

## Dates For Your Diary

Mon 22nd March

Deadline for April Grapevine

6.00pm

### Editors Note:

*Our website is not being updated totally at present as BT have decided to terminate their Community Webkit Webhosting offering. We were notified in December 2020 that this free service to host websites for Charitable and Community Websites is to be withdrawn on 24th May 2021. Sadly this would mean that the website would be deleted together with many dozens of others on that date. It is very disappointing for our website administrator, Paul Hemming, who has spent 20+ years adding links to give access to useful, local and historical information in one place and will see it being discontinued. We are of course, looking into this and hope that we can migrate all of our information to a new website so that we do not lose any of this and we can continue to build on what we provide the public through our website. Our thanks of course to Paul for gathering all the content over the years. We will keep you informed of our website news as soon as we can. Stay safe.*

### KINGSWOOD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

[KVA.btck.co.uk](http://KVA.btck.co.uk)

### KINGSWOOD COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP - LOCAL HELP FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

Update: just to let you know that our volunteers continue to do a great job supporting other local people in these difficult times. To remind you, we give, among other things, support to those who:

- are on their own who could do with a bit of company, via phone or social media
- would like more contact with neighbours, friends, family
- would like help with basic IT (mobile phones, computers, zoom, skype, etc)
- would like the occasional cooked meal
- need errands doing, eg to shops or surgeries for groceries, prescriptions etc
- would like a free grocery voucher

Please do get in touch if you would like our help with any of the above. Thanks again to those of you who give so much of your time and energy to the cause and our very best wishes to all who are negatively affected by Covid (I guess in one way or another, that's most of us). Thanks also to all those generous villagers, who this year donated £1500 ( plus £300 Gift Aid ) to KVA's Covid Support and Kingswood Parish Council which provided another £500, as well as £1000 via KVA to the primary school for computers, to which KVA added a further £1200. Please call Jim: 07527813404 Or email [jameskinson16@gmail.com](mailto:jameskinson16@gmail.com)

### KINGSWOOD W.I.

Contact: Sheila Kerr on 07718751271 or [sheilakerr1355@gmail.com](mailto:sheilakerr1355@gmail.com)

Kingswood W.I. even during these strange times has been getting together once a week for a Coffee and Chat (on Zoom of course). Our monthly meetings being also on Zoom, have allowed us to have some interesting speakers from far and wide around the country. The Book Club is thriving with lively and enjoyable discussions. Craft Club is busy, getting ready to decorate the village for Easter. The theme will be. 'Flowers and Hanging Baskets'. The members are knitting and crocheting, sewing flowers to make into what will be a colourful display. If anyone in the village would like to join in helping us, you would be very welcome, or maybe you have some old hanging baskets you no longer need we would be grateful to have them.

### KINGSWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (CHAPEL)

Contact: Jennie 07934070167 or [jennieamesbury@btinternet.com](mailto:jennieamesbury@btinternet.com)

In these times of worry and isolation the Kingswood Congregational Church are holding Chapel services that incorporate people attending in person and also on line via Zoom. If you would like to be with us in person you are very welcome into our COVID safe Chapel. Alternatively join us on Zoom to listen to inspirational speakers and actually sing while in the safety of your home. For a Zoom link contact Bob on [robbyh1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:robbyh1@hotmail.co.uk)

Join the Churches Together Lent course 'The Poets Gospel' running each [Wednesday until 24th March](#). Details on our website.

You can also contact us via [www.kingswoodcongregational.org.uk](http://www.kingswoodcongregational.org.uk) or visit our Facebook page.

### KINGSWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Covid has not stopped the scammers` pursuit of your identity and thereby your assets. Indeed, it has given them another weapon along with the many they use frequently. Please don't think that it cannot happen to you. Some people in the village have been targetted and others have come very near to it. Kingswood Neighbourhood Watch can help. The Police send us regular "Alerts" of the latest tricks and these can be passed to you immediately by email. This has protected a number of villagers. If you would like to be on the list you are most welcome to contact Rod Alexander at [rodplume@gmail.com](mailto:rodplume@gmail.com). Please do not leave it too late.

### KINGSWOOD WILDLIFE AREA

With the days lengthening and temperatures hopefully rising March should bring flowers on the blackthorn in the hedges around the wildlife area. If the weather is warm enough for bees to venture out the flowers are a good early source of nectar and pollen. The newt pond and the dew pond are very full at the moment and looked beautiful when frozen recently. Lockdown has prevented any work being done during January and it remains to be seen when we will be able to return. During March enjoy the fresh air while walking around the area.

### EXHIBITION – PAT HARTY

As I'd like everyone to be able to attend Pat's exhibition it has a new date of **Saturday 17th July** - there is a 3rd date if this one can't go ahead! Further details will be given in future issues. I'm looking forward to seeing your contributions in memory of Pat. Judith

**Parish Council (KPC) operations during the Coronavirus** - KPC is operating normally and meeting via publicly accessible conference meetings on the second Monday of the month. Full details of meetings are advertised on the KPC website and social media pages with details of how the public can join the meeting. **Playing field & Play Equipment** – The playing field and the play equipment remain open subject to Covid 19 legislation. Please keep your distance from others and use the hand sanitiser provided. Please report any concerns to the clerk. KPC has now completed the Section 106 consultation and tendering process for the fence around the play equipment. Work should take place shortly to install the fence and additional seats and benches. KPC is working with Stroud District Council to ensure that Crest Nicholson complete all the planning obligations on the Boundary Close Application, including access to allow the council access to the drainage ditch, the cricket poles and the boundary fence. **Tyndale View** - KPC will be installing bollards around the grass area by the play equipment to ensure the safety of pedestrians using this area. Work will take place in April 2021. **Annual Parish Meeting (APM)** – This is not a parish council meeting but a meeting of the community. Last year it was cancelled due to Covid. Legislation states that an APM must take place between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 30<sup>th</sup> June annually. KPC has decided to hold this meeting via Zoom on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 at 7.15pm**. Due to the meeting taking place via Zoom we will have 2 speakers. KVA on their support throughout the Covid 19 pandemic and Alison Robinson Chief Executive Officer of Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Council's (GAPTC) on the role of Parish Councils and parish councillors. Minutes of the 2019 meeting, KPC draft final accounts for 2020/21 & Community Reports will be available to view on the website. There will also be an open session for questions. Zoom details are on the website. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81875822770?pwd=Mzk0RFpLeThnMjhHWkVXYmxXT1VVdz09> Meeting ID: 818 7582 2770 Passcode: 169524

**Parish Council Elections** - The parish Council elections are scheduled to take place on Thursday 6th May. The term of office is for 4 years. The number of councillors for KPC has been increased to 8. Please consider standing for this very important role in representing your community. Currently KPC is meeting via Zoom to conform to Covid 19 legislation. Joining details will be on the March agenda and can be accessed via the website. Why not join us via Zoom for the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 to find out what goes on? Full training and inductions will take place for all councillors. Information on what the Parish council does and the role of the Councillor is on the website. Please see the Stroud District Council's (SDC) website for more details on the process. Nomination papers are now available and can be received from SDC or from the Clerk to KPC. Completed papers can be returned via the following methods; make an appointment to take the papers in person to SDC offices, **between 23/3/21- 8/4/21** between 9am and 5pm. **All completed papers must be with SDC by 4 pm 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021**. Alternatively, you can meet with the Clerk to KPC at Kingswood Village Hall between 5pm and 7.30pm on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021. SDC is carrying out a briefing session via Zoom on 24<sup>th</sup> February and 13<sup>th</sup> April. Please email [elections@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:elections@stroud.gov.uk) and a link to this meeting will be sent to you. **Council Tax** - KPC has reviewed the amount of Council Tax it will raise for the year 2021/22 and there will be a small increase of 4% (annual increase of £7.14) based on Council Band D. **Village ANPR Cameras** - Our cameras continue to record a high number of vehicles passing along Charfield and Wickwar Roads. As at 16<sup>th</sup> February, the total number of vehicles driving within the legal limit since 1<sup>st</sup> Jan totals 99698. In that same time 23184 exceeded 30 mph. The top speed recorded was 61mph, which should attract a communication from the Police. The vehicles with the highest three speeds since 5<sup>th</sup> September 2020 have racked up 344 over 30mph records in 655 sightings. **Litter & Dog fouling** - Please report 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> **Over flowing bins**: <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/report/report-an-overflowing-litter-bin> Please report any problems at the playing field and the community areas to the Clerk of the Council **Communication** - Please visit the KPC website on [www.kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk) *The Clerk Mary Leonard, PO Box 113 Wotton under Edge GL11 9BP*

**FRIENDS OF ST MARYS**

FOSM - Just a 'keeping in touch' message from the FOSM committee for everyone who has so kindly supported us and our events in the past. We are still hoping that we might manage to have at least one event of some kind this year - watch this space! We still have some lovely notelets available with scenes from the village, and also teatowels - available for delivery within the village/immediate surroundings. Prices are £2.50 for a pack of 10 notelets and £5 for the teatowels, all in aid of FOSM. If anyone wants to get in touch in the meantime, please contact us via [friends@stmaryskingswood.org.uk](mailto:friends@stmaryskingswood.org.uk)

**KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**Contact: [stellagreen80@btinternet.com](mailto:stellagreen80@btinternet.com)

The KVHS Committee would just like to let everyone know that we are still here, and we still hope to arrange at least one talk for later in the year - if circumstances allow. The Accounts will go out to all members shortly for information. In the meantime, please keep safe. Best Wishes from Stella, Peter, David, Chris, Kenneth and Eric

**ST MARYS CHURCH**

National Day of Remembrance - 23rd March - St Mary's Kingswood will be participating in a National Day of Remembrance to mark the first anniversary of lockdown. We will provide a book in which we ask people to write their personal reflections on a year of lockdown and restrictions. This will form a permanent record of the effect of an exceptional year on one village. Book will be in church on 23rd March. Please bring own pen.

**JUNE ROE**

I would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes, prayers, cards of sympathy and letters regarding the recent passing of my beloved wife, June. Thanks also to Reverend David Russell, Reverend Rick Williams and Professor Patricia Broadfoot for their conduction of the beautiful service. Also, very many thanks for the donations to St Mary's Organ Fund in memory of June. It was much appreciated to see the many people lining the funeral route. Finally, my thanks to my amazing family for their support over the many, many months of June's illness. David Roe

**APRIL GRAPEVINE ISSUE DEADLINE:****MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH**