

# The Kingsdon Chronicle

St. Andrew's Day

Issue No. 28

30th No-



vember

2009



**Christopher Lewis Hill**  
3rd August 1923 ~ 10th November 2009



The funeral service was held at Yeovil Crematorium on Monday 23rd November for Chris Hill of Beechcroft, Copper Beech Road, Kingsdon who passed peacefully away on 10th November at St Margaret's Hospice following an illness borne with great dignity.

The service was conducted by Revd. Wendy Griffith, the eulogy was given by Chris's daughter Ann, and a reading was made by his son Graham. Music was 'Bless this House' by Harry Secombe and departure was to the tune 'Dambusters March'



**All Saints Church  
Kingsdon**

**Carol Service**  
6pm on Sunday  
20th December  
with 2 or 3 rehearsals

**Volunteers are required  
for the Choir**

Please contact  
**Donald Limon 01935 840450**  
or  
**Sarah Steele-Perkins 01935 840184**

## Kingsdon Stores Cash Machine Use it or Lose it



The free to use Cash Machine at Kingsdon Stores is under threat due to insufficient use. If more people do not use it, it will be uneconomical for Richard to keep it going.

**Get you money free,  
not get your free money!!**

**The future of the Cash Machine  
is in the hands of us,  
the residents of Kingsdon.**

**We use it or we lose it!**



## Post Office closures: How the Government ignored the public outcry

By David Harrison Published: 8:30PM GMT 14 Nov 2009

A scathing report from the Public Accounts Committee has said the Government ignored complaints over its plans to close 2,500 Post Offices. But the findings came as no surprise to one man whose own branch was forced to close last December.

Richard Kersley had been running his village post office for 31 years when he went to a residents' meeting about its proposed closure last year. He was pessimistic.

Despite a nationwide campaign, backed by MPs and pressure groups, to halt the closure of 2,500 post offices, Mr Kersley had little faith that the villagers' voices would be heard in the Government's "consultation period".

"I knew the consultation was a sham," said Mr Kersley, 80. "The Government never had any intention of listening to our concerns. They wanted to close my post office and that was it."

Months later, Mr Kersley's worst fears were confirmed. He served his last customers at the post office in Kingsdon, Somerset, in December last year.

Last week his conviction that the 350 villagers' concerns would be ignored was also proved to be accurate.

A scathing report from the Public Accounts Committee, said that complaints over the 2,500 post office closures were "ignored". The committee chairman said the brief consultations were "nothing more than a piece of window dressing".

The damning document said that the Government did not consider the impact of closures but only the "relatively modest economic benefits". Only a small percentage of people were even aware of the consultation and the closures had caused much "distress" and "upheaval".

Mr Kersley still runs the village shop, which used to house the post office, but says the closure has affected trade. "People used to come in for the post office and pick up a few things from the shop," he said.

"It's a big loss. The post office was the hub. People used to meet and chat there. And it's the same all over the country. The closures will have a terrible effect."

Residents first learnt about the proposed closure in February last year when Mr Kersley was asked to put up a notice from the Post Office in his shop. It said the branch was being considered for closure and that villagers would have to use the post office in Somerton or Ilchester, both about three miles away.

Local people were invited to put out any their objections in writing and the six-week "consultation period" would end on April 9.

The villagers feared the worst but they swung into action. More than 100 people crammed into the village hall in March and speaker after speaker denounced the plans. The mood was angry and the opposition was unanimous. Dozens of residents wrote letters expressing their concerns about closure, arguing that the post office was well-used and a vital part of village life.

David Heath, the local Liberal MP, and Annunziata Rees-Mogg, the Conservatives' parliamentary candidate, visited the village and expressed their support for the campaign.

Patrick Leahy, a parish councillor and retired airline cabin crew member, said: "Nobody wanted closure. This was yet another attack on the village and our way of life and we were determined to fight.

"We need a post office. We have a lot of elderly people in the village, including some in their nineties, and it is invaluable to them, not just for its services but also as a place to meet people and talk.

"But we had seen what had happened in other parts of the country and we knew we faced an uphill struggle."

The villagers already felt under siege. A special school, Kingsdon Manor, which was owned by Bristol city council, closed last year with the loss of a dozen jobs and the primary school was also threatened with closure, though it was eventually saved.

Residents feared that their concerns about the branch were not being heard. They did not receive not a single visit by an official from the Post Office or the Government to discuss their views.

Their letters were acknowledged only with a standard reply which did not say that their views were being considered, only that they would be "carefully recorded".

"It was a consultation that was going nowhere," Mr Leahy said. "It was not a real consultation at all. It was a sham from beginning to end."

Months later, they were told that the post office had to go and just before Christmas, the busiest time of the year, the shutters finally came down.

In Kingsdon, villagers fear that the shop will be the next piece of village life to go. The octogenarian Mr Kersley, who did a paper round until earlier this year, has no plans to stop working yet but he is not in the best of health. The shop is unlikely to be taken on as a going concern and could be converted back into a house.

"Every village needs a shop and I will keep going as long as I can," Mr Kersley said. "But when the post office goes, the shop often follows."

All that remains of it are the first class stamps on sale in the shop and the post box embedded in the building's wall. "I'm sure they only left that because they didn't want to pay to repair the wall," Mr Kersley said.

Mr Leahy added: "They wanted to save money and that was the end of it, although I am sure it will take them years to recoup the cost of making thousands of post office staff redundant."

"Now if we want to send a letter recorded delivery or send a parcel we have to travel nearly three miles to the nearest post office, where parking is difficult."

"Those without cars, including some of the village's many elderly residents who have difficulty walking, have to take the bus which runs once an hour and, in Somerton, walk 330 yards from the bus stop to the post office. "It can take over two hours to post a letter recorded delivery." Mr Kersley said.

Penny Simpson, 40, a mother-of-two who has lived in the village all her life, said: "It seems they are just chipping away at rural life in this country. My mum now has to travel three miles to pay a bill."

"We thought the closure was a foregone conclusion from the word go. I think they just put pins in a map to mark where the post offices were and chose the ones to close without giving any real thought to the impact it would have on local people."

The MPs' report said that around 190,000 people across the country submitted their views, but many felt they were "not being listened to properly" or that "the decision had already been made".

Mark Wallace of the TaxPayers' Alliance said the Government was using consultations "as PR" and "tricking people rather than consulting them".

"The Government is pretending to listen to public opinion and then ignoring it," he said.

There are now just 11,500 post offices left in Britain, compared to a peak of 25,000 in the 1960s. Forty per cent of post offices open in 1997 have closed since Labour came to power. Post Office Ltd has been making a loss for the past nine years.

The Public Accounts Committee said the money saved by the closures was "less than impressive". The programme cost £157 million, including £122 million in compensation to sub-postmasters.

*This article was published on the internet as well as in the Telegraph*

### **Kingsdon's Public Telephone Kiosk**

Kingsdon Parish Councillor, Richard Hollaway has been fighting to keep the phone box in the village and also have it maintained. He is now able to report that he has confirmation from BT that the kiosk / telephone will not be removed under the current consultation and that BT remains responsible for any maintenance and cleaning. He now has the contact numbers and e mail relating to maintenance of the kiosk.

He is in correspondence with BT re possible adoption of the kiosk and any liabilities attached as far as the village would be concerned.



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# UK Towns & Cities Quiz

In aid of Kingsdon's  
2012 Diamond Jubilee  
Celebrations Fund

**1st Prize**  
**£50 Kingsdon Inn Voucher**

**Quiz Sheets - £1**

Available from the Kingsdon Inn,  
Kingsdon Stores or 4 Manor Close.

Find the names of the 120  
Towns or Cities from the clues  
provided on the sheet

Examples:-

Clue - It's not really creepy (7) Answer - Crawley

Clue - Scorched (5) Answer - Chard

No prizes for spotting the 4 repeated questions!

190 Quiz sheets have been sold to date

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Draw  
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## KINGSDON CRICKET CLUB

Present a

### Christmas Quiz



For the whole family

7.30pm Sunday 27th December

at

The Kingsdon Inn

A chance to escape the Turkey Carcass, the TV repeats and  
get the old grey matter working !

A Non Turkey curry will be served during the Interval

Teams of about 4 (more or less doesn't matter)

Entrance to the Quiz and Supper - £6 per person

To book your table or for more information, phone Wally the Quiz Master - 01935 841444

## Thank You

The Visually Impaired Bowls Club at Yeovil would like to thank everyone that took part in the quiz at Sue's 50th birthday party, raising £23 for the club. Many thanks *Cecil Hill*

## World Horse Welfare - Glenda Spooner Farm



November 28th was the Festive Fun day at Glenda Spooner farm. There were lots of fun activities taking place, from a Musical Display Ride by horses and grooms from Glenda Spooner Farm, to a talk about the farm and the work of the grooms. Equine physiotherapist Celia Cohen, also gave a talk about her role in the rehabilitation of horses. Other features included a tombola, the chance to buy World Horse Welfare merchandise and a special guest appearance from Homer Claus!



## Kingsdon's Diamond Jubilee Celebration Fund The Kingsdon Christmas Picture Quiz

This year the Christmas Quiz is entitled 'The Roof Tops of Kingsdon'. It is designed to test your powers of observation, whilst having a leisurely walk around the village, perhaps after your Christmas Dinner and too much Pudding. All you have to do is identify the buildings and their address. All pictures were taken from the public highways / footpaths within the village. (Not the main road). An example:- You will be given a numbered picture (1) below, and as you walk around you should be able to identify it as coming from the front gable of Langlands Farm - easy! It is possible there is more than one picture from the same address. There are some interesting roof tops in Kingsdon!! The Picture Quiz sheets are available from the Kingsdon Stores and the Kingsdon Inn as well as from 4 Manor Close from 1st December. Entries to be returned to 4 Manor Close by 4th January. All correct entries will be entered into a draw for the First Prize of £25. For only £1 per quiz sheet just think how many pounds you could walk off!



## Sponsored Walk for Lupus

Thank you to everyone who sponsored me in the 'Walk an Extra Mile' for Lupus Awareness Month. Goff and I between us managed to raise an amazing £300.

For me it also was a personal achievement, as I managed to walk 6 miles. Usually because Lupus affects my energy levels, 3 or 4 miles is the limit. However the Bath to Bristol Cycle Path is flat walking, this along with the good company of fellow walkers, helped me along the way... not to mention the pub at the half way mark!

*Linda Rumbles*

## The Humour Page

After her conviction of murder, the Judge, during sentencing said, "Mrs. Grey – after you put the arsenic in the stew and served it to your husband, didn't you feel even a little remorse for what you were doing?" "I did," she said calmly. "And when was that?" asked the Judge . "When he asked for seconds!" she replied.

Teacher: Why do we sometimes call the Middle Ages the Dark Ages?

Peter: Because they had so many knights.

### Jonah and the whale

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though a whale is a very large mammal, its throat is very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. The teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human, it was impossible. The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah".

The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?"

The little girl replied, "Then you ask him!"

### Bow, Wow. Wuff, Bark.

A guy is driving around the back woods of Tennessee and he sees a sign in front of a broken down shanty-style house: "Talking Dog for Sale."

He rings the bell and the owner appears and tells him the dog is in the back yard. The guy goes into the back yard and sees a nice looking Labrador retriever sitting there. "You talk?" he asks.

"Yep," the Lab replies.

After the guy recovers from the shock of hearing a dog talk, he says "So, what's your story? "The Lab looks up and says, "Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. I wanted to help the government, so I told the CIA. In no time at all they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders; because no one figured a dog would be eaves-dropping. I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years running."

"But the jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger so I decided to settle down .I signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security, wandering near suspicious characters and listening in." I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded a batch of medals. I got married, had a mess of puppies, and now I'm just retired."

The guy is amazed. He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog. "Ten dollars," the guy says "Ten dollars? This dog is amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?"

"Because he's a liar. He never did any of that stuff".

It was a dark and stormy night..... (pay attention!!! )

Bob Hill and his new wife Betty were Holidaying in Europe... as it happens, near Transylvania. They were driving in a rental car along a rather deserted highway. It was late and raining very hard. Bob could barely see the road in front of the car. Suddenly the car skids out of control! Bob attempts to control the car, but to no avail! The car swerves and smashes into a tree. Moments later, Bob shakes his head to clear the fog. Dazed, he looks over at the passenger seat and sees his wife unconscious, with her head bleeding! Despite the rain and unfamiliar countryside, Bob knows he has to get her medical assistance. Bob carefully picks his wife up and begins trudging down the road. After a short while, he sees a light. He heads towards the light, which is coming from a large, old house. He approaches the door and knocks. A minute passes. A small, hunched man opens the door. Bob immediately blurts, "Hello, my name is Bob Hill, and this is my wife Betty. We've been in a terrible accident, and my wife has been seriously hurt. Can I please use your phone?"

"I'm sorry," replied the hunchback, "but we don't have a phone. My master is a doctor; come in and I will get him!" Bob brings his wife in. An older man comes down the stairs. "I'm afraid my assistant may have misled you. I am not a medical doctor; I am a scientist.. However, it is many miles to the nearest clinic, and I have had a basic medical training. I will see what I can do. Igor, bring them down to the laboratory." With that, Igor picks up Betty and carries her downstairs, with Bob following closely. Igor places Betty on a table in the lab. Bob collapses from exhaustion and his own injuries, so Igor places Bob on an adjoining table. After a brief examination, Igor's master looks worried. "Things are serious, Igor. Prepare a transfusion. "Igor and his master work feverishly, but to no avail. Bob and Betty Hill are no more.

The Hills' deaths upset Igor's master greatly. Wearily, he climbs the steps to his conservatory, which houses his grand piano. For it is here that he has always found solace. He begins to play, and a stirring, almost haunting melody fills the house.

Meanwhile, Igor is still in the lab tidying up. His eyes catch movement, and he notices the fingers on Betty's hand twitch, keeping time to the haunting piano music.. Stunned, he watches as Bob's arm begins to rise, marking the beat! He is further amazed as Betty and Bob both sit up straight! Unable to contain himself, he dashes up the stairs to the conservatory. He bursts in and shouts to his master:

"Master, Master! ..... The Hills are alive with the sound of music!"

I was walking past a school the other day, and all the pupils were outside shouting, '13 today, 13 today, 13 today'

The fence was too high to see over, but I saw a little gap in the planks, so I looked through to see what was going on...

Somebody poked me in the eye with a stick!

Then they all started shouting '14 today, 14 today, 14 today'

## KINGSDON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL - December 09

Thank you to all that attended the School Christmas Fayre in the village hall. A super turn out which raised £500 towards the PTFA funds. With the school Christmas raffle ongoing we hope to increase the proceeds raised for the PTFA by the end of the term. The top three prizes are festive filled hampers. Raffle tickets are available in the village shop and the draw will take place in the village hall at the school Christmas Play on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Do come along, the pupils are all busy learning songs and their lines and creating costumes in preparation and would be delighted to see you.

Staying with Christmas do come and join us at the end of term service in the church on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 2:15 in the afternoon.

Finally with Federation between Kingsdon and Compton Dundon Church of England Primary schools moving along we would be very interested to hear from any parishioner interested in becoming a Community Governor. With the new Federation to commence in January a new Governing body will be formed. Both Kingsdon and Compton Dundon will have a Community Governor each on the Governing Body along with 6 parent Governors (three from each school). If you are interested, do pop in to reception at the school or touch base with Alan Carnall the current Chair of the Kingsdon Board of Governors. No qualifications are necessary, just the desire to make a positive contribution to the village schools. Training development courses are available and a copy of "A guide for prospective school Governors in Dorset and Somerset" can be obtained from the school office.

Thank you all for your continued support of your village school through 2009 and.....



A VERY MERRY  
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR TO ALL IN  
KINGSDON VILLAGE FROM  
THE STAFF AND PUPILS OF  
KINGSDON CHURCH OF  
ENGLAND PRIMARY  
SCHOOL



### **Kingsdon Ladies Club**

Lynne welcomed 19 members and visitors. Birthday posies were presented to Margaret Close and Jenny Gamblin.. Some members are going to the Yeovil Floral Society floral demo at the Octagon on 25th November at 7.30pm. The School Fayre was on 21st November when Freda ran a cake stall for Church funds. Our Christmas meal is on 8th December at The Lime Kiln, Long Sutton with most of our members going.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Jenny Peet who made us laugh & gasp at some of the antics that the Tudors got up to, titling her talk 'No Knickers' Lynne gave the vote of thanks. Shirley Wilson & Julie South provided refreshments, Shirley Wilson won the flutter prize. The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

As the December meeting is our Christmas meal the next meeting at the Village Hall is on January 12th at 7.30pm when our speaker is Lucy Pickersgill 'Bats & things Wildlife' - New members & visitors always welcome.

Happy Christmas to all. *Jackie Ellis*



**THE KINGSDON INN**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE MENU 2009**

**7pm arrival until Late**

**A Glass of Bubbly on Arrival**

**Rich Fish Soup  
Smoked Meat Platter  
Deep Fried Goats Cheese & Onion Marmalade  
Duck Liver Pate & Toast**

**Pork Fillet with Baby Figs in a Rum and Cream Sauce  
Escalope of Venison in a Wild Mushroom Sauce  
Grilled Whole Lemon Sole with Butter & Lemon  
Grilled Rib eye Steak with Mushrooms  
Vegetarian Option on Request**

**Choice of Desserts  
Coffee and Mince Pies**

**Fireworks at Midnight**

**Price £35.00**



Please note that this menu needs to be pre booked and a non refundable deposit of £5.00 per head is required for each booking. Cheques payable to the Kingsdon Inn, deposit to be received at least 7 days from date of booking.

The Kingsdon Inn, Kingsdon, Nr Somerton, Somerset, TA11 7LG  
Tel: 01935 840543 enquiries@kingsdoninn.co.uk www.kingsdoninn.co.uk



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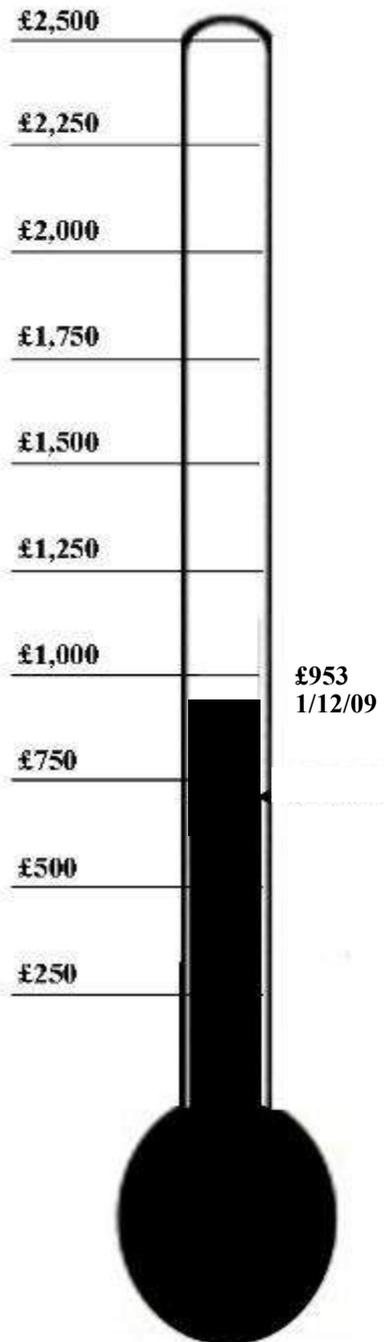
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## Kingsdon's Diamond Jubilee Celebration Fund



## Christmas Greetings in The Chronicle

Should you wish to place a greeting message in the Chronicle for Christmas this year, I would appreciate it if you could let me know a.s.a.p with the wording for the greeting or, let me know if you would like the Chronicle to do this for you.

Christmas Greetings will be in the Kingsdon Chronicle Christmas Issue to be published on 23rd December

## Kingsdon Seniors Club

Donald welcomed 30 members to the meeting held on 11th November. He mentioned the Christmas Lunch on the 2nd December which had to be ordered and paid for at the meeting. Also the Yeovil Floral Society meeting at the Octagon on the 25th November.

He then introduced the guest speaker David Andrews whose topic was songs from Victorian times up until WW2. The earlier songs were in two categories - Parlour songs for the more well-to-do and Music Hall songs for the poorer classes. Such songs included Lost Chord, Come into the Garden Maud and My Grandfathers Clock. At the beginning of the 20th century came The Blues which was originated by the Black Americans. Swanee River written by Stephen Foster, Goodbye Dolly Gray was written by Will D. Cobb an American around the time when soldiers were off to fight in the Boer War. We sang a couple of songs from the WW1 era (Tipperary and Pack Up Your Troubles) and various other pieces. (If You Were The Only Girl In The World - 20's Leaning on a Lamp-post - 30's ending up with The White Cliffs of Dover which incidentally was written by Americans Walter Kent and Nat Burton,. David Andrews sang many songs with us sometimes assisting, whilst he played his guitar. A great afternoons entertainment. *Ann Baldwin*



## Bacon Butty Morning

Thanks to everyone who came and supported our church fundraising morning. It was an enjoyable few hours and well supported by regulars plus the workmen from over the road.

Our thanks go to all the helpers (inside and outside of the kitchen) who as usual gave up their time to help with this event.

We managed to raise approx £330. Well done and thank you again. Sally (on behalf of the church)

# Got Moles?

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## Ben Lyons Tree Surgeon

Ben is fully trained and has all the equipment to undertake any job no matter the size.

Ben is a former Kingsdon Manor School care worker and comes highly recommended

by Marilyn & Wally Elliott  
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## Welcome to Kingsdon



A belated welcome to John Alexander Hayward and Renata Bastidas who moved to the Annex, 7 Chapel Hill, Kingsdon last August.

John is 28 and a journalist with the Western Gazette covering Gillingham and Shaftesbury. His interest outside journalism, is motorbikes.

Renata 25, comes from Columbia. She has a degree in Electronic Engineering, and is doing her Masters at Bournemouth University which she hopes to complete next summer and then go into design work. In her spare time she is working at the Kingsdon Inn. John tells me that Renata's hobby is 'shopping'!

They moved to Kingsdon from Poole and the Bournemouth area, and have quickly settled in Kingsdon, described by John as a lovely friendly village.

We are also pleased to welcome to Kingsdon, Anthony and Sara Sycamore, who moved into the Tall House, Chapel Hill last week from Marlborough.



Anthony is a man of many talents. He has extensive experience teaching piano amongst other subjects. He has been the pianist with the 'Overtones', a quintet that has made a big impact at the Marlborough Jazz Festival over the last few years, doing 12 encores at their appearance this year. Another string to his bow is computer software architecture, and has won an award for best new technical modelling. He is also very much interested in politics at all levels.

Sara has experience in marketing and copy writing and is an accomplished artist. She has been involved with the organisation of the Marlborough Jazz Festival. Sara also has considerable experience in computer graphics which I hope to put to good use with the Kingsdon Chronicle!

Together they run a web site called 'Gifts4Sharing' which was born from the idea that thirty presents for a three-year old's party is a little over the top.....as Anthony explained, "Let's face it, a lot of birthday presents, gratefully received as they are, are used once or twice, then demoted to the 'boot fair' or 'charity' box. It's also tough on parents; buying gifts for other children's birthdays, especially if they don't really know the host well. It can mean a last minute trip to the shops for a present and wrapping paper. We also live in times when we don't want to waste money". Gifts4Sharing is the perfect way for friends and relatives to collectively buy a gift for someone special and support a charity or good cause.. Find out more at [gifts4sharing.com](http://gifts4sharing.com)

Having spent a pleasant evening at the Inn with both Anthony & Sara and John & Renata, I am sure they are going to be a great asset to our village *Wally*



## **Royal Mail - Last Posting Dates for Christmas**

**2nd Class - 18th December - 1st Class - 21st December**

**For a guaranteed next day delivery (or your money back) use the “Special Delivery “ service, available up to 23rd December**

**International Airmail last posting dates start from 4th December depending on destination.**

**Please note there will be no collections or deliveries from 25th - 28th December inclusive**

**For more help and advice, just visit ‘royalmail.com/greetings ‘ or call 08457 740 740**



## **Post Office - Branch Openings for the Christmas period**

**Thursday 24th is Christmas Eve and closes at 12-30 pm.**

**Friday Christmas day - closed**

**Saturday is a bank holiday**

**Monday is a bank holiday and is closed**

**Tuesday 29th business as usual.(Long Sutton open all day right through till 5-30pm**

**Wed. 30th business as usual (Long Sutton open all day till 5-30 pm)**

**Thursday 31 Dec closes at 4-00**

**Friday Bank holiday**

**Sat. till 12-30 pm as usual.**

## **Recycling and Waste Collection dates for December**

### **Wheelie Bin Refuse Collection Days**

**Tuesday 8th & Tuesday 22nd December then Tuesday 5th January**

### **Recycling and Food Waste collections**

**Every Tuesdays as normal except for Tuesday 29th December, which will be collected one day late on Wednesday 30th December.**

I would also stress the importance of having waste and recycling/food waste placed out by 0700 on collection day (or the evening prior), as quite often during this period there are relief crew members on the rounds and so the round may be done in a different order to which residents may be used to.

Please note that there will be no garden waste collections during the Christmas or New Year weeks.

### **Items below can be placed for recycling in your box.**

Please keep materials separate in your box, as they are sorted into different compartments on collection vehicles.

**PAPER** - Newspapers, magazines, leaflets, paper, junk mail, catalogues and directories.

**GLASS** - Glass bottles & jars only, please rinse out.

**DRINK & FOOD CANS** - Please wash and squash cans before placing in the kerbside box.

**FOIL** - Take-away containers, baking foil, milk bottle tops. Clean foil only - please squash together.

**CLOTHES** - Put in separate bag to keep dry (and not put out on wet days). Clothes only.

**SHOES** - All types of shoes. Please tie together in pairs and put in separate bag to keep dry.

**CAR BATTERIES** - Please place next to your recycling box - only one battery per collection.

Carrier bags can be used to keep materials separate or put additional quantities out alongside your box on collection days, but please do not use black sacks (which may be mistaken for refuse).

## **Kingsdon Parish Councillors and their specific topics**

**Tony Masters:** Chairman - Jacaranda, Lotment Hill, Kingsdon, TA11 7LG Tel 01935 840801  
Email: masters@jacaranda99.fsnet.co.uk

**Alison Hicks: Vice-Chair** - Trees - Keepers Cottage, Pitts Lane, Kingsdon TA11 7LL Tel 01935 840335  
Email: aehicks@somerset.gov.uk

**Mel Clode: Mel Clode:** Dog fouling and related items, Litter, Graffiti, Fly tipping, Fly posting, Damaged bins & Abandoned vehicles and related items - 3 Underwood Rd, Kingsdon, TA11 7LQ Tel 01935 840293

**Richard Hollaway:** Village facilities - Kingsdon Court, Rocky Hill, Kingsdon, TA11 7LB  
Tel 01935 840628 Email: richard.hollaway88@tiscali.co.uk

**Patrick Leahy:** Highways - The Tithe Barn, Middle Street, Kingsdon, TA11 7LE  
Tel 01935 840502 Email: patrickjohnleahy@hotmail.com

**Dave Morris:** Footpaths - 30 Kingsdon, TA11 7LQ Tel - withheld.

**Mike Overd:** School Governor - Chalice Barn, Frog Lane, Kingsdon, TA11 7LL  
Tel 01935 840172 Email: michael.overd@btopenworld.com

**John Calvert** District Councillor (Northstone Ward) Peacock Cottage, High St. Queen Camel. BA22 7NQ  
Tel 01935 850458 Email: john.calvert@southsomerset.gov.uk

**Jimmy Zouche (The Lord Zouche)** County Councillor (Somerton Division) The Abbey, Charlton Adam, Somerton, Somerset. TA11 7BE Tel 01458 223253 Email: jimmyzouche@hotmail.com

**David Heath MP** Constituency Office - 14 Catherine Hill, Frome, Somerset, BA11 1BZ Tel: 01373 473618  
Fax: 01373 455152 Claire Hudson: head of office - email: hudsoncl@parliament.uk

**Sally D. Smith** Clerk to Kingsdon Parish Council, The Old Coach House, Top Street, Kingsdon..  
TA11 7JU Tel 01935 842094 Mobile 07729 301207 Email sally@tradewindspr.co.uk

**A Parish Council Meeting will be held on  
Thursday Dec 3rd 2009 in the Village Hall, Kingsdon at 7.00pm.**

### **AGENDA**

#### **Parish Council Meeting:**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Issues concerning expenditure and Annual Precept
4. Matters arising

#### **Planning Meeting:**

**Application** 09/04074/S73 Mr Glover Park Farm, Lower Road, Kingsdon.

**Proposal:** Application to vary condition 02 of decision notice 08/02596/FUL dated 12.09.08 i.e. to seek alterations to amended plans to garages of plots A, G, E and F plus internal and external changes to plots E and F to include partial rebuilding and to remove obligation e) boundary changes to north of site. (GR 351891/126195)

*This agenda is at the discretion of the Council and is subject to change.*

### **MINUTES OF THE KINGSDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12th 2009 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00PM**

**Present:** Mr A.Masters (Chairman), Mrs A Hicks, Messrs M Clode, R Hollaway, P Leahy; M Overd and Mr D Morris (Parish Councillors); Mr J Zouche (County Councillor) plus a number of parishioners.

**Apologies:** Mr J Calvert (District Councillor); Mrs S Smith (Parish Clerk)

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read out, approved and signed.

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#### **Matters arising:**

**Presentation for the outgoing County Councillor:** The Chairman thanked Mrs P Clark on behalf of the Kingsdon Parish Council and all Parishioners for all her hard work and dedication, naming instances of the primary school and the attempts to save the local post office. He then presented her with a gift token. Mrs P

Clark responded and thanked the council, saying she had greatly enjoyed her involvement with the community.

**Church maintenance:** A request from Sir Donald Limon had been received for financial support towards the maintenance of the Church grounds. Church Warden Mr D. Beswick gave a presentation to support the application, pointing out that it costs £16,000 to keep the Church running and operational with revenue mostly gathered from voluntary contributions and fundraising. He said the Church was currently running at a loss of around £2000 per annum and it was hoped that the Kingsdon Parish Council would consider making a contribution.

There was comment that parishioners were proud of the church. P. Leahy said he had no objection in principle but was concerned that figures mentioned some months ago indicated that the Parish Council was overspending. The Chairman said some of the £2000 plus currently in the bank could be used for this request but it needed to be considered as this would be an ongoing commitment. There was some discussion about setting the precept first and then considering whether there was adequate funding to cover a contribution towards the Church or whether the contribution should be factored into the setting of the precept. D. Morris said that all cost saving possibilities should be considered by the Church before a figure was considered.

**Proposal:** M. Overt proposed that £500 should be contributed towards the maintenance of the Church grounds, seconded by A. Hicks.

**An amendment** to the proposal was tabled by D. Morris and seconded that an initial contribution of £300 should be made with further consideration of an increase on a yearly basis up to the requested £500.

*The motion was carried.*

**Phone Box:** A letter from BT had been received saying they considered the phone box to be underutilized with just 117 calls made in the last year. They therefore were offering the village the opportunity to purchase the village phone box for £1. This would be without a working phone. Cllr J Zouche said consideration needed to be given to hidden costs and ongoing maintenance. P. Leahy mentioned that there was a formal consultation for closure of phone boxes and we must respond quickly. M. Overt said the state of the box had become a health and safety issue because of flaking paint and potential hazard for the local school children. He reiterated that if the Parish purchased the box, there would be a requirement for immediate maintenance.

**Proposal:** that the Telephone box should remain under BT's control with a working phone. This was seconded and carried.

Mr P. Leahy and Mr R. Holloway agreed to formulate a response to BT objecting to the closure.

**Archiving:** Mr D Morris agreed to work on a criteria to predict the space required for archiving and the benefit to the community of these documents once he has received the paperwork from J. Gamblin.

**Busses:** Mr P Leahy said he was working towards the reintroduction of the number 54 bus service to the village for the benefit of the parishioners. He reported that his latest letter has generated a promising response from the District Council who say they will be arranging an onsite meeting with Kingsdon Parish Council, the Highways Department and themselves. Mr D Beswick pointed out that not all inhabitants of Top Street would welcome an additional bus service as many properties along the road were already being troubled by the increase in congestion caused by increased traffic flow and the 377 service.

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**Bungalows:** Mr. M. Clode and Mr P. Leahy reported they had recently made a visit to the South Somerset District Council offices to look at various files. Both South Somerset District Council and Yarlinton had stated that no paperwork existed that indicated the bungalows were originally built for local Kingsdon residents or elderly people. Mr M Clode and Mr P Leahy reported they had discovered 8 documents to the contrary. They said while this will not resolve the case it will strengthen the argument and they are now awaiting the outcome of a government led review.

**Verges/Hedgerow Cutting:** Mr P Leahy said on a regular basis this was not done to a required standard and he will approach Mr Biffin at Greenslade Taylor Hunt for better maintenance of their hedgerows to allow safer vehicle access and passing.

**Precept:** This was not able to be discussed fully as total figures were not available. It was confirmed that the precept must be submitted by January 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 and therefore an additional meeting to consider this would be required in December. This would be arranged once a forecast for anticipated costs during 2010/11 year had been made. Information giving details of the precepts set by other similar sized villages in the region were provided and the precepts set by Kingsdon seem to be in the lower portion.

**Trees:** Mrs A Hicks outlined the situation and presented a synopsis of the letters received from parishioners. The majority indicated they would like to keep the trees with maintenance as required. Only two letters requesting them to be taken down were received. Mr M Singleton made a presentation supporting the removal of the trees in line with the wishes of the developer due to concerns for their size and the impact on light and safety. Mr. M Clode said trees shouldn't be removed without very strong reasons and the council will need to be consistent in approach should similar requests be heard at a later date. He suggested management was the best option at the moment, with the possibility of new planting in between the established trees should these trees need to be felled at a later date.

**Proposal:** Mrs A Hicks proposed the trees remain with ongoing maintenance, seconded by Mr D Morris.

*The motion was carried.*

**New development names:** The Chairman said a number of names had been suggested for the development including Mowbarton; Neal's Yard; Jimmers Courtyard; Glovers Yard; Farmyard Close and Park Farm Close or Mews. Mr D Beswick asked why there needed to be a name at all as no other area of Kingsdon has a specific name. This was discussed and agreed to be the case by all councilors.

**Footpaths:** Mr D Morris agreed to follow up reports that the footpaths at Frog Lane and Kingsdon Hill were overgrown and that the sign alongside Pitts Lane is damaged and fallen over.

**Springfield House Appeal:** Mr M Clode said a letter had been sent to the Inspectorate and he was now awaiting a response.

**Village Hall:** Mr M Singleton announced his wish to retirement from his post as Village Hall Secretary. The Chairman thanked him for his 10 years of dedicated hard work and efforts. Mr M Singleton said he would be willing to mentor the next Village Hall Secretary. Mr M Overd announced his impending retirement as Chairman of the Village Hall Committee due to a possible relocation.

**A Parish Council Meeting will be held on  
Thursday Dec 3rd 2009 in the Village Hall, Kingsdon at 7.00pm.**

## Kingsdon Information

### All Saints Church

**Priest in Charge**

Revd Alan Symonds Tel/Fax 01458 272029 (For arrangement of Baptisms, Weddings and other occasional services)

**Assistant Priest**

Revd Wendy Griffith Tel 01458 224087

**Curate**

Revd Bruce Faulkner

**Church Wardens**

David Beswick. Tel 01935 840795

Norma Black Tel 01935 840727

**Parochial Church Council**

Secretary Sir Donald Limon Tel 01935 840450

Treasurer Alan Carnall Tel 01935 840692

**Tower Captain**

Jackie Ellis Tel 01935 840344

**Church Services for December**

6th 11am Family Service

13th 11am Parish Communion

20th 6pm Carol Service

24th 4pm Crib Service 9.30pm "Not the midnight" Communion

25th 11am Family Holy Communion

27th 11am Holy Communion (Said)

**Church Rotas for December**

**Brass:** Sheila Lord

**Flowers:** Norma Black (25th Onwards)

**Kingsdon C of E Primary School**

Kingsdon, Somerset, TA11 7JX  
Tel: 01935 840406 Fax: 01935 841765  
Email: office@kingsdon.somerset.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Christine Dawson

Secretary: Mrs Carolyn Brannan

For a prospectus or to arrange a visit please telephone or use the e-mail link above.

Chair of Governors: Alan Carnall

Tel: 01935 840692

**PTFA**

Jane Overd - Chair Tel: 01935 940172

Katie Campbell - Vice Chair

Jane Martin - Treasurer

Clare Ridewood - Secretary

**Kingsdon Table Tennis Club**

The Table Tennis Club play in the Village Hall on Tuesday evenings (apart from the 2nd Tuesday in the month) between 7.30pm and 9.30pm. If you are interested then please contact Shirley or Martin Singleton on 841162 or just come along.

**Kingsdon Village Hall**

For all information and bookings contact: - Martin Singleton, Mountsandel Lodge, Mow Barton Rd. Kingsdon. TA11 7LG Tel. 01935 841162

**Bookings for December**

Tai Chi	Mondays 9.45am -11.45am (7th & 14th)
Kingsdon School	Mondays 1.45pm - 3.15pm (Term time)
Short Mat Bowls Club	Mondays 7pm - 9pm
Short Mat Bowls Club	Tuesdays 10am - 12 noon
Table Tennis Club	Tuesdays at 7.30pm
Yeovil Dist. Canine Soc.	Wednesdays at 8pm
Art Club	Thursday 10am - 12noon (Term time)
Pilates	Fridays 9am - 12 noon
Kingsdon School	Friday 4th 1.15pm - 3pm
Scottish Dancing	Saturday 5th 2pm - 3pm
Kingsdon School	Wednesday 9th 1.15pm - 3pm
Kingsdon School	Friday 11th All Day
Kingsdon School	Tuesday 15th 1.15pm - 3pm
Practical Study Group	Wednesday 16th at 10am
Private Party	Sunday 27th All Day

**Kingsdon Seniors Club**

The Seniors Club meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 3pm in the Village Hall. For information contact Club Secretary Marilyn Elliott, 4 Manor Close, Kingsdon. Tel 01935 841444 email: marilyn.elliott@hotmail.co.uk

**Kingsdon Ladies Club**

The Ladies Club meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. New members and visitors are always welcome. For information contact Club President Lynne Davies, Holly House, Frog Lane, Kingsdon. TA11 7LL Tel 01935 840660 or Club Secretary Jackie Ellis, Hill House, Rocky Hill, Kingsdon. TA11 7LB Tel 01935 840344

**Kingsdon Cricket Club**

**Chairman:** Ian Birrell, Watersmeet, Huish Episcopi, Langport TA10 9HE Tel 01458 250246

**Secretary:** Kathy Jamison 'Swallows' 43 Kingsdon Tel 01935 841049