations and plenty of Christmas-themed games.

Youth Club welcomes all young people aged between 7 and 14 years old.

We host a broad range of activities including craft, sports, cooking and games. Come along to try it out - the first session is free.

Scan the QR code to visit our Facebook Page.

**Lydia Harley-Tomlinson**



### Nathan’s Christmas Cabaret

Come and join us and our West End friends for an evening of songs and festive fun, featuring the students of AVA and NLS Tuition, you will not want to miss it! This year, our cabaret is fundraising for ‘Time to Talk’ a charity supporting young people aged 11-25 with emotional and psychological help in West Berkshire.

**Come on down to**

**The Fieldgate Centre**

**14<sup>th</sup> December 2.45pm matinee or 6.00pm**

**Get your Tickets at:**

**[www.ticketsource.co.uk/kingsclere-community-association](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/kingsclere-community-association)**

**Tickets Adults: £15.00**

**Children: £10.00**

There will also be a raffle with wonderful prizes including West End theatre tickets, Spa treatments and many more.

All proceeds going towards ***Time to talk, West Berkshire.***



## KINGSCLERE TENNIS CLUB

Tennis continues throughout the autumn and winter, weather permitting.  
Don't forget our social tennis sessions on Thursdays. If anyone, old or young of any ability, would like to join the morning session from 9.30am, please contact Daphne Snook on [dsnook339@gmail.com](mailto:dsnook339@gmail.com).  
We're a friendly bunch and we just enjoy playing as long as the weather permits.

Please visit our Facebook page or website for details of the latest activities and more information.

[www.kingscleretennisclub.co.uk](http://www.kingscleretennisclub.co.uk)



### Kingsclere Village Bunnies Baby and Toddler Group

Where: The Village Club

When: Tuesdays 9.00am-11.00am

Cost: £2.50 for 1st Child (including snack for child and hot drink and biscuit for adult), 50p per extra child, £1 per extra adult



The Bunnies had a wonderful Halloween party last month - thank you to all the Big Bunnies who helped with food, craft, music and games.

In December, we look forward to Christmas crafts and lots of festive fun as well as our usual regular events - The library opening especially for the Bunnies on the first Tuesday of the month (3rd Dec and 7th Jan) and our Swap Table happening on the second Tuesday (10th Dec and 14th Jan).

**Christmas closure dates** - we are closed on **Tuesday 24th December** and **Tuesday 31st December**. We'll be *bouncing* back into 2025 on Tuesday 7th Jan.

Swap Table - bring any baby or toddler items in good condition that you no longer use for others to make use of, and swap them for something you need.

Thank you as always to the unparalleled Swan Street Stores for their continued support of a weekly donation of fresh fruit snacks for the Bunnies.

For information visit our Facebook page, or regular visitors can join our WhatsApp group for weekly updates.

**Lydia Harley-Tomlinson**

[lydia.harleytomlinson@gmail.com](mailto:lydia.harleytomlinson@gmail.com)

### Kingsclere Preschool

2024 has been a year of change for us, not least the change from Busy Bees to Kingsclere Preschool! We are ending it with another one as our manager, Jacquie, is leaving at Christmas after 30 years of dedication to the children and families of Kingsclere. We thank her for everything she has contributed to the Preschool, and we will miss her and wish her well.

We are pleased to welcome our new staff members, and proud to be able to support the training and professional development of 2 apprentices. Our team does a fabulous job and we want to thank them all, past and present, for their hard work. Thanks also to our families and community for your support and involvement in making our first year as Kingsclere Preschool a success.

Our Christmas fayre will be held at the Scout Hut on 7th December, 12-3pm. There will be raffle prizes, stalls, games, sweet treats and more. Santa will be there, and we hope to see many of you too!

If you are looking for a childcare space, or ways you can support the Preschool, please contact [admin@kingsclerepreschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@kingsclerepreschool.co.uk) or visit our website [www.kingsclerepreschool.co.uk](http://www.kingsclerepreschool.co.uk).

**Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2025.**  
**Kingsclere Preschool Committee**

# DELI

# CHEESE SHOP

# COFFEE SHOP

Wolverton Park, Ramsdell Road, Wolverton, RG26 5RU

T: 01256 861372 M: 07712 675676

E: [justine@hampshiredeli.co.uk](mailto:justine@hampshiredeli.co.uk)

Facebook: @HampshireDeli



OPENING TIMES

**Thursday:**  
9:00am - 4:00pm

**Friday:**  
9:00am - 4:00pm

**Saturday:**  
9:00am - 3:00pm

