

February / March 2025

## KINGTON ST MICHAEL NEWSLETTER

Funded by the Parish Council and distributed by village volunteers.  
Editor: Avril Balmforth, deputy editor: Linda Durno.  
Email [kingtonnews@gmail.com](mailto:kingtonnews@gmail.com) Website [www.kingtonstmichael.com](http://www.kingtonstmichael.com)



### COMMUNITY PUB PROJECT UPDATE

Many thanks to everyone who bought our Christmas cards, tankards and mugs and to those who visited us at the village Christmas Fayre and bought from our stall – our Christmas cards quickly sold out. Our tankards (£25) and mugs (£10) continue to sell well and will make great gifts, with Valentine's Day, Mother's Day and Easter soon upon us. Why not pop an Easter egg in one for the chocolate lover in your life?! If you wish to make a purchase, please contact Alex Hall on 01249 750602, [alex.hall@kington-st-michael.com](mailto:alex.hall@kington-st-michael.com), or Linda Durno 01249750514, [kingtonstmichael@btinternet.com](mailto:kingtonstmichael@btinternet.com).



Unfortunately, just before Christmas, we received the news that the Community Ownership Fund had closed and that there will be no further application windows on the COF programme. The current government "...took this difficult decision due to the challenging inheritance left by the previous government". Whilst the Community Ownership Fund has closed, the government states that it "...remains committed to the communities' sector and community empowerment. The government will deliver on its manifesto commitment to replace the community 'Right to Bid' with a strengthened 'Right to Buy' Assets of Community Value, creating a more robust pathway to community asset ownership".

We had hoped to have been successful with an application to COF, which would have provided a large grant, and so this is a blow to our fundraising. However, we are fortunate to have your pledges of shares and are seeking further advice on future grants.

### VILLAGE PROGRESSIVE SUPPER Saturday 1st March

Tickets are now on sale in the village shop at £20 per person, payable by cash or card. Tickets are limited so please buy them asap if you'd like to join in with this fun village event.

All money raised will be donated to St Michael & All Angels Church, to help with the restoration of the Saxon porch.

If you would be able to donate a dessert for the event, please contact Lyn North on 07796 666867.

If the supper tickets sell out there will be dessert-only tickets available. Keep an eye out on social media for this.....

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### THE JOLLY HUNTSMAN

The Jolly Huntsman re-opened on Monday 20th January after its Christmas break, and has launched a new menu. For further details go to [www.jollyhuntsman.com](http://www.jollyhuntsman.com) or 'phone 01249 750305 to book a table.

### THE VILLAGE GREEN AND OTHER PARISH LAND IN THE VILLAGE – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Our village green and pond can be found down Stubbs Lane, behind the cottages. This delightful oasis is one of several areas of land owned by the parish, and maintained by Parish Council contractors. This maintenance is paid for out of the village precept, which all parishioners contribute to annually, via their Council Tax.

These areas are for the enjoyment of the village and, what is little known, is that anyone planting or disturbing the soil on a village green is considered to be in violation of the law, and legal action could be taken against the well-meaning parishioner unless they restore that land to its original state.



## KINGTON ST MICHAEL COMMUNITY SHOP NEWS



A big thank you to all the villagers who have supported the shop - especially when the internet recently disappeared in the village for most of the day. The backup system of pen and paper, plus a card machine that used the mobile network, saved the day.

The shop now has an Ecover refill station for washing up liquid and laundry detergent. If you are interested in helping the environment and reducing your plastic usage, bring your empty bottles and re-fill them.

The new till is providing some fascinating insights - on busy days there are over 80 transactions and there are over 1,000 products listed on the till. Top items are stamps, wine and beer, bird seed, logs and Walter Rose's tasty sausage rolls and pasties. There are more than 30 different sorts of biscuits and crackers! Amongst the most popular items is the expanded range of Artisan candles from Langley Burrell. New, intriguing scents include Lime, Basil & Mandarin and Green Orange & Coriander.

In response to customer requests, there are more frozen meats available, supplied by quality Corsham butcher, Toby Haynes. Alongside meat pies, spinach plaits and chicken fillets are lamb cutlets, chops, sausages (including gluten free), minced beef, faggots & braising steak.

Whistlefish has some great Valentine's Day cards this year and if you need a nice surprise to go with your card, there are sparkling wines and good chocolate in the shop too.

Shop volunteers decorated a Christmas tree for the church Christmas tree festival and wrote a sentence summing up how they feel about helping in the shop. These comments showed that working in the shop is something that people enjoy and value. They included 'I know so many more people from helping in the shop', 'It's good for my brain', 'Volunteering increased my self-confidence again and gave me a sense of purpose', 'A great opportunity to give back to the community' and 'Lovely friendly team'. One volunteer wrote, 'Volunteering is great to add to your CV, can add many skills that are valuable for the job market'.

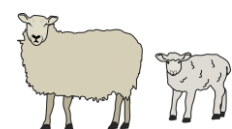
To continue to open for the hours villagers want and need, the shop must have more volunteers. If you would like to find out more about joining the team, call in, or contact the shop.

Find us on Facebook: [kingtonstmichaelvillageshop](https://www.facebook.com/kingtonstmichaelvillageshop) or Instagram [@ksmvillageshop](https://www.instagram.com/ksmvillageshop).  
Tel: 01249 750181 email: [hello@kingtonstmichaelshop.co.uk](mailto:hello@kingtonstmichaelshop.co.uk).

### DOG FOULING AND WALKING

Recently there have been multiple incidents of dog fouling on pavements throughout the village, especially regularly along the main street towards the café and around near the school. Wherever you are walking your dog in the village - street, public footpath, QE2 Field, Nymph Hay Wood or the surrounding fields - picking up after your dog still applies! If anyone sees an owner letting their dog foul in a public place please report it to Wiltshire Council, either by 'phoning 01249 706111 and asking for the Dog Warden, or email [publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk) or via an on-line form on Wiltshire Council's website. Photographic evidence of the owner neglecting to pick up is always a help. Your personal details will be treated in strict confidence and you will be informed of the outcome of the complaint. Please note that complaints regarding aggressive dogs should be made to the police.

**Now that it is lambing season**, please keep your dogs on leads when walking in fields with sheep in, as well as when walking on the footpath that leads through the farmyard, as there are sheep and lambs about.



# K Kington cafe

## February

Saturday 15th: Open 9am-3pm.  
Pizza Night 5pm-8pm, to eat in or takeaway.  
Tuesday 18th – Saturday 22nd: Closed for half term.  
Tuesday 25th: Open 9am-3pm.

## March

Sunday 2nd: Open 10am-2pm.  
Sunday lunch served 12noon-2pm advised.  
Saturday 15th: Open 9am-3pm.  
Pizza Night 5pm-8pm, to eat in or takeaway.  
Sunday 30th: Open, offering two Mothering Sunday lunch times:  
11.30am-1.45pm or 2pm-4.15pm



## Bookings now being taken.

Follow us on Facebook/Instagram for updates  
Contact us on 01249 750212  
Email: [orders@kington-cafe.co.uk](mailto:orders@kington-cafe.co.uk)

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## BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

A timely reminder that there is still time for parishioners to check and cut back any of their overgrown hedges, trees and shrubs that are either impeding pedestrians or restricting the view of vehicles. This will help our blind, disabled, smaller and taller residents walking through the village. This is also a good opportunity to ask you to be considerate about where you leave wheelie bins and black boxes out for collection, as these can also cause a hazard for less able people – please don't leave them in the middle of the pavement, if possible.

During the colder months, when snow has fallen or the ground is icy, consider checking in on your elderly neighbours to see if they need help with shopping, putting out their bins or other jobs that may be difficult for them at this time. The village shop will deliver to anyone who cannot get out – call 01249 750181 to ask for help.

## KINGTON ST MICHAEL WI

KSM WI continues to meet at the village hall on the second Tuesday of the month, starting at 7.30pm. New members will be especially welcome. There is always a varied programme of speakers and on 11th February Maureen Hinton will be speaking about 'Pots for the Patio'. Outings will be arranged for later in the year and the annual Flower Show is scheduled for August.

## BOOK RECYCLING SCHEME

The 81st and 82nd donations from this scheme, totalling £100, go towards the village's Community Defibrillator Fund, to purchase replacement parts as and when required. You've clearly done a lot of reading over autumn and winter, so many thanks to those who donate books and buy books; the book scheme is run from the shop foyer and books are only 50p each. Village organisations that would like to be considered for a donation should contact Linda Durno via [kingtonstmichael@btinternet.com](mailto:kingtonstmichael@btinternet.com). If you would like to support the Community Defibrillator Fund by making a donation, please also contact Linda by email or on 01249 750514.

## NEWS FLASH!

**The amended planning permission by Eden Renewables, for the Red Barn Solar Farm in Kington St Michael, has been passed.**

## St Michael & All Angels Church

It was a joy to see the community groups' Christmas trees in the church and to have so much of village life represented - we will be doing it again this year!

Thank you to Jessica Puddy for the beautiful artwork for our fundraising Christmas cards, and to all who made trees, read at the Carol Service, came to join in the celebration, and to all who donated Christmas gifts, which were gratefully received by the Salvation Army.

Everyone is welcome at any of our services and to stay for a chat and a cuppa afterwards.

### February

Sunday 2nd, 9.30am: Morning Praise

Sunday 9th, 9.30am: Holy Communion

Thursday 20th, 10am: Holy Communion

Sunday 23rd, 4pm: All together @ 4, all ages worship with activities,

refreshments & optional Holy Communion at Bybrook primary school, Yatton Keynell.



### March

Sunday 2nd, 9.30am: Morning Praise

Sunday 9th, 9.30am: Holy Communion

Thursday 20th, 10am: Holy Communion (to be confirmed - see church posters nearer the time)

Sunday 23rd, 4pm: All Together @ 4, as above.

For details of services here and around the Benefice, and contact details for any queries about Baptism, weddings and funerals, please see the Bybrook Benefice website [bybrook.org.uk](http://bybrook.org.uk).

## KINGTON CLUB

([www.sixnationsrugby.com/en/m6n/fixtures/2025](http://www.sixnationsrugby.com/en/m6n/fixtures/2025))

**January** Friday 31st January: Start of the 6 Nations rugby - France V Wales, kick-off at 8.15pm.

### February

Saturday 1st February: 6 Nations rugby - see poster for details.

Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th February: 6 Nations rugby - see poster for details.

Saturday 22nd February: Quiz night (**please note this has moved to the 4th Saturday of the month due to the clash with a private party**).

Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd February: 6 Nations rugby - details at [ksmsocialclub.com](http://ksmsocialclub.com).

### March

Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th March: 6 Nations rugby - see poster for details.

Saturday 15th March: Super Saturday 6 Nations rugby - details at [ksmsocialclub.com](http://ksmsocialclub.com).

Saturday 22nd March: Quiz night (**please note this has moved to the 4th Saturday of the month due to the clash with Super Saturday**).

Saturday 29th March: Cheese and Wine Tasting evening (tickets available at the club).

Please note that loaded fries will be available to buy during all 6 Nations England matches. Please see posters in the club for available options.

*In addition to the above events:*

**In-house skittles:** Every Wednesday at 8pm; everyone is welcome to come and join in.

**Friday Feast:** Every Friday from 5.30pm - 8.30pm; eat in or takeaway.

**We are always looking for new volunteers to join the Entertainment Committee, so if you'd like to get involved and help with the selection and organising of events the club holds, please do get in contact and let us know: [ksmclub\\_official@outlook.com](mailto:ksmclub_official@outlook.com) / call 01249 750336**



**The April/May newsletter cut-off date is FRIDAY 21st MARCH at noon.**

**If you have any news, please send it on or before then to [kingtonnews@gmail.com](mailto:kingtonnews@gmail.com). Thank you.**