

Kingswood Grapevine

Issue No. 242

APRIL 2020

Editors: Lesley Beswick (07813908875) & Julie Devine (07709655381)

Dates For Your Diary

Fri	17 th	April	Music at St. Mary's, Songs for a Spring Evening	7.30pm
Sat	16 th	May	Spring Coffee Morning – St Mary's Church Room	10am
Sat	23 rd	May	KVHS – Trip to Stroud Museum in the Park	
Sat	13 th	June	Church Fete – Amercombe, High Street	1pm

MAY ISSUE DEADLINE:

WEDNESDAY 22nd APRIL

Note from the Editors – Please stay safe lovely villagers, follow advice given regarding the Coronavirus and see below that our community are pulling together so that we can look after each other. We have included at the end of this issue Village and local events that we know have been cancelled or postponed as this may be useful for those not on Social Media. Please find with your Grapevine a notice for you to use and display (which side suits your household best) so that we are better protected as a village.

Community HELPLINE

Coronavirus (COVID-19) COMMUNITY HELPLINE

Kingswood Village Association & friends is setting up a telephone helpline for the benefit of any Kingswood resident who is isolated, sick or too elderly to get about independently. In particular, together with the Village Shop, we would be pleased to help with shopping and other errands, or even just a chat, but there are no doubt other areas where we can also be useful such as collecting medication. In these difficult times it seems to us so important that we all pull together to ensure as best we can the well-being of our fellow villagers. If any local organisation or individual would like to join our volunteers list, please give us a call. If you find yourself in need of support or know of someone in this situation, please ring the numbers below and we promise to do everything we can to help. There is also a 'Kingswood Volunteers' Facebook Page where you may offer help or ask for assistance. Together with the page 'Kingswood, Gloucestershire (GL12)' those of you who prefer social media it looks like we have everyone covered should you need anything.

Contact details: **Jim Sinkinson** : 07527813404 Email: jamessinkinson16@gmail.com Or **Ria Kendall** : 07305801877
Kingswood Spar & Post Office : 01453 842230

Donations are most welcome which will be used for our village needs during this time. Please contact Rod Alexander for guidance on how to do this on rodplume@gmail.com or 07746 624947

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

Kingswood Village Association is sorry to have made the decision to postpone our AGM (31st March), a new date will be decided on as soon as practicable. Sadly we have also decided to cancel the "Dine and Wine" evening (May 2nd) but feel that we must as Coronavirus tightens its grip and we would have to be printing and planning very soon. Our VE Day Picnic has also been postponed as times are uncertain but we do hope to run this event at some point.

KINGSWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (CHAPEL)

Contact: Jennie: 07934070167 or jennieamesbury@btinternet.com

Due to current climate please check our website and Facebook page for updates on services and meetings.

We want to take this time to let you know that we are praying for our village as well as the wider country and the world as a whole. Please join us in raising our prayers. We understand there has been a rush on food products but if you do have an extra tin or two or can pick something up when out shopping then there are collection boxes in the porches of both churches for the Stroud Foodbank - please donate if you can. You can also contact us via www.kingswoodcongregational.org.uk or visit our Facebook page

WILD ABOUT KINGSWOOD

Spring has arrived at Kingswood wildlife area. The birds are singing, the blackthorn is blossoming in the hedgerows, frogs and toads are spawning and the newts are returning to the pond. If you are getting outside for exercise and fresh air see how much wildlife you can spot. The annual great crested newt survey for the public is planned for Saturday 9th May. This is a wonderful opportunity to see this rare and protected species close up as we count and release the newts from bottle traps. To book a place and to check this will still be going ahead please call Stroud Valleys project on 01453 753358. A note for your diary looking further ahead - on 11th July at 10am to 1pm there will be a pond dipping event where we can look closely at all the tiny wildlife living in the pond.

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Contact: Secretary Stella Green, stellagreen80@btinternet.com

Trip to Stroud Museum in the Park 23rd May 2020 - KVHS is planning a visit to the Stroud Museum in the Park on **May 23rd**. If anyone reading the Grapevine (current members or non-members) would like to attend, please respond to Peter Booth, Chairman, as soon as possible - peterbooth@btinternet.com. We would also be grateful to hear from anyone who would like to come, who might be able to assist with transport too. If you'd like to join the Society, please contact Peter or our Secretary - Stella Green

THANK YOU – 'OLD SKOOL'

Ally, Shona, Abbi, Vicky, Debs and Katie would like to say a huge thank you to everyone that supported their charity 'Old Skool' Disco at Kingswood Village Hall on Friday 6th March, they raised an amazing £1565.05!! This could not have been achieved without all the generous donations of raffle prizes from local businesses, Nick and Jason's fabulous DJing skills, the village hall and everyone that came along...THANK YOU!! Just the small task of completing the cycle challenge now!! If you were unable to attend the disco and would still like to show your support, you can sponsor them through their JustGiving page: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Wotton-wheeling-warriors

KINGSWOOD SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

KSA SCARECROW TRAIL – POSTPONED. Due to recent events we have decided to postpone the scarecrow trail this Easter. Any entry forms/fees already paid will be refunded. We will be running the trail again soon so watch this space!

DEMENTIA CONNECTIONS

Those of you who have Facebook will already know that we decided at the weekend to postpone our regular groups for the foreseeable. We never take these decisions lightly. We know that for some of you, it might be your only opportunity for time-out during the week. But we also know that for most us, even those not directly in the “high risk” bracket will most likely care for someone who is. And in light of the Government’s announcement we now know it was the right thing to do.

Given that Government advice is expected to change again over the coming days, we think it is sensible to be led by the current guidelines, and implement full closure until the advice against social contact and non-essential travel is lifted. We will contact you when we have a confirmed return date. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please let us know.

Prior to the closures, Amanda had been speaking with a number of village pubs to explore taking the Thursday afternoon information session out on the road. We have met lots of lovely new friends recently, who live a little further afield and are without transport. We’d really like to reach out to those and others who might not know about us, and those who can’t travel. We will pick a venue each week - Dinneywicks still very much included! - and bring our information to you. Let us know if you have any ideas or requests!

In the meantime, we are always here on the end of the phone, and will also be catching up with some much needed admin stuff during missed group times. It's amazing to see how fabulous our little community is at times like these, and we'd just like to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone co-ordinating and volunteering to look out for each other. If we can do anything at all – or if you just feel like a chat – please do give us a call on 07814 692 195 or email dementiaconnections@outlook.com We really are all in this together.

KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL (KPC)

Clerk: Mary Leonard Tel: 01453 844659, clerk@kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk

District and Parish Council Elections -Thursday 7th May 2020. These are now cancelled until May 2021. Thank you to those who took a pack and considered standing for council.

Annual Parish Meeting 23rd March 2020 – Due to the Coronavirus this meeting was cancelled. Thank you to all the community Groups who sent reports. These will be made available on the parish council website.

Coronavirus- Kingswood Parish Council is working with other community Groups and agencies to try to support those who are vulnerable during this crisis. Please look out for your neighbour and let us know if you have any concerns over anyone in the village. Please check for information on <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

Parish Council operations during the Coronavirus

It is likely that parish council meetings will be suspended during this crisis. The parish council will still operate through the clerk of the council. At the time of writing all facilities will remain open. The council will continue to update its Website and Facebook page and the clerk will remain working as usual throughout this time. Please make contact by phone or email in the usual way.

Litter and Dog fouling -Please report anyone littering or not picking up after their dog to the **following; Litter or Fly Tipping**

<https://www.stroud.gov.uk/report/report-fly-tipping-dumped-litter> **Dog Fouling** <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/report/report-dog-mess-or-fouling-problems> **Overflowing bins** <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/report/report-an-overflowing-litter-bin>

Please report any problems at the playing field and community areas to the Clerk of the Council Clerk@kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk

Communication - Please visit the KPC web site on www.kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk and follow and like the parish council on the **Kingswood Parish Council Facebook Page.** *The Clerk Mary Leonard, PO Box 113 Wotton under Edge GL11 9BP*

ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

Contact: Patricia Broadfoot 07771 996495

Sadly, St Mary’s Church is now closed for collective worship until further notice following national Church of England instructions.

However, ‘church’ is not the building, it is people who seek to show Christ’s love in the world. At this difficult time for everyone, there will be those in special need. If you know of anyone who needs help, either in a practical way or because they are feeling isolated and lonely, do let us know. Meanwhile, we will be praying for our community. St Mary’s church will remain open for private prayer, as is the Memorial Garden. There will be a prayer station in the church as a resource to help people coming into pray, as well as a box to collect prayer requests for others. As we approach Easter, the traditional wooden eggs for children to decorate will be available at the back of the Church. Please collect one if you would like to, paint it and hang it on the tree on the Chipping, so that there will still be a visible sign of Easter joy in the village. We hope to arrange other opportunities to mark Easter in a visible way in our community – please do check for details on our website: <https://www.stmaryskingswood.org.uk>

FOSM – FRIENDS OF ST MARY’S

Contact: Stella 01453 842497 or Chris 07802 604389, friends@stmaryskingswood.org.uk

Spring Coffee Morning Saturday 16th May from 10.00am - 12.30pm

FOSM are hosting their Spring coffee morning in the St Mary’s Room, St Mary’s Church, High Street, GL12 8RS which will include a book, plant and cake sale. We are looking for donations for this event - please leave plants in the Church on the Friday before and bring cakes to the Church on the morning of the sale, you can also contact us for collection. CONTACT: Stella 01453 842497 or Chris 07802 604389 or email friends@stmaryskingswood.org.uk “ Follow us on Facebook: Friends of St Mary’s Kingswood

Also Strawberry Teas on Sunday 28 June 3.00-5.00pm. Please put these dates in your 2020 diaries. See our Facebook page: Friends of St Mary’s Kingswood

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE CHURCH FETE

Contact: Patricia Broadfoot 07771 996495 fete@stmaryskingswood.org.uk

The annual Village Church Fete will be held as usual in the beautiful gardens of Amercombe, 11 High Street, GL12 8RS from 1pm on **Saturday 13th June 2020.** This year’s theme is “**The Roaring 1920’s**”, there will be lots of stalls, a Raffle and Tombola both with lots of prizes as well as the treasure hunt, games, bar, B-B-Q and teas. In addition the popular preloved stall and new this year a home produce stall to include vegetables, flowers, fruit and homemade jams, chutneys etc, further details for donations nearer to the event. Please put this date in your diaries & we look forward to seeing you then, further information will follow in coming weeks.

- Find us on Facebook at "Kingswood Village Church Fete

OTHER EVENTS POSTPONED OR CANCELLED TO DATE.....

KVA – AGM – New date TBC and our Dine & Wine evening

WUE Walking Festival – cancelled for this year

Kingswood Baby & Toddler Group – no group for the rest of this term

WUE Cinema is closed for a month from 18th March

St. Marys Church, Kingswood - public worship is suspended until further notice – Church will be open as much as possible

KVA – VE Day Celebrations – new date TBC

Wotton Drama's The Lion The Witch and the Wardrobe has been postponed.

Kingswood Village Hall AGM – postponed

JGfitness Gym and Studios – temporarily closed

For an entry please email Grapevine: kingswoodgrapevine@googlemail.com The Village Diary can be viewed on the Grapevine website.

web page: www.kingswoodgrapevine.btck.co.uk

