

April/May 2025

KINGTON ST MICHAEL NEWSLETTER

Funded by the Parish Council and distributed by village volunteers.

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NEWS FROM KINGTON ST MICHAEL COMMUNITY SHOP

We are very happy to have welcomed two new volunteers to our team. We often get asked what's it like being a volunteer in our shop, so here is a peek into 'A volunteer's life'.

A VOLUNTEER'S LIFE: "My regular 2-hour shift is usually first in the day, so at 8.45am, after unlocking and switching things on, I unpack any early morning deliveries – it could be milk and yoghurt, sandwiches or breads and cakes. Interspersed with that will probably be early morning customers – some looking for caffeine from energy drinks in cans from the soft drinks' fridge, or a takeaway coffee! That prompts me to give the coffee machine its daily clean – remembering to switch it off. I have cleaned the front of the machine in the past, without switching it off, and set it off delivering six consecutive macchiatos!! Bean to cup took on a new meaning for me at that point. Retrospectively it was quite funny, but feverishly stuffing cups underneath the spout was stressful ...until I engaged my brain and switched it off!



We have a diary in which everybody notes any incoming deliveries, or just general things we need to know, so I check that as soon as I can. We also write any nice comments that we get about the shop – there's one most days and they do give you a lift; it's heartwarming to know the shop is enjoyed and valued. I'm sure most volunteers feel a bit relieved that there's no big delivery planned for their shift, but if one comes in, we can put a call out in the WhatsApp group, and someone will usually come down and give a hand, if it's needed.

Next, it's watering the plants we sell and putting them outside - it's such a nice time of year now and the shop looks lovely with flowers outside. Checking over the fresh fruit and veg is next – squishy tomatoes are definitely not nice and if we are short of anything, our 'veg volunteer' tries to make sure we fill the gap that day, if we can. It's amazing how many bananas we sell in a week.

Then it's refilling the shelves. I'm always surprised at how quickly gaps appear – we have so many sorts of biscuits and chocolate, but everyone has their favourite and they like it to be on the shelves. Looking at our new product lines is always interesting; we have gifts on sale now - nice mugs, coasters, dried flowers and a new range of jewellery.

Occasionally, I'll do a shift that's not my regular one – then I am always grateful for the list of things to do on each shift that's helpfully stuck up for us. If you forget to order from Walter Rose, the next lunchtime there will be unhappy customers missing their sausage roll or pasty.

Chatting with customers is always a pleasant part of the shift. Of course, some people just want to come in, get their groceries and leave. But some of our customers enjoy the chance to exchange a few words and like to tell you who will receive the card or gift they are choosing. There are always new faces coming in and it's surprising how many visitors to the village pop in as they pass, looking for local honey or something else from the area to take home.

I enjoy my two hours in the shop – sometimes it's busy, sometimes it's quiet, but there's always something that needs doing. I've met a lot of new people and the team is very supportive - if I ever get stuck, I can just put a message out and someone will message with the answer."

Join Our Volunteer Team. If you'd like to get involved, whether behind the till or behind the scenes, we'd love to hear from you. If you'd like an informal chat, ring: Diane on 07768 053116, or email the shop on hello@kingtonstmichaelvillageshop.co.uk.

Kington St Michael Shop is open 8.45am-5pm on Monday-Saturday, extended to 6pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. We are opposite the village church, and you can park right outside.

Follow us at: Instagram@ksmvillageshop and Facebook@ Kington St Michael Village Shop Limited.

COMMUNITY PUB PROJECT

Easter is soon upon us, so why not buy one of the KSM mugs or Jolly Huntsman tankards - just pop in an Easter egg to make a great gift for your loved one. Mugs are £10 each & tankards are £25.

To get yours please contact Alex Hall on 01249 750602, alex.hall@kington-st-michael.com, or Linda Durno on 01249 750514, kingtonstmichael@btinternet.com.



TOM'S 100km RUN FOR ALZHEIMER'S RACE TO THE STONES 2025 - 12th to 13th JULY 2025

Tom Kimberley and his wife Nancy moved to our lovely village in October last year. Here is Tom's story....

Every 3 minutes dementia steals a happily ever after. Research is our only chance of changing the ending for people affected by dementia.

In July I will be running (with probably quite a lot of walking) the 100km Race to the Stones (Avebury standing stones) event to fundraise for Alzheimer's Research UK.



Dementia is something that has affected, and is still present, on both sides of my family and I would like to do a small part in aiding research into the disease. Those that suffer have their memories and who they are gradually erased until they find themselves living in a world where everyone around them becomes a stranger. It is not only those who are diagnosed who suffer but also the husbands, wives, children and grandchildren, who continue to care for those they love long after the person they once knew has faded away.

If you are able to give or donate anything it would be greatly appreciated:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/br-FZ7SA665JGU7-2025-race-to-the-stones?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Thank you 🙏



PROGRESSIVE SUPPER RESULTS

The recent progressive supper, held in the village in aid of the restoration of the church's Saxon porch, raised an amazing **£2,923.81**.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended and supported this wonderful event. Special thanks to the organisers, all the starter and main course hosts, everyone who kindly donated desserts and auction prizes, KSM club, Kington St Michael village Shop for selling tickets, and Gavin, as our wonderful auctioneer.

This event has been a village tradition for decades and it is heartening to see what a wonderful community event this continues to be.



SAVE THE DATE.....

FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW

Saturday 2nd August,

in the village hall

Now is the time to start planting and planning for this year's Flower and Produce Show. It's not just flowers and vegetables, but also other skills such as baking and crafts.

To find out more, pick up an entry schedule - available from the village shop now.



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DATES

Monday 19th May
Friday 18th July
Friday 26th September
Friday 21st November



The earlier submission dates in May and July are in order to facilitate printing at the village school.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Thursday 10th April, 7.30pm in the Village Hall
(this is not a Parish Council meeting)

All welcome - refreshments provided. This event, hosted by the Parish Council, is an opportunity for you to find out what's happening in our village, and for groups and organisations to give a report on their activities. The remainder of the agenda is flexible and is in the hands of parishioners in attendance.

What's on at Kington Café.....

April

Tuesday 1st: Private evening meal.

Monday 7th: Private lunch booking.

Saturday 12th: Open 9am-3pm, with Pizza Night from 5pm-8pm, available to eat in or takeaway.



Good Friday 18th April to Monday 21st April: Closed.

Sunday 27th: Open 10am-2pm. Serving breakfast until 11am. Sunday lunch is available from 12pm-2pm - pre booking is advised.

May

Saturday 10th: Open 9am-3pm with a reduced menu.

Saturday 17th: Open 9am-3pm, with Pizza night from 5pm-8pm, available to eat in or takeaway.

Sunday 25th: Open 10am – 2pm. Serving breakfast until 11am. Sunday lunch available from 12pm-2pm - pre booking is advised.

Tuesday 27th – Wednesday 28th: Closed.

Thursday 29th – Saturday 31st: Open 9am-3pm with a reduced menu.

Follow us on Facebook/ Instagram for additional updates.

Email: orders@kington-cafe.co.uk

Telephone: 01249 750212 / 07369 232934



KINGTON CLUB



APRIL

Saturday 12th April: Live music - Bottle of Dog returns to the club from 8.30pm.

Saturday 26th April: Quiz Night (please note this has moved to the 4th Saturday of the month due to the clash with Easter Weekend).

MAY

Saturday 17th May: Quiz Night - returning to its regular Saturday night.

In House Skittles: Every Wednesday at 8pm. Everyone is welcome to come and join in.

Friday Feast: Every Friday from 5.30pm - 8.30pm; eat in or takeaway.

The Club committee is always looking for new volunteers to join the Entertainment Committee. If you'd like to get involved and help with the selection and organisation of the events the club holds, please do get in contact: kismclub_official@outlook.com

Parish Council Minutes

Would you like to keep up to date with what your Parish Council is doing? Copies of the minutes can be found on the village website, or www.kingtonstmichaelparishcouncil.gov.uk/documents_category/minutes/

St Michael & All Angels Church

Everyone at St Michael & All Angels Church would like to say a huge thank you to all those who organised, hosted, donated and attended the brilliant progressive supper. We are extremely grateful for all the hard work that went into the evening and for the support to help keep our beautiful porch intact.

Please join us to celebrate Easter in church, at our all-age worship at KSM school on Good Friday, or at any of our services. You will be welcomed at any time to join the services and enjoy the peace of our beautiful church and churchyard. We wish you all the joy and blessings of Easter.

April

Sunday 6th April: Morning Praise, 9.30am.

Palm Sunday (13th April): Holy Communion, 9.30am.

Good Friday (18th April): All Together @ Easter, 10am at Kington St Michael School; informal all ages worship with music and activities followed by a Walk of Witness down to church for an Easter egg hunt, hot cross buns and hot chocolate. Join us for as long or short a time as you like.

Easter Day (Sunday 20th April): Holy Communion, 9.30am.

May

Sunday 4th May: Morning Praise, 9.30am.

Sunday 11th May: Holy Communion, 9.30am.

Thursday 22nd May: Holy Communion, 10am.

Sunday 25th May: AllTogether@4 - all ages worship with music, activities and refreshments, 4pm at Bybrook School, Yatton Keynell. Optional Holy Communion at 5.30pm.

The Annual Vestry meeting to appoint Churchwardens will be held in the church at 7pm on Monday 28th April, followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.



PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS THURSDAY 1st MAY 2025 – WHY NOT JOIN THE PARISH COUNCIL?

Kington St Michael has an allocation of nine Parish Councillors, all of whom must step down before the elections on Thursday 1st May - would you like to be one of the councillors on our new council? Stand for Your Community: Become a Parish Council Candidate!

Are you passionate about making a difference in our local community? Do you have ideas and a vision for the future of Kington St Michael? Now is your chance to step up and make a real impact! We need dedicated and enthusiastic individuals to stand as candidates for the local parish council. This is a fantastic opportunity to represent your neighbours, voice their concerns, and help shape the future of our village and surrounding area.

Why Stand for the Parish Council?

- Make a Difference: Influence decisions that affect our community.
- Be a Voice: Represent the interests and needs of your fellow residents.
- Gain Experience: Develop valuable skills in leadership, communication, and problem-solving.
- Build Connections: Work with like-minded individuals and local organisations.



How to Apply:

1. Visit Wiltshire Council's Local Elections webpage for more information and application forms.
2. Submit your application by **4pm on Wednesday 2nd April**.

Let's work together to create a vibrant and thriving Kington St Michael. Your community needs you!


To find out about what our council does and is responsible for please see the Parish Council page of the village website www.kingtonstmichael.com. To find out more about becoming a Parish councillor, please read "Local Elections 2025" (which also contains an application form) on the Local Information page of the village website, or contact our Parish Clerk, Viv Vines, (01249) 657695 or 07785 717665, ksmparishclerk@gmail.com. Nominations close at 4pm on Wednesday 2nd April.

For further information, please see Wiltshire Council's Local Elections webpage: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/local-elections.

PARISH COUNCIL FORTHCOMING MEETING DATES (all held in the Village Hall)

Thursday 17th April	7.15pm	Full Council Meeting
Thursday 15th May	7.15pm	Council's Annual Meeting
Thursday 15th May	7.30pm	Full Council Meeting (following the Annual Meeting)

Can you guess how many bananas the village shop sold in March? Enter the competition by writing your guess on the entry form below, then drop it into the box in the shop, and if you are correct you will win a free bunch of bananas!

<p>I think Kington St Michael village shop sold</p> <p>_____ bananas in March.</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone number _____</p> <p><i>Competition closes on 22/4/25.</i></p>	
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