

Kingsbury Informed

Toys and Gift Appeal



A huge thank you to EVERYONE who has already donated to our 'December to Remember' gift appeal. Our donation boxes will remain in **The White Swan Public House, The Royal Oak Public House, Jays Food and Wine Store, Atlantic Fish Bar and Kingsbury Village Store (previously A&D)** until **Friday 15th December 2023**.

If you are able to donate wrapping paper, a new/unused toy or gift for children from **newborn to 17 years old** as part of the appeal we would be extremely grateful.

Additionally if you can spare an hour or two on Saturday 16th December 2023 at 11:00am to help with wrapping, please do drop us an email: debbie.bates7@icloud.com.



Community Christmas Tree

Unfortunately Kingsbury were unsuccessful in obtaining funding this year for a Community Christmas Tree. However, a tree was purchased and donated by Councillor Debbie Bates and Jason Mooney.

Although the tree is not as big as we hoped, it was very important to try to get a rooted tree; not only for the environment, but also in the hope that it will grow and thrive each year. Mark, from the Royal Oak has been extremely supportive, not only in giving permission for the tree to be planted on the grassed corner of the car park, but also in funding and supplying the Christmas lights. **MERRY CHRISTMAS.**

Ofsted

Kingsbury's secondary school, which is a Specialist Science and Mathematics Academy run by the Castle Phoenix Trust, recently had a school inspection undertaken by Ofsted. The inspection report is now on the Ofsted website and shows that the school has been rated Good across all areas (the quality of education, behaviour and attitude, personal development, and leadership and management). The report comments positively on many aspects, but notes that some pupils do not behave well enough during unstructured time, and that some pupils miss too much school which holds back their progress and achievement.

Ofsted usually inspects a school every 4 years or at any time when they have concerns. Kingsbury school's previous Ofsted visit had been a full inspection in April 2019 when it was also rated Good



Charity of Philip Stanyers and Others

The Charity of Philip Stanyers and Others, a small local charity which has been registered with the Charity Commission since 24 January 1969, have provided small grants to local residents and families. It is wonderful to get to know more about the amazing support this charity has been providing across the Parish of Kingsbury; as constituted since the 11th May 1909, over the years and the impact their generosity and support provides.



The Wings Club

On the 3rd December fire fighters were called to tackle a fire at The Wings Club amid reports of smoke coming from the derelict building. Thankfully the fire was put out with no reports of anyone being injured.

The building has been added to a derelict buildings watch list which is monitored by the council and fire service, and is considered one of the buildings in the "top 10" on that list.

The building is also a regular agenda item for meetings of a multi-agency group (police, fire service and various County and Borough Council teams) set up specifically to tackle anti-social behaviour in Kingsbury. Cllr Andy Jenns feeds in to the group who are looking in to what legal enforcement action can be taken in relation to the building.



Parish Council News

November's Parish Meeting Update

November's Parish Council meeting was held in the community room at Jubilee Court where the councillors listened to a presentation by an officer from County Highways and used the opportunity to raise their concerns and frustrations about the department's response times and the length of time that some repairs take.

The Chair, councillor Jean Thomas, began the meeting by paying tribute to former parish councillor Carol Ayasamy, who's funeral had taken place the previous day, and the councillors observed a minute's silence in her honour. The meeting went on to discuss the actions to be taken regarding some of the damaged recreation ground play equipment and to receive an update from the Finance Committee. It was also resolved to remove certain additional powers delegated to the parish clerk at the time of the Covid pandemic as it was felt these were no longer needed. Councillors had no objection to any of the local planning applications on which they were consulted by the Borough Council. The Parish Council does not meet in December.

'The way you spend Christmas is far more important than how much'. Henry David Thoreau

Christmas Market at The Royal Oak

On Saturday 9th December 2023, The Royal Oak hosted its first Community Christmas Market event. Despite the rain and wind the community; young and old, came out to enjoy the festive market - what a fabulous day, thank you to Mark, Mia and staff, with extended thanks to all the market holders and the singers for persevering through the weather conditions and for sharing you handmade crafts and skills.





Barriers

There has been some criticism of the decision to erect metal barriers at each end of the National Grid cable cover that crosses the River Tame alongside the stone bridge near the church steps. Back in 2022 the Royal Life Saving Society carried out a water safety audit on behalf of Kingsbury Water Park and this highlighted the pipe as a potential hazard as it was easily accessible to pedestrians and thought likely to lend itself to jumping off into the river. Upon receiving this information Country Parks managers contacted National Grid, who are responsible for the cable, and asked them to survey the site from a safety perspective. Following two site visits they agreed that the asset needed to be protected and access to it restricted. Consequently, National Grid have now installed the new metal grill barriers. Local County Councillor Andy Jenns has been assured that other than officer time and the cost of the original safety audit no Council funds were spent.



North Warwickshire
Borough Council

Survey

The Borough Council is currently working with DJS Research, an independent research agency, to carry out a survey of a representative selection of residents from across the borough. This survey will help the Borough Council understand what people think about the local area and will also help inform decision making and plans for local services. It takes around 10-15 minutes and some calls are being made outside of "office hours". The views of anyone taking part will remain strictly confidential to DJS Research and no names or other identifying details will be passed to the Council or any other organisation unless the individual agrees to be contacted in future.

Green Bins

When signing up earlier this year, residents who pay for the Council's green bin garden waste service were advised there would be a four week break in service across January and February 2024. However, the break has now been brought forward and reduced to three weeks, meaning there will be no green bin collection after 22nd December this year, with collections resuming in the week commencing 15th January. This will be the only annual break in service and collections will then continue as normal for the rest of 2024.

Black and Red Bins

There will be no refuse or recycling collections in North Warwickshire between Monday 25 and Friday 29 December 2023 or on Monday 1 January 2024. Collections for those dates will resume the following week but will happen a day later than the normal schedule. Therefore, Kingsbury's red bin collection due on Thursday 28th December will actually take place on Friday 5th January along with that week's black bin collection. Residents are asked to ensure that both bins are put out for collection by 6am on that day. Additional recycling waste will also be collected if it is placed in a clear sack and left with the bin. However, no bags of additional household waste will be collected.

Winter Walks



Kingsbury Water Park's winter warmer walks will be back in the New Year, and starting on Wednesday 3rd January visitors can join a ranger for a stroll around one of

the best trails in the park. It's the perfect way to stretch your legs and a great opportunity to learn some fascinating facts about the Water Park and all the creatures that call it home, as well as being an excellent opportunity to meet new people.

It's free to join though you'll need to book via the Eventbrite page at <https://big.ly/3rhMtqG>. All ages are welcome. Meet in front of the Visitor Centre for a prompt 10.00 am start.

Updates:

Surgery Change

There will be no councillor surgery this month, but councillors Debbie Bates and Andy Jenns can still be reached by phone or email to help with local concerns and Council related personal matters. The monthly drop-in surgery will resume in January, taking place at the Sports Hall and Community Centre in Pear Tree Avenue on the final Friday of each month between 6.00 and 7.00 pm.

Kingsbury High Court Injunction

The hearing of North Warwickshire Borough Council's application for a Final Injunction against protesters at Kingsbury Oil Terminal has been adjourned for the impact of a recent Supreme Court decision to be considered.

The Judge who was to hear the Council's case raised his concern that there was limited time to consider this Judgment before the hearing, leading to the Council requesting an adjournment.

A new date will be set for the Final Hearing and the Court will give directions for preparing for the new hearing date.



Santa's Sleigh Visit's Kingsbury

It was wonderful to see the excitement on children's faces as Santa brought the magic of Christmas to Kingsbury streets on Sunday 10th December.

Useful Contact Details:

Warwickshire Police:

- nwe.snt@warwickshire.police.uk
- www.warwickshireconnected.com

North Warwickshire Borough Council:

- Phone - (01827) 715341
- Email - customerservices@north-warks.gov.uk
- Website - (Main Home Page) www.northwarks.gov.uk)

Kingsbury Parish Council:

- Email - clerk@kingsbury-pc.gov.uk or kingsburypc@outlook.com
- Website - www.kingsbury-pc.gov.uk

Local Facilities & Services:

- Pear Tree Surgery - 01827 872 755
- Lloyds Pharmacy - 01827 874 927
- Kingsbury Water Park - 01827 872 660
- Kingsbury Sports & Community Centre - Email: enquiries@kscuk.org
- Kingsbury Methodist Church - Email: info.kingsburymethodist@gmail.com
- Cliff Lakes - Call or email on 01827 230 656 / hello@clifflakes.co.uk
- Samaritans - Telephone: 116 123
- Warwickshire County Council - Mental Health and Wellbeing: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/mentalhealth
- North Warwickshire Citizens Advice - Website: http://www.nwcab.org.uk Email: advice@nwcab.org.uk or Telephone: 0808 250 5715
- NHS Mental Health Access Hubs: Mental Health Access Hubs | Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust (covwarkpt.nhs.uk)
- Drug and alcohol services – Warwickshire County Council : www.warwickshire.gov.uk/drugsandalcohol

What's On...



* There are a variety of clubs and social activities throughout the week for all ages and abilities, for full details email: ianj@kscuk.org



* **Kingsbury History Society** - To research and record the history of Kingsbury and its environs. Email carole.haines92@btinternet.com.

* **Coffee Morning** every **Tuesday 11:00 - 13:00** (Welcome Hall rear of the Methodist Church).



* Do you enjoy knitting or crochet, or would you just like to have a cupper and chat. If so why not join the **Knit and Natter** group at Jubilee Court every Monday @10:30am, just £1.50 with Tea/Coffee, biscuits and great company.



* **LUNCH WITH SANTA!** ☞ - On Sunday 17th December. The sessions will be roughly 1:30hrs starting with food and then presents and a visit from Santa! Session run between 12-3pm, please note we will give you a time slot between these times once we have numbers. £15 per child. Visit our Facebook page for more information - Our new chef & Santa can't wait to see you all!



* Middleton Hall and Gardens are ready for a fun packed Christmas with a variety of events and offers, for more information and to book for you and the family visit: Middleton-hall.co.uk for more details and tickets.



Through The Eye of A Lense

Taken by: Mark Hayes



Get In Touch:

Do you have a news story you would like to share or a community event, if so drop us an email for consideration in our next Newsletter. Email Debbie.bates7@icloud.com