

# Kingswood Grapevine

Issue No. 259

February 2022

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

## Dates For Your Diary

Thursday 10th Feb	Cuppa & Natter – Village Hall	2 – 4pm
Monday 21st Feb	Deadline for March Grapevine	6pm
Saturday 26th Feb	Comedy Night – Village Hall	7pm
Tuesday 15th March	Kingswood Village Association Annual General Meeting – Village Hall	8pm

### Editors' Note:

Happy New Year! We have been long awaiting the build of our new website but we do think that we are at the final stages now. We are including information on local business and we have contacted a few. If you would like to have an opportunity to promote your business then please get in touch with us. You can advertise for a very favourable cost of £5 a month (£60 a year). Priority is for village businesses first but will be offered more widely if needed to fill the information and space on our site. Contact us urgently for more details.

### KINGSWOOD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION (KVA)

The Kingswood Village Association Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place in the Village Hall at 8pm on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022**. The public are invited to attend and learn about the work of the KVA. We are looking for new members and this is a good time to see if it's for you. Stay after the meeting for wine and nibbles!

### KINGSWOOD WILDLIFE AREA

Kingswood wildlife area, by the allotments, is managed by volunteers led by Richard from Stroud Valleys Project. Look out for our posts on Facebook page "I Love Wotton" to show the work we are doing through the changing seasons. We meet on Monday mornings and new volunteers are always made welcome. All you need is an interest in the outdoors and local wildlife. To start the new year we have laid the tall hedge between the old dew pond and the tarmac path. This hedge contained a lot of dead and diseased wood and we look forward to seeing it return to healthy growth in the spring. In May the annual surveys of the newts will provide a wonderful opportunity to get a really close look at the beautiful protected great crested newts before they are released back into the ponds. In the summer there will be a return of the pond dipping event and also a guided bat walk. Dates for these events will be shared here nearer the time.

### KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HALL

#### Comedy Night - Saturday 26th February 2022 – Village Hall

A great way to come out of Lockdown and Covid - Hosted by **Cerys Nemes** there will be three comedians **Jack Campbell, Ollie Horn** and **Christian Reilly**. Bar from 7.00pm start at 8.00pm to late. Tickets £12.50 each (tables available) from Village Shop or David Werrett 07970100304. Limited numbers so book early.

### KINGSWOOD CRICKET CLUB

Happy New Year to all our members & supporters! Firstly, thank you to all who participated in, organised, and donated prizes for the Christmas draw held in December. 76 prizes were won and over £1000 raised for club funds. As we build towards the 2022 summer (for a full season of cricket and social events) KVCC will be holding indoor nets starting in February... Each week: Friday 4th February - Friday 8th April 18.15 until 19.15 - £4 adults and £2 under 18s at KLB sports hall. New members very welcome, just come along and introduce yourself. (We will update attendees with relevant COVID protocols nearer the time). We are an inclusive village team that plays Sunday friendly cricket through the summer as well as a midweek T20 cup against local villages in June/July. Do get in touch! - [kvccteamsec@gmail.com](mailto:kvccteamsec@gmail.com), or see our facebook page, search 'kingswood village cricket club'

### ARE YOU INTERESTED IN RESEARCHING LOCAL HISTORY??

In 2023 St Mary's Church will be marking the 300th anniversary of the construction of the church building. As part of our celebrations we are planning an exhibition about Kingswood as it was 300 years ago: the buildings, agriculture, industry and above all the people. The Historical Society has some resources collected by members over the years, but we are really keen to dig deeper. If you are interested in local history, have experience of researching family history, maybe a student considering an EPQ, or anyone who would like to help us with our research then please contact either: Bob Copeland, Stella Green or Chris Wynn or alternatively email [tercentenary@stmaryskingswood.org.uk](mailto:tercentenary@stmaryskingswood.org.uk)

### TUBBS TURF

Tubbs Turf are wanting to make the courts look extra lovely for the Queens platinum jubilee in June. To do this we would love to extend the knitted bunting that was started a few years ago. We have lots of balls of purple and yellow wool and a simple knit pattern. We need 250 penants so if you fancy helping knit a few we would be very grateful. If you don't knit but can make pom poms then that would be great too as each penant has a pom pom attached. If you can help please email [membership@tubbsturf.co.uk](mailto:membership@tubbsturf.co.uk) Also if anyone would like to help with the garden maintenance please contact me for further details. This is managed solely by volunteers so any extra hands would be much appreciated. Garden mornings are at 10am on the second Saturday of the month. Finally membership renewals for Tubbs will be due by 1 April 2022 and rates will be advised in an email during March. Have fun on the courts especially as the days are getting longer. ☺

## KINGSWOOD COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP (KACG)

### COMBATTING LONLINESS IN KINGSWOOD - An open letter from the KACG

When the Covid pandemic first struck us back in 2020, the Kingswood Community Action Group (KACG) was formed under the auspices of the Kingswood Village Association (KVA), to support vulnerable people in our village adversely affected by the disease and associated lockdowns and isolation. A group of volunteers came forward and they have done a heroic job in responding to the needs of our community in a time of crisis and their work is ongoing. Well over a hundred people in the village have benefited so far from numerous acts of kindness and support and many genuine new friendships have been forged as a result. This has been a fantastic community effort and heartfelt thanks goes out to those who contributed and who continue this good work.

One issue that emerged loud and clear is that loneliness is a critical issue. People have, rightly, become extra cautious as a result of the pandemic and this has meant that social interaction has been severely impacted. A significant number of Kingswood residents have been affected by this lack of personal contact leading to increased feelings of loneliness. There are also additional issues around health, age, mobility and a loss of social confidence which also contribute to the isolation that many are experiencing.

As we move into 2022 and start learning how to live with Covid, we believe that it is time to do something about loneliness in Kingswood and our goal is to reach out to everyone who is affected and to be in a position to offer whatever support we can. As the KACG was only ever intended to be an emergency initiative, we now feel the need to build on what has been achieved and we appeal to our community to come forward to help create a new group which can put things on a sustainable footing for the future. With this in mind we are inviting any interested individuals and all organised village groups to make contact and express their willingness to support and to take part in a meeting in the near future to start planning a way ahead. The hope is that by joining forces we can take forward the good work of KACG and put in place a social plan that will enable us to help and support everyone in our community who needs and wants it.

### PLEASE SAY "YES" TO COMBATTING LONLINESS IN OUR VILLAGE

**To get involved and if you are happy for us to get in touch, please provide your contact details including your name, the name of any organisation you represent, an email address and a mobile phone number if possible. We will then follow up with an invitation to an initial planning meeting to decide how best to take the project forward. We hope to have as many offers of support as possible by the end of February.**

Please respond by email in the first place to any of the following: [bill.howgego@btinternet.com](mailto:bill.howgego@btinternet.com)

[jamessinkinson16@gmail.com](mailto:jamessinkinson16@gmail.com) or [djrothwell972@gmail.com](mailto:djrothwell972@gmail.com)

## KINGSWOOD W.I.

Kingswood Abbey WI will meet on Tuesday, February 8th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall to discuss the five resolutions chosen by the UK's WIs for government intervention. This will be followed by a craft activity.

The members of the Craft group have already started on the Queen's 70th Jubilee decorations for the village. We are hoping many Kingswood residents, of all ages, will join us in making Kingswood look particularly festive for the Jubilee celebrations. Details next month of how you can help.

## CUPPA & NATTER

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2 – 4pm at Kingswood Village Hall.

For those who live on their own, there is nowhere local where one can meet others in the same position for a cuppa & natter. If anyone is interested please contact Judith Harty by email: [judithharty@gmail.com](mailto:judithharty@gmail.com) or 844016 or message via Facebook. As this is hopefully, going to be the first of many, an idea of numbers would be great so that enough biscuits, tea and coffee can be available.

## KINGSWOOD DEFIB AWARENESS GROUP

Contact: David Owen 01453 844463 [owen@kingswoodgl12.plus.com](mailto:owen@kingswoodgl12.plus.com)

Are Defibs useful? Well, in one 10 day period in December three local defibs were deployed.

Update: The ninth defib in the village - and last one planned for the time being - has now arrived, and I hope to have it installed in the village within the next month or so. I still feel there is need for a defib to be placed in Nind, preferably located near the footpath which leads to Kingswood and The Cotswold Way. However, I need local support if this is going to happen, including someone who is willing to help take responsibility for checking that it remains in a serviceable condition. Please contact me with any thoughts.

## ENERGY SAVING TIPS FROM WOTTON AREA CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK. (WACAN)

**FOOD:** Consider the air miles of your purchases and reduce food waste - only buy what you need. Shop locally.

**HOME:** Cook with lids on pans. Turn lights off, even if returning to the room soon. Turn down the thermostat & wear extra jumpers. Real wool is warmest of all. L.E.D light bulbs last longer & cut electricity bills.

**EASY DRAUGHT PROOFING:** Seal gaps around doors, windows, letterbox, cat flaps, cold water pipe entry and gaps around loft hatch. **DRAW CURTAINS AT NIGHT...**this makes a huge difference.

**STUFF:** Donate don't dump. Fast fashion is out - buy preloved or even make your own. Borrow rather than buy.

Use Freecycle Wotton & support circular economy.

More on our website: [www.wottonareacan.org](http://www.wottonareacan.org)

**MARCH GRAPEVINE ISSUE DEADLINE:**

**MONDAY 21<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY**

For an entry please email : [admin@kingswoodgrapevine.co.uk](mailto:admin@kingswoodgrapevine.co.uk)