

Kingswood Grapevine

Issue No. 288

December 2024

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

Dates For Your Diary

Tuesdays	Keepers in Kingswood Drop in Café	2 - 5pm
Fridays	Keepers in Kingswood Drop in Café	10am - 1pm
Tues 3rd December	Read with Me, KiK Lower School Room	3.15 - 4.15pm
Sun 8th December	KVA Children's Parties, Village Hall	
Tues 31st December	Senior Citizens New Years Eve Lunch, Village Hall	
Wed 22nd Jan	February Grapevine Deadline	6pm

Editors' Note:

**We would like to wish all the residents of the village a very Happy Christmas!
As the end of 2024 draws to a close soon we wish you a Healthy and Happy New Year.**

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION (KVA)

www.thekva.co.uk

Kingswood Children's Christmas Party – Sunday 8th December. This year we will again be hosting 2 Christmas parties for school age children who live in Kingswood village; one for KS1 children and a separate one for KS2. As in previous years, application forms giving parental consent for children attending Kingswood Primary School will be distributed from School, but if your child would like to come to one of the parties, you live in Kingswood, but they don't attend Kingswood Primary please go to www.thekva.co.uk and download a form, or send an e-mail to secretary@thekva.co.uk by the end of November. More information can be found on the website. **Senior Citizens New Years Eve Lunch**– This free NYE event is for up to 100 villagers aged 65 and over. You should by now have received an invitation through your door. Reserve your place quickly as numbers are limited and on a first come first served basis. Please complete your form and return to the Spar shop before 9th December. Should you not get an invitation through your door, but feel you are eligible, please call Angela on 07896032202. **Christmas Tree** - The Village Christmas tree will be arriving very soon. KVA would like to thank Rob Bateman for collecting, installing and decorating the tree once again. The tree is a wonderful centrepiece for Village Christmas celebrations. **The KVA wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

THE KEEPERS IN KINGSWOOD (KiK)

Contact: keepersinkingswood@gmail.com

Our new KiK Duty Manager, Marion is now actively engaged in rolling out new activities at the Drop-in Café in the Lower School Room. Upcoming events include monthly Read With Me sessions in The Reading Den starting Tuesday, **December 3rd** 3.15 - 4.15pm, targeting Key Stage 1 and 2. All children welcome (accompanied by a parent/carer). Light refreshments available. Since being awarded 5 stars for Food Hygiene by Stroud District Council, we are proud to announce that we will soon be able to provide hot food too. A Children's Art Club will also be starting in the New Year on Tuesday afternoons. We are keen to recruit more volunteers to help with these initiatives so if you feel you can support in any way, please get in touch in person at the café or via the email above. Your Community needs you! As we come into the colder months of the year, the needs of our friends and neighbours using the Community Pantry in St Mary's (open 10 - 4 Mon - Sat) is expected to increase. In a recent survey, the pantry has been described as a real "lifesaver". Therefore if you are able to pop an item into one of the collection boxes (porch of St Mary's Church or in the Spar shop) it is much appreciated.

KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL (KPC)

Contact: clerk@kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk Tel: 01453844659

Kingswood Playing Field - The KPC contractor successfully accessed and cleared the ditch. We are currently awaiting Crest Nicholson to put the bridge back together to enable safe access to the playing field. We are also awaiting details on how and when the culvert will be moved to ensure that the ditch can drain efficiently. **Cloverlea Barn Wickwar Road** - Stroud District Council has agreed to name the new road at the Cloverlea Barn development Wickwar Road, Cloverlea Barn. Thank you for all of your suggestions. **Highway Safety** - It is important that all incidents are reported to the Police. Unless incidents are recorded the Police and Glos Highways will remain convinced that the roads in Kingswood are safe. This will not help when we ask for improvements such as speed reductions and a vehicle activated sign. Please report all incidents on 101@gloucestershire.police.uk. **Allotment Plots** - If you would like an allotment plot please contact the Clerk to the council. **KPC meetings** - KPC are intending to live stream all meetings in the future. This will mean you can view the meeting but not take part. To ask questions or raise issues you will still need to attend the actual meeting. To view the meeting please click on the link which will be available on the KPC website along with the agenda. **The next parish council meetings will be on Monday 2nd December 2024 and 9th January 2025 at Kingswood Village Hall at 7.15pm.**

Communication – Report Dog fouling, Litter or Fly Tipping or Over-flowing bins to: www.stroud.gov.uk where you will find the relevant links. Report problems at the playing field/community areas to the Clerk at the above email. Please visit the KPC web site on www.kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk and follow and like us on the **Kingswood Parish Council Facebook Page**. The Clerk Mary Leonard, PO Box 113 Wotton under Edge GL11 9BP, Tele 01453 844659, Email clerk@kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE ROAD SAFETY GROUP

Can we politely request that drivers do not park in front of the dropped kerb on Wotton Road by the Tennis Courts or on the white lines. Cars are still blocking the dropped kerb which is illegal and can result in a parking fine. The white lines were introduced to improve road safety. If cars park there it blocks visibility for people, including school children who need to see oncoming traffic to cross the road safely. We have witnessed several wheel chair users unable to cross the road as the dropped kerb is blocked. KVRSG have been campaigning to improve the road safety in the village after children were clipped by passing cars on Wotton Road on the way home from school. This is a high traffic area at school drop off especially and we need to keep children and our residents safe. Thank you.

KINGSWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (CHAPEL)

Contact: www.kingswoodcongregational.org.uk

Church Services: Every Sunday from 10.30am. **Special Christmas Services:** All Age Children's Gift Service **8th December** - donations of unwrapped new (not used) gifts gladly received for donation to FoodBank; **December 22nd** - Carol Service; Christmas Day Service 10.00am-10.30am. **Lower Schoolroom activities:** Monthly Bible Study **Will re-start in January, date TBC** **Coffee Morning** every Wednesday 10.00 - 11.00am FREE Tea, Coffee and biscuits with donations taken for Charity. **Lighthouse Youth Group** for 10-15 year olds every Thursday, 6.30 - 8.00pm. Pool, badminton, table tennis and other activities. Chill out time and Christian discussion from 8.00 - 8.30pm. Contact: Dawn Hart-England 07590984118. We wish everyone a very Hapoy Christmas and the Lord's blessings for the New Year.

KINGSWOOD WILDLIFE AREA

Contact: Simon.jolyon501@gmail.com

The grass pathways at the wildlife area are looking really good at the moment after a summer of regular mowing. If you haven't visited in a while do come and take a look around. The area is managed by volunteers under the guidance of Richard from Stroud Valleys Project. Over the coming weeks we have a lot of new hedges to plant and any extra help on Mondays would really make a difference and mean we could get the saplings planted as quickly as possible. We meet from 9.45am and usually finish by 2.30pm with breaks for coffee and lunch. If you are interested in helping please come along and join in, or by contacting Simon.

KINGSWOOD DEFIB AWARENESS GROUP

Contact: David Owen owen@kingswoodgl12.plus.com or 01453 844463

The "**Demystifying Defibrillators**" training session is now planned for **11th February 2025**. 7pm for a 7.30pm start. It will take place in the Village Hall and will be led by the Kingswood Defib Awareness Group. The WI is hosting the evening and will be providing refreshments. So it is hoped that this will be a very sociable and relaxed event. Everyone one should know where the local defibs are, how to access them and how to use them. The session will cover these points, plus how essential it is to know your CPR when helping someone in cardiac arrest. The main message, as always is, don't be afraid of using a defib...you can't harm the patient.

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Our Christmas celebrations kick off with the very special **Christingle service Sunday 1st Dec 6pm St Mary's Church** Supporting the work of the children's society. Please bring any collection boxes handed out at school. Join us for hot chocolate first at 5:40pm. **Reverse Advent Calendars** - Collect a box from the porch at St Mary's Church from 1st Dec. Then just add an item for Stroud District Foodbank every day, and return the box back on Christmas Eve. **Carol Service St Mary's Church Sunday 22 December at 6:00pm** A special service led by the choir with traditional carols and readings, followed by wine and mince pies. **Carols on the Chipping - Monday 23rd Dec 6pm** Collecting for Stroud District Food Bank. **Christmas Eve Crib Service 6pm St Mary's Church** The Christmas story in verse and song specially for children. **Christmas Day Family Service 10.30 St Mary's Church** Everyone welcome! **Epiphany Crib Service Sunday 5th Jan 6pm St Mary's Church** to celebrate the arrival of the kings. Join us for hot chocolate first at 5.40pm. **Candlemas Sunday 2nd Feb 6pm St Mary's Church** The Christmas season ends with lots of candles as we share the story of Jesus being taken to the temple just 40 days after his birth.

FEBRUARY GRAPEVINE ISSUE DEADLINE:

WEDNESDAY 22nd JANUARY 2025



For an entry please email : admin@kingswoodgrapevine.co.uk Visit our Website: www.kingswoodgrapevine.co.uk