

Kingswood Grapevine

Issue No. 304

July 2026

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

JULY Dates For Your Diary (unless otherwise stated)

Tuesdays	KiK Drop in Café (incl. KiK Squad)	2 - 4.30pm
Fridays	KiK Drop in Café (incl. Crafty Corner)	10am - 1pm
Saturday 4th	Tubbs Turf Finals & Garden Party AND Open Gardens	12 noon
Wed 8th & 22nd (& 5th August)	Jubilee Club, Village Hall	2 - 4pm
Monday 24th August	SEPTEMBER Grapevine Deadline	6pm

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE PROJECT

The Kingswood Abbey WI Craft Group Needs Your Help! In November 2026, we'll be decorating the village with a respectful Remembrance Day yarn-bombing display, and we'd love you to be part of it. With your help, we hope to create a fantastic community display featuring hundreds of knitted and crocheted poppies, remembrance-themed figures, and much more. We would love as many village organisations, groups, families and individuals as possible to get involved. Whether you: Knit or crochet, Sew, Work with wood or metal, Enjoy crafting of any kind, Can help with planning, preparation or installation - there is a place for you in this project. **Calling All Children!** We would love children to join in too. Why not paint a pebble with a poppy or another Remembrance-themed design? These will be displayed around the chipping area of the village as part of the overall display. **Get Involved:** If you'd like to take part or would like to find out more, please contact Sally at: sal.reynolds@hotmail.co.uk Together, let's create something truly special to honour Remembrance Day and make our village display one to be proud of. Please join in and help us remember, reflect & create something wonderful.

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 4pm to allow you to finish off a relaxing afternoon back at Tubbs Turf for the tennis finals and to enjoy a BBQ and refreshments. **SHOW DAY - 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 and Classic Car show we will be joined this September 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. If you could spare an hour or two, to help run this popular village event, please contact secretary@thekva.co.uk. **WINE FESTIVAL - Saturday 28th November** - Save the date for this traditional village start to the Christmas festivities. 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

We hope many of you will have enjoyed the St Mary's Church Kingswood Village fete in June. Our annual fete is always a great village occasion and our partnership with other village organisations – Kingswood Primary School, The Congregational Church, English Heritage and the Keepers in Kingswood – ensures a really special day for our village, as well as raising much-needed funds. Congratulations to all our prize draw winners and warm thanks to all those who worked so hard to make it a success - particularly KADS for most enjoyable entertainment. Life at St Mary's continues as normal in July with our regular Sunday morning services at 11am. In **August**, there are fewer services with the morning service rotating around our partner villages. Look out for some special services including **Evensong at St Mary's Kingswood at 6pm on 9th August.**

KINGSWOOD JUBILEE CLUB

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

The Jubilee Club meets fortnightly at the Village Hall from 2.00 - 4.00pm. It is a fellowship group that enjoys being entertained by a variety of speakers, musical groups and enjoy catching up over a cuppa and biscuits, we are always looking for new members. We are having an American Supper on 8th July where everyone brings a plate of food which will be shared at 3pm. There will also be a talk by a representative from Longfield, the charity we support. On 22nd July Becky Stratford will be telling us about the Warm and Well scheme which can help people with their heating bills, and possible access to grants etc. There will be a **Cream Tea on 5th August.** Do come along and join us. Next year, 2027 will be the 50th Anniversary of our founding and we would love to hear from people who have memories of the early years, or friends/relatives of people who attended. We would also welcome ideas as how best to celebrate this milestone, perhaps joining forces with other organisations in the village. You can contact me on the email address above.

THE KEEPERS IN KINGSWOOD (KiK)

Contact: keepersinkingswood@gmail.com

We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at Showday on Saturday 5th September. Please come to our stand and talk to us if you'd like to find out more about our work and perhaps consider volunteering. We're always looking to expand our activities and the latest development is a book club which will be starting on 8th September. It'll be a chance to read and discuss books in a friendly and welcoming environment. More information, nearer the time. Our Community Pantry is still in demand and as we move into the summer months and school holidays, more financial pressure is put on households. Demand has been outstripping supply in recent months, so please keep giving to the Community Pantry. If you could buy non-perishable foodstuffs, household goods or toiletries from the Spar and pop them in the box at the back of the shop/St Mary's porch, you'll be supporting both the shop and those in need. All donations are gratefully received. If you feel you could do with a bit of help yourself, feel free to take what you need from the pantry or if you know someone who could benefit, please pass on the word. Thank you to everyone who supports Keepers in Kingswood.

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

Our Sunday Morning Services in the Chapel throughout July begin as usual at 10.30am every week. A variety of visiting and home Speakers will be with us and our Sunday School is open following the worship time each week for primary aged children. Our all age service will be on Sunday 26th July & 30th August where if you are new to the Village it would be a great time to meet everyone and share with us in a short, fun open style family friendly service. Tea, coffee & biscuits are shared each week and we have caring members on hand to help or lend an ear should you need them. Other events in our Lower Schoolroom this month: **Messy Church** - 4th July from 10.00am. Families with children under 11 welcome. Lunch provided. **Monthly Bible Study** - 27th July & 31st Aug 7.00-9.00pm. Open with refreshments to all aged 16 and over. **Lighthouse Youth Group** for 10-15 year olds each Thursday 7.00-8.00pm. Chill out time in the Upper Room from 8.00-8.30pm.

KINGSWOOD VILLAGE PLAYGROUP (preschool) & TODDLERSContact: playgroupkingswood@gmail.com

We have had a good term learning how to keep our bodies healthy by looking after our teeth, eating a healthy diet and exercising. The children have been tending to our allotment where we have radishes, peas and strawberries growing. We had a great trip to Westonbirt Arboretum and are working hard on our artwork to enter for show day. From **September** Kingswood Village Playgroup (preschool) have extended our hours and will run **Monday to Friday 9.15 - 2.45pm (early arrival from 8.45am)** at Kingswood Village Hall. To register interest in starting your child in September or later in the year please email us. Check out our Facebook page: 'Kingswood Village Playgroup' as well as our website (www.kingswoodvillageplaygroup.org.uk) to find out more about us!

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. At the time of writing this application is due for a decision in the Stroud District Council's Development Control Committee on Tuesday 28th July from 6pm. To participate in this meeting please visit the SDC website <https://stroud.moderngov.co.uk/mgGeneric.aspx?MD=Participate> Or follow the link on the KPC website on the Bloor Homes Post.

Neighbour Development Plan (NDP). KPC will be consulting on the following, Housing Needs, Infrastructure issues, Local Green Spaces, Local heritage Assets and Important Views. 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.**

Youth - As a result of the Youth consultation KPC is happy to announce the following events. **Holiday and Food Activity (HAF)** Wednesday 26th August at 10.00am to 1pm at Kingswood Playing field. **Read with Me** will start a monthly session in Kingswood Village Hall on the 1st Monday of the month from 6 to 8pm starting Monday 7th September. **Play Gloucestershire** will run weekly session on a Tuesday starting 29th September from 4 to 6pm at Kingswood Playing field. They will continue throughout the year until the end of March 2027. More information on all of the above, follow on the KPC website and Facebook page.

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 is 13/07/2026 at 7.15pm at Kingswood Village Hall. 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 Overflowing 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.*

TUBBS TURFContact: membership@tubbsturf.co.uk

Wimbleton has nothing on Tubbs Turf! This year's Finals Day is on Saturday 4th July 12pm and we have an exciting line up for adults, children, tennis fans and garden lovers! We kick off at midday with the start of the KVA Open Gardens Day (bacon butties at the ready!) and Junior Cricket, and the first of the day's tennis matches. At 1pm we begin the table tennis competition and there will be Junior Fun Coaching from Pete Caseley. This continues until 4pm when Pete takes on local superstar James Pugh for an exciting singles match! All through the day there will be fabulous BBQ food courtesy of The Falcon, and homemade cakes plus Uley Brewery beer, wine and Pimm's, and a plant sale with plants from local nurseries. Sounds good? Come along and join in the fun! As always, many thanks to all our supporters and donors, who keep this fantastic facility at the heart of Kingswood. www.tubbsturf.co.uk.

KINGSWOOD ABBEY W.I.

There's always something interesting happening at WI! We are a friendly, welcoming group who meet on the second Tuesday of every month at Kingswood Village Hall at 7.30pm. With a varied programme of speakers, demonstrations and social events, there's something to suit everyone. Our June meeting transported us to the Middle East when Wafaa Powell gave a fascinating Lebanese cooking demonstration. The evening was filled with delicious aromas, plenty of laughter and, best of all, the chance to sample her wonderful dishes. It was a fantastic evening enjoyed by all. Looking ahead, on **Tuesday 14th July**, we are delighted to welcome Stephen Rowle, who will be sharing tales from Gloucestershire's rich folklore. From mischievous fairies & mythical creatures to mysterious legends woven into the local landscape, this promises to be an enchanting evening full of intrigue, history and possibly magic. Why not come along and join us? Visitors and prospective members are always warmly welcomed. The cost is £5 per meeting, and you'll be sure of a friendly reception.

KINGSWOOD WILDLIFE AREA

The Wildlife Area is part of Kingswood Open Gardens and if you have yet to find us, we will be on the map with all the other gardens. Volunteers will be there to show you pictures of the newts that visit our 3 ponds and answer your questions about the work we do to look after this habitat for nature. And, of course, there will be a clue to find for the children's treasure hunt!

SEPTEMBER GRAPEVINE DEADLINE:**MONDAY 24th AUGUST 2026**For an entry please email : admin@kingswoodgrapevine.co.uk Visit our Website: www.kingswoodgrapevine.co.uk