KINGSLEY NEWS

THE NEWS AND VOICE OF YOUR COMMUNITY



Online edition at www.kingsleyvillage.co.uk Charity number: 503072

Newsletter Highlights

The Horseshoe Forge -A Tale of Fire and Iron

Kingsley Walkers

Kingsley Players Youth Theatre - 'A Monster Calls'

Parish Council News

Mother Goose reviewed

A letter to the Prime Minister

Kingsley Book Club



A registered charity

Kingsley Community Association - Committee Members									
Chairman	Elizabeth Batey - Tel: 788788								
Vice Chairman/Kingsley News Editor	Steve Easton - kingsleynewseditor@gmail.com								
Treasurer	Heather Jones - Tel: 788104								
Bookings/Secretary	Heather Hayes - Tel: 788494								
Council Members elected	Vic Wodhams, Carol Rowlands, Anne Kavanagh (In addition, one representative from each affiliated group supports the committee)								
Printing: Simon Batey; Printing Support: Jane Wodhams; Distribution Co-ordinator: Carol Rowlands									

Kingsley Community Centre: Regular Weekly Classes										
Tai Chi	Monday	10.30am to 11.30am	liverpooltaichi@gmail.com							
Gentle Yoga	Monday	6.15pm to 7.30pm	helenjanetwoodcock@gmail.com							
Pilates	Tuesday	12pm to 1pm	dickienad@yahoo.co.uk							
Karate	Tuesday	6pm to 7pm	dan@kenshinryu.co.uk							
Yoga	Tuesday	7.30pm to 8.30pm	bjerkan@hotmail.co.uk							
Gentle Exercise	Wednesday	11am to 12noon	helenjanetwoodcock@gmail.com							
Yoga	Wednesday	7.30pm to 8.30pm	will@yogaandhealingcheshire.co.uk							
HiiT	Thursday	6.30pm to 7.30pm	info@alutotraining.com							

Community Centre Standard Hire Charges	Whole Centre	The Hall	Club Room	Green Room	
Friday or Saturday Evening 6pm to 11pm	£90	£50	£45	£45	
Sunday to Thursday Evening 6pm to 11pm	£60	£40	£30	£30	
Sunday to Friday 8am to 12 pm or 1pm to 5pm	£45	£30	£20	£20	
Saturday 8am to 12pm or 1pm to 5pm	£50	£35	£25	£25	
8:00am to 11pm (All Day)	£150	£90	£75	£75	

Rooms can be hired for an hourly rate of £15 per hour.

There is a standard charge of £35 per session for the provision of the bar.

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the March 24 edition of Kingsley News,

On this bright morning in late February, it feels like spring is arriving. Daffodils are out in the village, and road closure signs are out all around the village. Could there be some pot hole repairs taking place, or are the verges being prepared for more horticultural delights? Or am I yearning for those halcyon times from long ago, with their fine spring and summer days, whilst we all leisurely drove around at 20mph due to the plagues of loose chippings applied to our roads!

It's lovely this month to welcome some new advertisers and also the return of Kingsley Book Club to the pages of Kingsley News. A special famous authors crossword is included too.

We also have a brand new story - 'The Horseshoe Forge' ... check it out. I think the author will be big news in the coming months!!

And finally, don't put the Kingsley News down until you have read the letter to the Prime Minister. I imagine many of you will support their views.

Best Wishes Steve

I hope you continue to enjoy reading this edition and please do give feedback too. Please, don't forget that Kingsley News is also available in digital format on the Kingsley village website, www.kingsleyvillage.co.uk.

We want your input!

Do you have story to tell?

or
a review of a show?

or
some poetry to share?

Then please contact the Kingsley News Editor kingsleynewseditor@gmail.com



Photos/Articles for the newsletter to be sent to the Editor at kingsleynewseditor@gmail.com

Copy deadline the 21st of the month.



KINGSLEY WALKERS



No Wuss in Boots

After our excursion and walk around Chester in early January the long walk on the 23rd reverted to our more usual cross-country fare. In fact, it was a tad longer than normal at just under 10 miles, though there was a clear offer to keep to a shorter plan. It must reflect the hardy nature of those who venture out in January that it was a unanimous choice for the extension.

We mostly avoided any long muddy patches using good, local paths through Delamere Forest, alongside the Tarmac Crown Farm Sand Quarry, through Stoneyford and Gallowsclough. We stopped for our packed lunches not far from Finger Post Farm near Norley. Andrew, the walk leader, gave us a fascinating account of the use of the derelict structures that we sat amongst.

Apparently between their building in 1950 and decommission around 1955 stood a battery of 5.25 inch anti-aircraft guns, complete with their own generators, ammunition stores and command post. Directed from an operations room at Frodsham the four guns (along with those from other linked sites) could each fling 7-8, 36 kg shells a minute up to 22 kilometres against potential Soviet bombers attacking Liverpool.

On February 13th we headed for Marbury for a very level saunter around the country park. We covered 5 miles but my phone mapping software recorded a combined ascent of only 16 metres, that must be some sort of record, especially as it included footbridges over the canal. Unfortunately, whilst there were no starling murmurations, any murmurings about the forecast rain also proved misplaced and it was a very pleasant walk. A piano has been placed near the car park and, on our return, someone was tinkling on it in the nicest possible way. Most of us then proceeded to the Spinner and Bergamot in Comberbach for an enjoyable pub lunch.

Kingsley Walkers has an interesting programme and welcomes new members with companionable and non-extreme resolutions for exercise in 2024 (contact kingsleywalkerswa6@gmail.com).



♥ Tarvin, Cheshire

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"Stories are wild creatures", the monster said.
"When you let them loose, who knows what havoc they might wreak?"

Kingsley Players Youth Theatre perform 'A Monster Calls' 14 – 16 March 2024

Don't miss Kingsley Players' award winning Youth Theatre, who will be back on stage in March, with a brilliant adaptation of Patrick Ness's bestseller, 'A Monster Calls'.

Thirteen-year-old Conor and his mum are struggling... his mum is sick, his grandmother won't stop interfering and kids at school won't look him in the eye. Then one night, Conor is woken by a sound at his window. A monster has come walking. It's come to tell Conor tales from when it walked before. And when it's finished, Conor must tell his own story and face his own deepest fears.

For the first time, the group will be accompanied by live music provided by a trio of keyboard, bass and drums, which adds drama and poignancy to the performance.

Youth Theatre director Tom Hayes said: "We are really looking forward to staging A Monster Calls - it promises to be our most ambitious production yet. There is something in this enchanting show for everyone; live music, puppets, projection, and the retelling of beautiful folk tales. Please join us for what will be a powerful storytelling experience."

This month Kingsley Players Youth Theatre is also celebrating success with last year's drama, 'Model Behaviour'. The group has just walked away with three trophies from the recent local NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) awards ceremony, with 'Best Drama', 'Best Actor' wins for Iona Anstice, Ed Porter and 'Best Supporting Actor' nominations for Kate Burge and Teigan Withey.



L to R: Kate Burge, Teigan Withey, Ed Porter, Iona Anstice.

'A Monster Calls' will be on stage at Kingsley Theatre in Kingsley Community Centre, WA6 8ED, from Thursday 14 – Saturday 16 March. Tickets cost £10 and can be booked online www.kingsleyplayers.co.uk or by ringing the box office on 07724 892154.

Kingsley Youth Theatre is kindly sponsored by Forresters, Kingsley Parish Council, Frodsham and Helsby Rotary.

Kingsley St John's **CE Aided** Primary School



We made our radio debut as the featured school on Dee radio's 'School of the Week'. You can still catch our podcast:



Kingsley St John's CE Aided **Primary School**



@ksjceaided



https://Dee.1063.com/on-air/podcastn-air/podcasts/school-of-the-week3/



Our Falcons were out and about in our local community, helping the Woodland trust plant 215 trees in Frodsham Woods to improve our green spaces.

In January we celebrated our Ofsted report, we continue to be a 'good' school. The inspectors were impressed with our ambitious curriculum, high expectations for pupil's achievement and the welcoming, nurturing feel of the school. You



can read the full report here: https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/21/111317



01244738434



Hollow Lane, Kingsley, Cheshire, WA6 8EF.



admin@kingsley-st-johns.cheshire.sch.uk

THE HORSESHOE FORGE: A TALE OF FIRE AND IRON



In the heart of Kingsley, nestled between the rolling hills and the babbling River Weaver, stood the Horseshoe Forge—a place where fire danced with iron, and the clang of hammer against anvil echoed through the village. The forge was more than a workshop; it was a sanctuary for dreams, a haven for secrets, and the domain of an old blacksmith named Flias Hawthorn.

Elias was a man of few words, his face etched with wrinkles like the grooves in the horseshoes he crafted. His hands, once strong and sinewy, now bore the scars of countless years at the forge. The villagers whispered that Elias had made a pact with the ancient spirits of the anvil, granting him unmatched skill in shaping metal. But Elias paid no heed to such tales; he simply worked, day in and day out, tending to the needs of horses and the whims of fate.

The Horseshoe Inn, just along the cobbled street, was Elias's second home. Its wooden sign swung in the breeze, depicting a sturdy horseshoe against a backdrop of ale foam. The innkeeper, Maggie, knew Elias well. She'd pour him a pint of stout, and he'd sit by the hearth, nursing his drink as if it held the secrets of the universe.

One chilly evening, as the sun dipped below the horizon, casting long shadows over the forge, a stranger arrived. His cloak was tattered, and his eyes held a haunted glimmer. Elias squinted at the man, recognizing the look—the same one he'd seen in soldiers returning from war. The stranger introduced himself as Gideon, a wanderer seeking refuge.

"Can you mend a broken soul?" Gideon asked, his voice raw.

Elias nodded, stoking the forge's flames. "I've mended many things in my time—hooves, ploughs, hearts. What ails you?"

Gideon unclasped a leather pouch, revealing a twisted horseshoe—the remnants of a shattered dream. "This belonged to my father," he said. "He was a blacksmith too, once. But war took him, and this horseshoe is all that remains."

Elias studied the broken metal. "A horseshoe carries luck," he said. "When it shatters, so does the path it once guided."

Gideon's eyes pleaded. "Can you fix it?"

The old blacksmith hesitated, then nodded. "But it won't be the same. It'll bear the weight of your father's absence."

And so, Elias worked through the night, hammering the horseshoe back together. He whispered ancient words, invoking the spirits of fire and iron. As dawn painted the sky, the horseshoe gleamed anew—a mosaic of scars and resilience.

Gideon wept, clutching the mended horseshoe. "Thank you," he said. "You've given me more than iron. You've given me hope."

Elias watched as Gideon left, the horseshoe tucked close to his heart. The forge seemed warmer that day, as if the spirits approved of Elias's work. He wondered if he'd truly mended a horseshoe or stitched together two fractured souls—the living and the departed.

From then on, Elias became known as the Keeper of Broken Luck. Villagers sought him out, bringing their shattered dreams, their fractured hearts. And each time, Elias worked his magic, infusing the mended objects with a piece of his own spirit.

As for Gideon, he returned to the Horseshoe Inn, where Maggie poured him a pint. He hung the horseshoe above the hearth, a testament to resilience and the old blacksmith's art.

And so, the Horseshoe Forge continued its quiet existence, its flames dancing, its anvil singing. Elias Hawthorn remained at his post, shaping destiny one horseshoe at a time, knowing that sometimes, the cracks were where the light got in.

And if you listen closely on moonlit nights, you might hear the spirits whisper: "Forge your luck, mend your heart, for Elias's fire burns eternal."

This story has been written by Artificial Intelligence (AI), Microsoft CoPilot - in about 60 seconds! Take care in believing what you read!



TENNIS COACHING PROGRAMME March - April 2024

JUNIORS

LTA Youth Orange/Green (Age 8-10) - Saturdays 1-2pm - £7 Per Session - Beginning 9th March for 6 Weeks

ADULTS

Beginner - Mondays 6.30-7.30pm - £7 Per Session - Beginning 4th March for 6 Weeks

Team Training - Intermediate - Mondays 7.30-8.45pm - £7 Per Session - Beginning 4th March for 6 Weeks

Cardio Tennis - Saturdays 3-4pm - £5 Per Session - Beginning 2nd March for 7 Weeks

To book onto any of the above courses go to
www.clubspark.Ita.org.uk/KingsleyTennisClub/Coaching
Pay as you go available on all courses
If you would like further information on any of the above courses please contact
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VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY



I have been incredibly fortunate to secure a series of bucket collections as part of a Charity of The Year Partnership between ourselves 'Alzheimer's Society' and 'Run Cheshire'. I have provided the dates and times that we require volunteers. Also, I would like to state that it isn't mandatory to do all the bucket collections, even if you can just help with one, it would be appreciated.

Cheshire Elite 10K-

Location: Kingsley Date:24th March 2024 Time TBC

Mid Cheshire 5K-

Location: Kingsley Date: 26th April 2024 Needed at-6:15pm until 9:00pm

Mid Cheshire 5K

Location: Kingsley Date: 23rd August 2024 Needed at 6:15pm until 9:00pm

Please, email Jess.Mackenzie@alzheimers.org.uk if you can support with these bucket collections.



Thank you to all who attended the quiz night.
You raised over £800



'Hi - I'm Lisa and I'm running the London Marathon this April with the aim to raise over £3000 for the The British Heart Foundation Society. If anyone wishes to donate to this amazing charity then please do so by scanning the QR code



Rwanda, We the People... disagree

REPRINTED FROM METHODIST NEWS, February 2024

With growing frustration at the Prime Minister referring to plans to remove asylum seekers to Rwanda as being "The Will of the People"; Hurst Methodist Church in Kingsley, Cheshire has decided to challenge the government's rhetoric.

Hurst Methodist has been raising money to help the migrants being supported at the nearby Halton Trinity Chapel in Runcorn. "Some of us felt a deep sense of unease about the policy towards refugees. We were also concerned by the phrase used by the Prime Minister that they were pursuing 'The Will of the People'," says John Leach, Treasurer at Hurst Methodist. "Following discussions with others, it turns out that there were many who shared the view that the way migrants are discussed is unchristian and uncharitable.

"We put a proposal forward to our church council that we should write to the Prime Minister expressing our concerns about the policy and the language, and everyone supported it. Everybody." continued John.

"The letter went through a couple of drafts before we sent it off to the Prime Minister, copying in Mike Amesbury - the MP for Weaver Vale, Tom Pursglove MP, Minister for Legal Immigration, and Michael Tomlinson MP, Minister for Illegal Immigration."

The text of the letter -

"We "The People" who are members of the Hurst Methodist Church, Kingsley, Cheshire object to your assertion that in enacting the 'Rwanda Bill' you are pursuing "The will of the people". In respect of ourselves it is untrue. Today at our Church Council we have adopted, unanimously, the following memorandum of which we trust you will take note.

"We, members of the Hurst Methodist Church in Kingsley, Cheshire are dismayed that the many and frequent statements from our Christian leaders demanding a change of direction in respect of immigration policy have been ignored.

It is our opinion that current policies are callous and cruel. They betray all Christian principles that form our country's traditional values and of which we have been justly proud.

In a world of war and climate change it is necessary to cooperate internationally to find solutions that are compassionate and just. Disregarding human rights and denying agreed international conventions that we have signed up to, disgraces this government and shames us, in whose name they act."

The Church Council Hurst Methodist Church Kingsley, Cheshire

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We are part of the United Benefice of Norley, Crowton and Kingsley with Alvanley and Manley

Services in March 2024

Sunday 3rd March

10.00 am Holy Communion at Norley6.30 pm Sacred Space at Crowton

Sunday 10th March - Mothering Sunday

10.00 am Holy Communion at Crowton 6.00 pm - 2nd Sunday @ 6 – at NCK Centre, Norley

Sunday 17th March

10.00 am Holy Communion at Kingsley

Sunday 24th March - Palm Sunday

8.30 am Holy Communion at Crowton (BCP) 10.00 am Holy Communion at Alvanley

Thursday 28th March – Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm - Holy Communion at Kingsley

Friday 29th March - Good Friday

10.00 am Family Interactive Service at Norley Followed by Drinks and Hot Cross Buns11.00 am Readings and Reflections at Alvanley2.00 pm Readings and Reflection at Crowton

Sunday 31st March - Easter Day

10.00 am Easter Holy Communion at Norley, Crowton, Kingsley and Alvanley

We wish everyone a Blessed and Peaceful Easter

Mid-week Holy Communion all at 10.00 am

7th March at Crowton 14th March at Kingsley 21st March at Norley

Associate Minister Revd. Hilary Merrington Tel: 01928 788087

Email: hilary.merrington@btinternet.com Church website www.nck.org.uk

Worship at The Hurst Methodist Church

March 2024

Sunday 3rd March

8.30am Holy Communion led by Revd D Copley10am Morning Worship led by Mrs E Holmes

Sunday 10th March

10am Morning Worship led by Revd P Levitt **Sunday 17th March**

10am Morning Worship led by Dr J Ford

Sunday 24th March Palm Sunday

10am Morning Worship led by Revd C Truman

Sunday 31st March Easter Day

10am Holy Communion led by Revd C Heald

A warm welcome awaits all who wish to attend.

We are anxious the most vulnerable of our community feel safe, so ask that you please do not attend if you have cold or flu symptoms.

Feel free to wear a mask if you wish



KINGSLEY PRAYER DIARY



Each week of the year Christians in Kingsley pray specially for people in a different area of the village and its surroundings. During February we think of, and pray for people living in: -

W/c Mar 3rd Newton Hollows and

Hatcheries

W/c Mar 10th Newton/Hillfoot and Old

Hall Lane

W/c Mar 17th Kingswood

W/c Mar 24th Meeting House Lane/

Offalpits Lane

W/c Mar 31st Norley Road

We invite you to add your own prayers

Coffee and Chat

Please come and join us each **Tuesday morn 10am** at the Hurst Methodist

Church

For 'Coffee and Chat', meet old friends and new.



You will be most welcome.



They're back- two of our pre lock down favourites – please come and join Us

Tea at 2.30 – Thursday, 21st March 2024 at 2.30pm at The Hurst meeting room for tea / cake

Men's Brunch – Friday, 22nd March 2024 at 10.30am at The Hurst meeting room for bacon / sausage bap

Whilst we normally meet on the last Thursday and Friday of the month, the above dates are changed because of EASTER.

Please come and join us.

A Closed Mouth Gathers no Foot

Not long ago I went to an 'am-dram' performance of 'The Mikado' (yes, maybe you're singing tunes from it already!) This musical is so well known virtually everyone who attends must know what is coming next... not always a good thing when particular notes were about to be (almost) reached... I was silently begging 'don't do it, don't go there!' TOO LATE – the deed was done and there was a tangible unsettling in the audience as worse was definitely to come! But in all it was enjoyable - how could Gilbert & Sullivan not be so???

In the foyer after the performance some of the players were meeting with friends and I overheard one 'friend' very ungraciously criticizing several of the cast... who were visibly diminished by the onslaught.

Was that necessary? Was that fair? They were a group of enthusiastic G&S advocates who had rehearsed and taken trouble over their presentation. No, it wasn't the best, but did it deserve such upfront derision? Indeed not – the profits were going to a cancer charity and some of the cast were themselves sufferers of the disease.

Why do we need to pick holes in other people – instead of looking for the good bits, the positive things? Instead of instantly jumping on others' failings why don't we seek out the creative and the affirming?

There is the saying to THINK before we speak

T = is it True?
H= is it Honest?
I= is it Inspiring?
N= is it Necessary?
K=is it Kind?

Children can be forgiven for their directness and lack of tact and feeling in what they say but, as we grow up, we can learn to be more circumspect. Something once said is like squeezing out toothpaste – as it can't be put back in the tube so hasty words cannot be retracted no matter how much of an apology follows.

Ultimately, we will answer for the things we have said in our lifetime (Matthew 12:37) or to put it in Gilbert & Sullivan's terms 'God's got a little list, and no-one shall be missed, yes no-one shall be missed!' So, speak well!

Revd. Jane Parry



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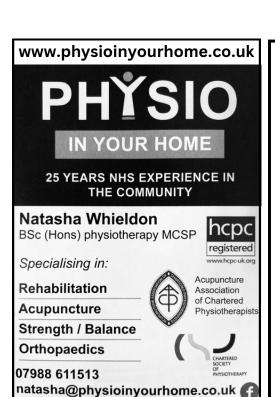
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Kingsley News Review by Zora Castling



It may have been a grey January outside, but the Kingsley Community Centre was filled with colour and light when Nursey Rhyme Land came to life for the five performances of this year's pantomime. "Mother Goose", written by local personality, Arnold Ashbrook and directed by Jo Oultram, had all the ingredients for a cracking

panto!



Every pantomime needs a larger-than-life Dame and William Shardlow certainly provided the essential ingredients as Mother Goose. His flamboyant and numerous colourful costumes provided by the masterful Joan Barker and her team amplified Mother Goose's stage presence. In contrast, the dark and sinister appearance of Sir Jasper Skiddlefint (played by Neil Silcock) roused the audience into enthusiastic boos and hisses. A panto has to have a nasty villain supported by two comic henchman and this production had them all. Added to the mix was a potential love match between the Man on the Moon and Little Bo Peep. Bo Peep never did find her lost sheep but the flock certainly provided her with a run of sheepish puns and tongue twisters to the delight of the audience. Equally entertaining was the eggsellent clutch of eggscruciating egg jokes from Skiddlefint's Chancellor of the Eggschequer who was determined to eggstract eggstortionate taxes from Mother Goose and claim her daughter for his own. Fortunately, panto magic produced Gertrude, the goose who laid the Golden egg, waddled perfectly and saved the day. The enthusiasm and talent of the whole cast, ranging from the youngest at 6 years old to the more senior members of the cast carried the performance with pace and vitality. The choreography, catchy tunes and memorable soloists accompanied by the talented musicians were a credit to them all. Of course, every production is a team effort and this entertaining panto was only possible with the contributions of all the dedicated members of the Kingsley Players, both on and behind the stage.



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KINGSLEY

BOOK CLUB



The Kingsley Book Club met in February to discuss our thoughts on 'The Marriage Portrait' by Maggie O'Farrell.

A NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER • From the author of the breakout bestseller Hamnet—winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Women's Prize—an electrifying new novel set in Renaissance Italy, and centering on the captivating young duchess Lucrezia de Medici in Florence in the 1550s.

Overall we enjoyed the book, even though some historical facts had been changed to fit in with the modern fairytale\crime fiction. Our long discussion ranged from the brutally of the time to imprisonment of both animals and people regardless of their class. At the end we were treated to a reading of Robert Browning's poem 'My Last Duchess' which inspired the writing of the book. The poem is way darker in tone than the book which left us all thankful for being modern women.

At our next meeting on the 7th March we will be discussing 'The Young Accomplice' by Benjamin Wood.

We meet at Kingsley and Newton Village Institute on a Thursday evening (usually the first Thursday of each month). If you would like more details, please contact me on janet.owen10@outlook.com

Norley Wednesday Group

Meets at Norley Village Hall each Wednesday 2pm

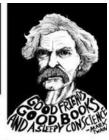
We have a varied programme of Speakers / Singing Groups / Bands / Exercises / Bingo sometimes.

Coach Trips. Meals out.

Everyone is welcome. Do come along and join us.













FAMOUS AUTHORS







CROSSWORD

Across

- 2) The Three Musketeers [9, 5]
- 5) Frankenstein [4, 7]
- 8) Doctor Zhivago [5, 9]
- 10) David Copperfield [7, 7]
- 11) The Catcher in the Rye [1, 1, 8]
- 14) Ulysses [5, 5]
- 16) Anna Karenina [3, 7]
- 19) Moby-Dick [6, 8]
- 20) To Kill a Mockingbird [6, 3]
- 21) Les Miserables [6,4]

Down

- 1) The Good Earth [5, 1, 4]
- 3) Crime and Punishment [6, 10]
- 4) Don Quixote [6, 2, 9]
- 6) The Red Badge of Courage [4, 5]
- 7) The Old Man and the Sea [6, 9]
- 9) The Scarlet Letter [9, 9]
- 10) Jayne Eyre [9, 6]
- 12) 1984 [6, 6]
- 13) Gulliver's Travels [8, 5]
- 14) Paradise Lost [4, 6]
- 15) The Grapes of Wrath [4, 9]
- 17) The War of the Worlds [1, 1, 5]
- 18) The Picture of Dorian Gray [5, 5]

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that in Methodist chapels, on any Sunday of the year, worship can be led by a non-ordained person known as a Local Preacher?

You don't have to be an ordained minister to preach in any church. Local preachers are lay people who, from the earliest days, have served Methodism as pastors, evangelists and preachers.

In the main they conduct services within 'Circuits' (Methodist geographical areas) in which they live, working alongside full time stipendiary ministers.

All will have received professional training, and in recent years there has been a requirement that they regularly review their 'calling', and participate in a programme of continuing development.

Among famous people who were at one time local preachers are:

- Lord David Blunkett (who has been blind since birth) who was Home secretary in Tony Blair's government;
- Sir David Frost, TV host, writer and journalist and
- Paul Daniels, magician and entertainer. His first preaching appointment was at his youth club in Normandy Road Methodist Chapel near Middlesborough.

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KINGSLEY GARDEN CLUB



Our next meeting is on Monday, 11th March 2024 at 8pm when our speaker will the Rev Lucy Brewster will talk to us about Foxhill Arboretum.

Rev Lucy is relatively new to Foxhill and has met with considerable challenges in taking on this old Arboretum. The plans and evolution after significant storm damage are the subject of this talk and a great opportunity to learn more about gems on our own doorstep.

Foxhill House and its immediate grounds belong to the Chester Diocese and is used as a Retreat and Conference Centre. It is set in approximately 70 acres of Cheshire woodland which incorporates an arboretum containing several species of rare plants and trees and a garden. Part of the site is a designated area of outstanding natural woodland. The vistas from the crest of the wood take in the Mersey Estuary and the Welsh Clwydian Hills.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings and it costs £4 – why not come along and find out more?

We look forward to seeing you at The Community Centre on 11th March 2024 at 8pm.



Kingsley Garden
Club now has its
own Facebook
page. If you wish,
you can follow the
notices and news
this way.



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KINGSLEY PARISH COUNCIL



The Parish Council meeting was held on Tuesday 20th February 2024, at the Kingsley Community Centre. Two members of the public were present, and made representations regarding a current planning application that is going through the process. The Chair and Proper Officer duly noted the comments for the record.

The wildflower meadows are due to be seeded in the coming weeks, one meadow has been chemically treated to try and reduce the grasses that overwhelmed the wildflowers last year, whilst the other meadow has been left as a control to see if there is any difference in the yield of wildflowers and grasses.

The Council is seeking quotations from contractors for the resurfacing of the path leading from the car park to the small children's (enclosed) play area. It was noted that the top coat surface had broken away over the years, and it has left a very patchy and uneven surface which could be a trip hazard and is not helpful to pushchairs and wheeled mobility aids. Subject to competitive pricing, it is hoped that this will be repaired this year. The Council will also address the very large dip on the circular path around the field in the area of the basket ball net. This appears to be caused by subsidence or the substructure being washed away. Once again when suitable competitive prices have been obtained, the Council will appoint a contractor to undertake the work of relaying this small section of the path.

The Council is looking to install two new benches in the cemetery later this year, these are part funded by our Borough Councillors. The Council is also seeking to appoint a Structural Engineer to survey and inspect the Cemetery retaining wall bounding Hollow Lane. This is being undertaken as part of the Council's Due Diligence works, which seeks to ascertain the condition and suitability of Council Assets. If required, any issues that arise will be addressed before they fail, or, become a hazard / liability. Once the survey is completed the Council will make known the findings.

KINGSLEY PARISH COUNCIL



The Council also discussed a proposal to undertake a phased replacement of the village "Welcome to Kingsley" entrance signs on the side of the highway. Those in question would be; at both ends of Hollow Lane/ Mill Lane, Delamere Road and Norley Road. This replacement would be undertaken over a number of years, and would have to be with prior permission of CWaC. It was felt that more modern signage would enhance the appearance of the village. This is very much at concept stage and no decisions have been taken, and no approaches as yet to CWaC. What are you views? Do you have an opinion?, if so let us know.

Finally, after having such a fantastic turn out of members of the community at the recent Community Orchard planting, and the views expressed by people that they would like to be part of more "Community orientated" projects; the Council is considering a "Village Spring Clean". Whilst the Council has a number of thoughts / projects it would like to see undertaken, we would like to know from the Community what "Top 5" projects would you like to see done and would be willing to be part of undertaking. So here is your chance. Please let the Council know either by; email, posting on our website, the Village Facebook page, or letter to the Parish Clerk (delivered by hand through the letter box at the Boardroom in the Cemetery). Please be prepared to take part in anything you propose. Please let us have your names and some contact details please and we will get back to you.

Contact Details for Kingsley Parish Council;

Kingsley Parish Council Website: www.kingsleyparishcouncil.org.uk Parish Clerk email address: parish.clerk@kingsleyparishcouncil.org.uk Mobile Number: 07483 157679

Kingsley Parish Council, The Boardroom, Kingsley Cemetery, Kingsley WA6 8EF



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