

Kingswood Grapevine

Issue No. 303

June 2026

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

JUNE Dates For Your Diary (unless otherwise stated)

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| Tuesdays | KiK Drop in Café (incl. KiK Squad) | 2 - 4.30pm |
| Fridays | KiK Drop in Café (incl. Crafty Corner) | 10am - 1pm |
| Thursday 7th | Kingswood Abbey talk in St. Marys (see below) | 5.30pm |
| Wed 10th & 24th | Jubilee Club, (AGM on 10th) Village Hall | 2 - 4pm |
| Fri 12th & Sat 13th | KADS Murder Mystery, Village Hall | 7.30pm |
| Sat 27th | Summer Fete, Westgreen House & Pennwood Lodge | 11am - 4pm |
| Sat 27th | St Marys Church Fete, Abbey Gatehouse | 1 - 4.30pm |
| Wednesday 24th | JULY Grapevine Deadline | 6pm |
| Saturday 4th JULY | Tubbs Turf Finals & Garden Party AND Open Gardens | 12 noon |

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION (KVA)

Website: www.thekva.co.uk

OPEN GARDENS – Saturday 4th July. Purchase your map on the day (£2 per adult) from Tubbs Turf commencing at 12 noon, and take the opportunity to wander through some of the beautiful gardens of Kingswood. For children, there will be a free Treasure Hunt, collecting clues in each of the gardens. Gardens will close at 1600 to allow you to finish off a relaxing afternoon back at Tubbs Turf for the tennis finals and to enjoy a BBQ and refreshments. It's not too late if you would like to open your own garden whether it be large or small, please email chair@thekva.co.uk to express your interest, closing date for entries is 8th June. **SHOWDAY – Saturday 5th September**. The Show Day Produce & Handicraft schedules are almost in print and will arrive on your doormat at the beginning of July. Plans are coming together for an exciting afternoon with a circus theme. As well as many of the usual stands, we will be joined this year by Anton Macman, a professional juggler who will be performing in the arena and running a drop-in workshop with a variety of circus skills. We are also delighted to announce that The Rosellys are confirmed as our live Band for 2026 on the Rio Stage. Craft and sales stalls are filling fast, so if you are interested in having a pitch yourself, or would like to help out on the day, please contact secretary@kva.co.uk. KVA welcomes applications for funding from organisations within Kingswood. Please download the application form from the website – www.thekva.co.uk. The KVA are always looking for willing volunteers to help either as a full member of the committee or as a friend of the KVA. If you are interested please email chair@thekva.co.uk.

ST MARYS PARISH CHURCH

Our regular Sunday services continue as usual throughout June. All are very welcome to join us at **11 am each Sunday** at the church. We also host a short online service of Morning Prayer every Wednesday from 9:00am - 9:30am led by Revd Rick Williams. You can use your smartphone, tablet or computer to connect. To receive an online meeting link via email, please contact news@stmaryskingswood.org.uk. St Mary's is open Monday to Friday from 10am to 4pm. **Donations to the Food Bank and/or Keepers in Kingswood** are much appreciated and can be left in the church porch.

KINGSWOOD JUBILEE CLUB

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

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 10th June** and we invite you to join us. We desperately need new members who would like to drive the club forward and take an active part in keeping the club going. We look forward to receiving suggestions on recruiting new members, speakers etc. On 24th June we have Bingo, please do come along between 2 and 4pm.

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE PROJECT

KINGSWOOD NEEDS YOUR HELP.....The WI craft group will be bringing the village together in a community project for November 2026, by decorating the village with respectful yarn bombing displays for Remembrance Day. Although six months away it will take time to make and gather enough items. The idea is to create knitted or crocheted poppies, fabric bunting, wraps, or other thoughtful pieces that can be displayed around the village as remembrance. We would dearly like as many village organisations and individuals to get involved, and have a few individuals and the tennis club involved! Please spare a little time to help produce some great displays. SO.....Whether you knit, crochet, sew, have a skill with wood or metal or just want to help with planning or installation, we REALLY need you to be involved. You don't need to be an expert, and you don't need lots of time — every contribution, big or small, will help make something meaningful that reflects our community. If you'd like to take part or find out more, please get in touch with Sally (sal.reynolds@hotmail.co.uk). Let's create something special together to honour Remembrance Day and have the best display around!

KINGSWOOD AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (KADS)

"The Little Willey Murder" - KADS are hosting a Murder Mystery event in the Village Hall on June 12th & 13th at 7.30pm. The audience will watch the situation unfold on stage and then have a chance to question the suspects (the cast) over a light supper. Evidence sheets will be available and then you can submit your assessment of 'whodunnit and how!' Prizes will be awarded once the motive, method and murderer have been revealed on stage. Do come and join us for what will be an enjoyable and entertaining evening. Tickets £15 to include food, are available from the shop or online (see a poster for the QR code). The Bar will be open from 7pm.

KINGSWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Are you interested in becoming a School Governor? We are looking to recruit new members to join our dedicated team of School Governors at Kingswood Primary School. There are no particular qualifications required for the role and we would particularly welcome interest from potential Governors with a background in finance or educational management experience. If you would like to support the school, are interested in ensuring that all pupils receive a high-quality education in a safe and inclusive environment, and help plan for its future development, please contact either Chair of Governors, Mike Brown: chair@kingswood.gloucs.sch.uk or Mrs Collins: head@kingswood.gloucs.sch.uk to find out more. An enhanced DBS check will be carried out for those who join the governing board.

ST MARYS PARISH CHURCH - FETE

Our Fete is being held on **Saturday 27th June 1:00 - 4:30pm**. Come and have fun exploring the historic heart of the village with: stalls, KADS performance, books, food, children's activities, teas and the ever popular Treasure Hunt. The event is supported by the Kingswood School Association, English Heritage, Keepers-in-Kingswood, the Congregational Church and also marks the 500th Anniversary of William Tyndale's translation of the New Testament with a small exhibition in the Congregational Church, and a preview of the Tyndale Trail. St Mary's welcome CAKES (small or large) to sell from the cake stall, please let Jacky Rayfield (842302) or Val Abbott (842059) know if you would like to bake one. Also let Helen Stredder (07870 659277) know if you are able to provide any BOTTLES for the bottle stall. Please also welcome members of St Mary's Church who will be selling raffle tickets door-to-door around the village throughout June, prizes include a luxury hamper, and days out at local attractions. Find us by the Abbey Gatehouse.

KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL (KPC)Contact: : 01453 844659 Email: clerk@kingswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk

Bloor Homes 95 Houses Walkmill Lane - The application is now live on the SDC website www.stroud.gov.uk Please view the application ref S.26/0236/out. Please continue to submit your comments as SDC will continue to review all comments up until they make a decision on this application. KPC has called **an extra meeting on 1/06/2026** to review this application. **Neighbour Development Plan (NDP)** - KPC will be consulting on the following: Housing Needs, Infrastructure issues, Local Green Spaces, Local heritage Assets and Important Views. The consultation will take place from 25th May to 28th June 2026. Forms can be downloaded from the KPC website. It is important we get your views to inform the NDP. More information to follow in a leaflet and on the KPC website. Please contact the Clerk if you have any questions. **Please, please take part this is important for the future of Kingswood.** **Orchestra Site** - What should the housing development be called?. Please advise possible name ideas to the KPC clerk for consideration by the Developer. **Community Library** - A big thank you to the volunteers who have transformed the bus stop into a community library. It looks fantastic. There are lots of books for children and youth included. **Keepers in Kingswood (KIK)** KPC is very happy to announce that it is working with KiK and has entered into a Service Level Agreement (SLA) and is financially supporting this important community hub to ensure that it continues to support the people of Kingswood. **Youth** - We are continuing to review the Youth provision and are looking to secure holiday activities. More details to follow. **Play Equipment** - KPC placed the contract to replace the embankment slide, and this should be in place shortly. KPC are looking at replacing the football goalposts before the summer holidays and we are also looking at the multi play unit. We would love your input on what should we replace it with! We would particularly like to hear from young people and their carers. Please email me your thoughts. Going forward we will set up a **Play Area Working Group** made up of users and KPC. Please contact the Clerk if you wish to be part of this group.

Stroud Valleys Project - KPC has just renewed its contact with SVP for the next 3 years to ensure that the valuable work contributing towards the biodiversity of the area is continued. A big thankyou to our hard-working volunteers who work with SVP to ensure that our wildlife area continues to thrive. **Birds in Greenspaces** - The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) Birds in Greenspaces project runs from **1 April to 30 June 2026** and aims to find out just how important greenspaces are for UK birds and provide guidance on effective greenspace management for birds and people. Go to the website to report what you have seen at Kingswood cemetery, churchyard, playing field, Ash Path and wildlife area. <https://www.bto.org/get-involved/volunteer/projects/greenspaces/taking-part#greenspaces-map> **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 the Police website www.gloucestershire.police.uk **KPC meetings** - The next meeting 01/06/2026 at 7.15pm at Kingswood Village Hall this is an **extra meeting called to review and take a decision on the Bloor Planning application**. KPC will also be meeting on 08/06/2026 as scheduled. KPC is live streaming all meetings. To view the meeting please click on the link which will be available on the KPC website along with the agenda and meeting papers. **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 the parish council on the **Kingswood Parish Council Facebook Page**. *The Clerk, Mary Leonard, PO Box 113 Wotton under Edge GL11 9BP.*

KINGSWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (CHAPEL)Contact: : minister@kingswoodcongregational.org.uk

This month to everyone new to Kingswood, we extend a special welcome to the Village from Kingswood Congregational Church. You'll find us a great friendly community and we hope you'll soon settle in. You may be unfamiliar with the Congregational Church but you would be very welcome to come and see that we are a lively church that holds the truth of the bible and Jesus as the Christ at our centre. We have services **every Sunday at 10.30am** where we meet for worship with our brilliant worship band. Once a month we hold Sunday Lunch Club to which you would be very welcome. Messy Church is available to young families. A bible study is held monthly, this month it will be **Monday 29th June**. We run the village youth club (Lighthouse Youth) on **Thursday's from 7.00pm**. We also support Keepers in Kingswood with the provision of our building and facilities. All of these are held in the Lower Schoolroom on The Walk. You can email our Minister with any questions using the address above. Our website (which is in the throes of being updated) is www.kingswoodcongregational.org.uk. We look forward to seeing you.

TUBBS TURFContact: membership@tubbsturf.co.uk

Finals Day & Garden Party - With summer firmly in our sights, we look forward to seeing you at our annual fun day on Saturday 4th July. This year we are delighted to be hosting the start and finish of the KVA Open Gardens event so please join us in our lovely garden where we will have a barbecue, bar and homemade cakes. For those who are inspired by the gardens, we are also having a plant sale with gorgeous blooms from local growers. As usual there will be oodles of tennis and table tennis plus junior cricket and short tennis for the children. Timings to be confirmed so look for the posters around the village nearer to the day or visit www.tubbsturf.co.uk for further information.

SUMMER FETE

Pennwood Lodge and Westgreen House Care Homes are holding a Summer Fete on **Saturday 27th June**. We will be open from 11am to 4pm. We have horses to meet, stalls, BBQ, cakes, icecreams and refreshments plus a vintage singer to entertain. Everyone is welcome and we would love you to bring friends and family to enjoy some time with us.

KINGSWOOD ABBEY W.I.

We are an active, friendly group who meet every second Tuesday of the month at Kingswood Village Hall, 7.30pm. We have an interesting and entertaining programme organised for the coming year. The May meeting began with discussions around the two national resolutions - Accessible public toilet facilities to promote dignity, health, and social inclusion - debated by Sally and Action on women's homelessness - debated by Ann. Both very worthy causes. We then finished the evening with a light hearted quiz which was great fun. On Tuesday 9th June we will be pleased to welcome Waffaa Powell who will be carrying out a Lebanese Cooking Demonstration. We welcome prospective members or visitors at a cost of £5 a meeting. For this month we would like to know about any visitors in advance, contact secretarykawi@gmail.com.

KINGSWOOD WILDLIFE AREA

The May newt surveys for 2026 have shown we still have a population of all 3 native species of newt - Smooth, Palmate and Great Crested. The numbers of the Great Crested Newt were down this year although the presence of GCN efts (the newt equivalent of tadpoles) indicates that these newts may have been in the ponds earlier. Next year we plan to do two surveys in April and two in May to test this theory. Don't forget to check out the wildlife area during Kingswood's open gardens on 4th July or if you can't wait that long find us on Google Maps by entering Kingswood Wildlife Area.

JULY GRAPEVINE DEADLINE:**WEDNESDAY 24th JUNE 2026**For an entry please email : admin@kingswoodgrapevine.co.uk Visit our Website: www.kingswoodgrapevine.co.uk