

Kingswood Grapevine

Issue No. 296

October 2025

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OCTOBER Dates For Your Diary (unless otherwise stated)

Tuesdays	KiK Drop in Café (incl. KiK Squad)	2 - 5pm
Fridays	KiK Drop in Café (incl. Crafty Corner)	10am - 1pm
Saturday 11th	Big Kingswood Clean Up, Village Playing Field	10am
8th & 22nd	Jubilee Club, Village Hall	2pm - 4pm
Friday 24th	NOVEMBER Grapevine Deadline	6pm
Thurs 13th Nov	RNLI Coffee Morning, St Marys Room	10am - 12noon
Saturday 29th Nov	KVA Wine Festival, Village Hall	7.30pm

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION (KVA)

www.thekva.co.uk

KVA sends out a big thank you for the amazing exhibits and excellent turn out for Show Day this year; and sends congratulations to all the winners. We were so fortunate with the weather, and hope those who came along enjoyed the afternoon and the attractions on offer. If you would like to be involved in any small way next year, please get in touch as all help is welcome. secretary@thekva.com Our next event is the annual **Wine Festival** on **Saturday November 29th** in the Village Hall. Each year, The Wine Society, one of the UK's premier suppliers, tasks its buyers with blind tasting 1000 wines. Tough job! 100 are chosen as "The Buyers' Champions Choice". KVA will have 25 of these for you to choose from. Tickets at £16 each, including 4 glasses of wine and nibbles, will be available from all KVA members, and Rod Alexander 07743398 136 or rodplume@gmail.com

KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

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

Kingswood Neighbourhood Development Plan (KNDP) - It only feels like yesterday that we were putting together the Kingswood Neighbourhood Plan. However, it is time for us to review and update this important document. The KNDP is more important than ever due to the Stroud Local Plan not being up to date. The KNDP policies will be used to determine planning applications during this time. It is therefore a time of great uncertainty in respect of planning. To start the review process KPC will be holding a KNDP consultation from 4.30pm to 7pm on Thursday 9th October 2025. Please come along and have your say on planning and the future of Kingswood.

Big Kingswood Clean Up - This will take place on **Saturday 11th October** at 10.00am at Kingswood Playing field and will be led by Cllr Holly Simkiss. Let's get Kingswood looking sparkly. If you can't attend on the day, why not do your bit anytime that week. Take a look at the area around your house and check the kerb for weeds and debris that could block drains. Also look at your boundary planting/hedge is it causing an obstruction or stopping children or wheelchairs/buggies from walking safely on the pavement? **Youth Provision - KPC are looking for interested people to be part of a steering group** to find out what youth provision is in place and more importantly what youth provision is needed. KPC hope to build on the wonderful work carried out by the Chapel Youth club The Lighthouse and the great work already being carried out by KVCC and KFC. **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.

Dog fouling - Please can you ensure that you pick up after your dog. It is an offence not to. All incidents of dog fouling should be reported to SDC. <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/report-it/dog-mess-or-fouling-problems/mess-or-fouling-problems>. If you have evidence of the culprit, action can be taken and fines issued. Dog owners/walkers please ensure that you have dog poo bags with you for your dog walk. I am getting complaints of an issue at Boundary Close; there really is no excuse, pick up and take home or use the bins provided in the playing field. **KPC meetings** - The next KPC meeting is **06/10/2025 at 7.15pm** at the Village Hall. 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. **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. Visit the KPC web site on www.kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk and find us on the Kingswood Parish Council Facebook Page. *The Clerk Mary Leonard, PO Box 113 Wotton under Edge GL11 9BP*

KINGSWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

At Kingswood Primary School, we enjoy all aspects of learning and are currently working towards achieving the Computing Quality Mark Award. The KSA (Kingswood School Association) have generously donated £1000 for the purchase of Crumble Kits and Bee Bots, which will help us to further develop our computing curriculum and enable our children across the school to extend their programming skills. We are extremely grateful for their support. If you are a prospective parent for Reception 2026, or new to Kingswood village, please come and visit us during our next **Open Morning on Monday 10th November 9.00-11.30am** to see the school in action. Alternatively, please contact the school office on 01453 842197 or admin@kingswood.gloucs.sch.uk to arrange an individual visit at a time to suit you. We look forward to welcoming you to our lovely school, where our values of Kindness, Perseverance and Success are at the heart of everything that we do.

R.N.L.I

We will be holding our Christmas Coffee Morning on **Thursday November 13th** at St. Mary's Room, St. Mary's Church between 10am and 12.00 noon. Come along and enjoy a coffee whilst looking at our Christmas cards and souvenirs.

JOHN MAYO TRUST

Heading off to university, college, or starting an apprenticeship? If you're planning to begin further education or training - whether it's at university, college or through an apprenticeship, and you're from Kingswood, our charity may be able to support you with a grant to support with the cost of books or essential equipment. To apply, simply email johnmayokingswood@gmail.com, or send a written application to: James Kershaw, 30 Chestnut Park, Kingswood, GL12 8RJ. Application deadline **Friday 31st October**.

THE KEEPERS IN KINGSWOOD (KiK)

Contact: keepersinkingswood@gmail.com

We were delighted to meet so many people at Kingswood Show even if just for a game of Connect-4! Thanks to those who offered to volunteer with us but we still need more; especially for helping prepare and serve food in our café. Please email us if you can help with this most popular new venture and to ensure we can continue with it. We're grateful to Nicola for leading Chair Exercises in the café. The next session is on **21st October** at 2pm. This is a healthy, relaxing and undemanding activity suitable for all ages. No need to book. On Fridays, we're swapping from toasties to soup for the colder months. Again no need to book. Transport available within Kingswood. Call 07767 947549 to book a lift. The next children's Reading Den is also on 21st October, 3:15 to 4:30. Bring the kids after school for a relaxing and supportive learning experience. Looking ahead, a new PEEP course is coming to KiK in November for parents, carers and their children from birth to 2 years. We share songs, stories, ideas and activities that support your child's talking and development through play and everyday life. Dates: Tuesday 4th, 11th & 25th Nov, 2nd & 9th Dec. 2pm - 3pm in the Lower Schoolroom. Spaces are limited so to book please contact Nikki at keepersinkingswood@gmail.com or call 07471 603216.

KINGSWOOD WILDLIFE AREA

Contact: Simon jolyon501@gmail.com

If you are near the newt pond do take a look at the area we managed to clear before the rains came and started to fill the pond again. The New Zealand pondweed that has accidentally got into this pond is invasive and needs clearing every year to stop it completely clogging the pond. It's a big job and we can only hope to slow it down. The dry summer gave us a good opportunity to make a good start. We hope to carry on clearing around the edges and the rest will have to wait until 2026. There are still apples and pears to pick, some are even quite accessible. Volunteers will carry on working in the area throughout the autumn and winter (unless it's very wet). If you would like to help come along on Monday mornings from 10.00am volunteers are always very welcome. You will need sturdy footwear and gardening gloves.

COMMUNITY LIBRARY FOR KINGSWOOD?

We are trying to set up a community library for the village - people would donate, borrow and return/swap books from a bookcase in a central location (probably the out of service bus shelter on The Chipping). If you are interested in being involved, have any ideas for how to set it up and run it, can offer DIY skills, or just want to hear more - please contact Stella: stellagreen80@btinternet.com. FYI, there is a similar thing in Hawkesbury Upton. We look forward to hearing your views.

KINGSWOOD ABBEY W.I.

We enjoyed a delicious wine tasting and talk from Road Green Vineyard at our September meeting. A huge thank you for teaching us about our local wines and the processes of wine making. The WI in Kingswood are an active, friendly group who meet every second Tuesday of the month at Kingswood Village Hall, 7.30pm. Our October meeting will be held on **Tuesday 14th** and will be a talk by the Severn Freewheelers. Freewheelers Emergency Voluntary Blood Bike Service is a registered charity that provides a free out-of-hours motorcycle courier service to hospitals in the South West of England. Ladies, if you are thinking of joining us then please come along to our next meeting (visitor's cost £5), and join in what will be an interesting evening.

KINGSWOOD JUBILEE CLUB

Contact: Jenny email: jenny.a.robins@gmail.com

On **8th October** we will be entertained by the Bootleggers and on **22nd October** we will be joined by the Stroud Ukulele Group. Do come and join us - we meet at the Village Hall between 2.00 and 4.00pm and you'd be most welcome.

KINGSWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (CHAPEL)

Contact: timandvick@gmail.com

Our weekly Sunday Morning Services begin at 10.30am and everyone is welcome to hear a variety of visiting and home Speakers with Sunday School open following worship each week. Our all age service will be on **Sunday 26th October**. **Lighthouse Youth Group** for 10-15 year olds runs every Thursday in the Lower Schoolroom. 7.00 - 8.00pm. Pool, badminton, table tennis, games and other activities. Chill out time in the Upper Room from 8.00 - 8.30pm. This month we are delighted to welcome Worship leader, singer and songwriter Lou Fellingham to the Chapel on **Friday 10th October** at 7.30pm. Tickets are still available at £10 each: go to events-loufellingham or contact us using the email above where we can send you a link. Also this month we have **Messy Church** in the LSR from 10.00am on **18th October**. Crafts, song and lots of fun for pre-school and primary aged children. Lunch provided.

KINGSWOOD DEFIB AWARENESS GROUP

Contact: David Owen drddowen@gmail.com or 01453 844463

The long-term governance of our 12 community defibrillators relies on on-going funding. These defibs are local assets, and it is worth noting that the NHS plays **no** part in them at all. So, it is down to us to maintain them. Electrode pads have a life of around 2 years. They also need immediate replacement if used - at a current cost of approx. £70. The lithium batteries last approximately 4-5 years and cost about £340. The Parish Council is committed to help, but raising the necessary funds year on year ought to be the responsibility of the broader community. Several village groups have generously helped with funding in the past; but one solution for the longer-term would be to hold an annual fund-raiser. Please think about this and let me know if you have any ideas. The initial target would be to raise £1250 p.a.

NOVEMBER GRAPEVINE ISSUE DEADLINE:

FRIDAY 24th OCTOBER 2025