



KINGS LANGLEY

Village News

ISSUE 36
JANUARY/FEBRUARY
2024

£2 flat fee to park for a few minutes in our High Street?

Business owners and residents have responded angrily to the news that parking on the High Street could soon be subject to charges.



PHOTO MONTAGE - BARRY KEMP



High Street parking meters – what do you think? *

A public consultation scheduled for February will inform the final decision on the plan to force visitors to pay a flat fee of £2 from 7am until 10pm on all 53 parking bays in the High Street, for a maximum stay of two hours with no return within two hours.

It is feared the move proposed by the new Liberal Democrat administration will drive custom away from Kings Langley High Street and have a negative impact on local businesses.

One resident, who did not wish to be named, said 'I often pop into the village for emergency groceries, post a letter or to drop something at the charity shop but live too far to walk when I'm in a hurry – there's no way I'll do that if I have to pay £2 for the privilege. I'll go on to Sainsburys and save my other errands for when I'm nearer somewhere bigger like Berkhamsted and can make the most of the payment.'

Another added 'I understand this is something that's being rolled out across several other towns across Dacorum but I don't think a one size fits all approach is necessarily right. The two car parks in our village are already at capacity and this will absolutely not help the situation. Businesses have had to deal with rent rises recently so are already on the back foot there – anything which risks reducing custom could be catastrophic.'

Di Hewetson runs a pilates class at the Baptist church hall in The Nap and those attending often report struggles to park. She said 'People find it difficult to park in the free car park in The Nap because it is already full up and so they often use the side residential roads. If these are full too then any parking restrictions could affect my classes. Sometimes we go up to the High Street en masse for a coffee after class which would not work so well if parking charges and

time restrictions are added to the High Street.'

The car parks in The Nap and on Langley Hill are exempt from parking charges as the land on which they are situated was donated to the village on the understanding it remained free to use.

Businesses have also given their reaction to *Village News*, with all vehemently against the move. Jeff Folkins, who runs Dalling & Co Wine Merchant, called it 'a completely unacceptable, impractical and damaging plan' while Sian Turner from Home & Garden called the decision 'short-sighted'.

More comment on page 3...

*Express your own opinion! Look out for details of the consultation on the council homepage dacorum.gov.uk from early February...

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In memory of Alan Roberts

Alan Roberts had two loves in his life - his family and football, and he loved both with an infectious, heart warming and full-blooded enthusiasm. As Honorary Vice President of Kings Langley Football Club he held a number of roles over the years and was instrumental in the growing success of youth football at the club.

A representative from the football club said 'Alan's immense contribution to the club can never be underestimated. The club will be forever in his debt. Alan touched many lives in his all too brief time with us, and for those of us who were privileged to enjoy his friendship, there will always be a special place for him in our hearts.'

Alan was a familiar figure around the village where he had lived for over 30



Alan in his Watford football strip

years, endlessly cheerful and chatty to everyone he met.

Derry Edgar, Kings Langley FC secretary, said 'I've known Alan as a friend and colleague for over 40 years and I know I speak for everyone at Kings Langley Football Club and the wider football community when I say the world is a poorer place for the parting of a man admired and respected by so many.

'Alan's love and dedication to local football was second only to the love

of his family. He was a huge influence on the football club's youth section, serving with unstinting commitment as both manager and fixtures secretary during the club's fledgling years. I, and many others whose lives he touched so warmly, will miss him hugely as a true friend.'

As Honorary Vice President, he served Kings Langley Football Club tirelessly over a number of years, always with his devoted wife, Sian and sons Aaron and Declan as his supporters. Alan's first wife Pat died in 2002 but he is survived by his twin sister Wendy, and half brother Wayne, while his older sister Linda passed away in 2022.

Village News contacts: All enquiries, articles, advertisements, and Prize Xword competition entries should be sent by email to kingslangleynews@gmail.com or by post to: The Editor, Kings Langley Village News, c/o Kings Langley Parish Council Charter Court, Vicarage Lane, Kings Langley, WD4 9HR
The next Village News will be published for March/April 2024 – copy and advertising deadline is Friday 15 February 2024.

In memory of Clive Swan 1949 – 2023

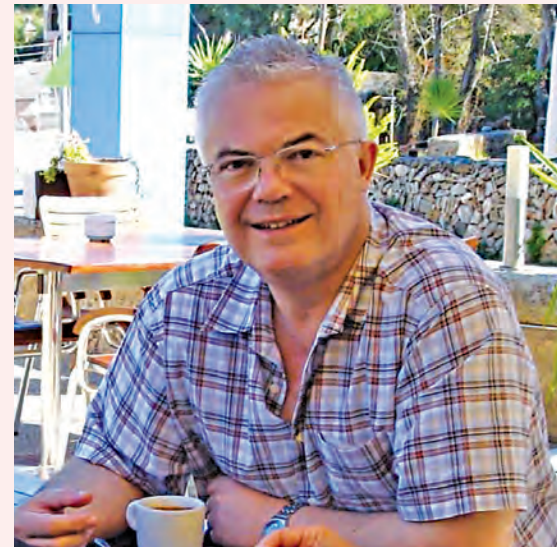
Clive had lived in Kings Langley since the early 1980s. His sudden recent passing leaves a hole in the world of amateur musical theatre. He will be remembered by the many people whose lives he touched, for his passion and love of music and musical theatre.

Clive joined Kings Langley Musical Theatre Company (KLMT) in 2005 as Musical Director for *My Fair Lady*. He was already well known for his talent not only as a pianist but also as a

Musical Director to many local theatre groups prior to this.

Clive had created his own cabaret group called Night People as well as playing the piano regularly at Sopwell House and working with Kings Langley Players (KLP) on their pantomimes. He stayed with KLMT for eighteen consecutive shows, his final show being *Hot Mikado* in 2023, and they paid tribute to him for his major contribution to their shows.

Clive sadly died at home in November 2023, following a short illness.





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High Street parking plan

'Unacceptable, impractical and damaging' say businesses

Jeff Folkins, Dalling & Co...

'We have long believed there should be a charge for parking on the high street and the two car parks, but on a graduating scale. Local council has always been opposed which has always left us bemused because we believe that a fair and reasonable parking charge system could really benefit the High Street and council coffers at the same time.'

'Claire and I advocate the system used in many towns and villages in which the first 30 minutes or hour is free with charging on an increasing scale from thereafter.'

'A sensible system would not deter shoppers from using the high street, but would discourage those who use the free parking as an all day option, especially the commuters that park in the car parks and then walk to the station.'

Sian Turner, Home & Garden...

'What are they trying to achieve? People will simply continue on to Sainsburys or the retail parks. Those stopping for a quick sandwich will be at risk of a ticket and no one will 'pop in' to the village. It's a total joke and I'm completely furious. I feel sad that those

like myself who are new to retail and the village are having their businesses put at risk and not given the best possible chance of success because of such a short sighted decision.'

'On top of this, a two hour limit on parking would be a death sentence for the restaurants, hairdressers and beauty places; it's unrealistic to think two hours is enough for an evening out or a hair appointment.'

Sue Hawkins, So Soft Designs...

'I am totally against the plan which is another way for the councils to claw monies in. It's hard enough competing with online business at the moment and this will be a nail in the coffin for the village. And, if the car parks are free, everyone will double park there, when it's bad enough at the moment as train travellers park there as it is so expensive to park at the station.'



Alan Anderson, Kings Langley Borough Councillor, lambasted the proposals...

'Whilst the new administration at Dacorum has arguably already made a right mess of parking charges policy across the Borough, it hadn't occurred to anyone that they would propose implementing parking charges in Kings Langley High Street, starting at £2.'

'Their focus had previously been on the two car parks in the village. Having found charges could not be introduced in one of the car parks which had a covenant, they blind-sided everybody by proposing charging in the High Street.'

'Having attended a Cabinet meeting to speak against this proposal, not least because of the direct and indirect damage caused by the last business rates hike, we argued this was the last thing our High Street needed. £2 is too much of an added charge for even the shortest of stays, e.g. to have a coffee or a haircut.'

'The legal consultation on the administration's proposals for parking charges will take place in February, and will be available from DBC's website homepage. We urge residents to take part in the consultation and will post a reminder to do so on Kings Langley Matters.'



Sian Turner



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Community Choir as busy as ever

The lead up to Christmas was a busy time for the Kings Langley Community Choir (pictured above). At the start of December they performed at the Christmas Lights Festival in Kings Langley High Street and a week later sang at All Saints Church in support of the Christmas Tree Festival.

Visitors to the festival enjoyed a fine display of Christmas trees decorated by local community groups, and were treated by the choir to two live performances of Christmas songs.

The final Christmas rendition took place at St James' Church Bushey with a programme including many of the numbers that had been sung at the previous two performances in Kings Langley such as *White Winter Hymnal*, *Mary Did You Know* and *Home for the Holidays*, all beautifully arranged by the choir's musical director Becca Wilkins. During the programme, the audience was invited to join in with traditional carols such as *Joy to the World* and *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*.

Rehearsals have begun for the 2024 season of performances, the first of which will be at the Beaconsfield Festival of Choirs on 2 March. The format involves 24 choirs performing in four concerts during the day, each singing two or three numbers in a set lasting around 10 minutes. At the end of each concert, the assembled choirs will be invited to sing a specially commissioned piece which this year is based on a classic poem by Rudyard Kipling called *Trees*.

The Community Choir is open to all. Rehearsals take place at the Baptist Church in the Nap every Tuesday evening at 7:30pm. Info at kingslangleychoir.co.uk.

New: All Saints Women's Group

A social group for women of all ages is being launched in the village for those seeking to engage in new activities and inter-generational socialising.

Launching in January and meeting on the fourth Wednesday of every month in All Saints church hall, the group is being run by local resident Jamie Brockhurst, who saw a gap in the market for this kind of group. There is already an exciting list of proposed activities including sketching classes, walking, quilting and even meditation.

A men's group already exists which, like the women's group, is open to all with no religious angle other than being inspired by the church's pledge to provide fellowship in the community.

Anyone wishing to join the Women's Group can email Jamie on jamie.brockhurst@hotmail.co.uk

Building work shuts library

The Community Library is set to close for at least eight weeks, beginning at the end of January, in order to replace the roof. After years of temporary repairs to the leaking roof, the decision has finally been made to replace the roof in its entirety.

The move means the doors will be closed to all members of the public for a minimum of two months, with a contingency of a further four weeks if poor weather or access to materials slows down the work.

Caroline Brankin, chairman of Kings Langley Community Library volunteer committee, said 'Although we are disappointed that we won't be able to provide our usual services we are also excited that our annual problems with leaks will finally end!

'We are very grateful for the support of our Parish Council who represented our library and the public's concerns to the County Council. This has resulted in an excellent outcome for the village.'

The library will update residents with dates of the closure and reopening via posters on the High Street noticeboard and on its Facebook page.

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Inspirational skipper reaches milestone

Kings Langley FC team captain Jorell Johnson (pictured below) made his 300th appearance for the club in their New Year's Day encounter with Ware.

Jorell, 28, joined The Kings in 2016 having come through the ranks at Watford FC. Ahead of the match he commented 'I am very proud to be able to reach this milestone at this special club. There aren't many players out there now who stay at clubs for long, so I'm proud to have stayed loyal.'

'The first half of this season has been good. Many teams are in the mix and fancying their chances of making the play-offs. Hopefully we can have a strong second half of the season and finish as high up the table as possible.'



Help support 'invisible' homeless people this winter

As temperatures plummet across Dacorum, DENS has launched an appeal to help local people facing homelessness this winter.

Many of those who find themselves homeless can trace their struggles back to childhood trauma. This trauma often sets off a chain reaction, leading to chaotic lifestyles, addiction, strained relationships and breakdowns in family dynamics.

Jodie's story is a prime example. From the age of 10, she was abused by a close family member. It had a devastating and lasting impact on her mental health. It affected her throughout her teenage and young adult years and, lacking the support she needed, she struggled to keep her job, pay her rent and keep a roof over her head.

DENS is asking residents of Dacorum to give a gift this winter, so that people like Jodie can have a warm bed, a hot meal and a chance to feel safe.

Wendy Lewington, DENS CEO, said 'Jodie is just one of the often invisible homeless people in our community that DENS is dedicated to supporting – providing not only immediate relief, such as shelter and warm meals, but also the long-term support and guidance needed to help rebuild their lives.'

'However, our ability to make a difference to Jodie's life relies on the generosity and support of our community.'

Donate now at www.dens.org.uk/ winter-appeal to help rebuild the lives of local people this winter.

If you are concerned about a rough sleeper in Dacorum, please call DENS on **01442 800131**. Alternatively, call Dacorum Borough Council on **01442 228000**, or visit www.streetlink.org.uk.

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Kings in the Community: Young Ref. courses

Recently, Kings Langley Football Club applied to the Trident Community Fund – a pot of money made available for community projects to clubs playing within the Trident Leagues – and are delighted to announce that their application was successful.

The project, which will launch this spring, will see the club offering grants of £135 to fund a number of FA Referee Level 1 courses for Kings Langley Youth Players aged 14 and above. If you are interested in applying for a grant from the project, please email communitykllfc@gmail.com

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Kings Langley WEA Adult Learning spring schedule

History

Henry VI – Joan of Arc. The Origins of the Wars of the Roses

Wednesdays 17 January to 6 March
9.30am to 11.30am. Online

WEA Tutor: Michael Long
Course no: Q00012281

Michael continues his exploration of the Plantagenets, with events of the early 14th Century, including the accession of King Henry VI at nine months of age, the emergence of Joan of Arc in France, and the seeds of conflict now known as Wars of the Roses

Fee: up to £51.80

Matilda, Henry and Eleanor of Aquitaine – The Troubles of Henry II

Mondays 19 February to 25 March 2024
9.30am to 11.30am. Online

WEA Tutor: Michael Long
Course no: Q00012281

This course is an exploration of the period in English history before, during and after the Civil War known as 'The Anarchy', considering the roles of some of the key players.

Fee: up to £44.40

Art Appreciation

Speaking Stone – Sculpture in the 18th century

Saturday 3 February 2024
2pm to 4pm
Kings Langley Community Centre

WEA Tutor: Madeline Edmead
Course no: Q00011699

Madeline describes this topic as 'an underrated aspect of fine art'. If you have ever been puzzled by grandiose and esoteric monuments and stonework from 18th century, this course promises to enlighten and enhance your understanding.

Fee: £8.40

WEA

Adult Learning Within Reach

To enrol or for information about all courses see www.wea.org.uk or telephone **0300 303 3464**

Art & Design in the Chilterns

Saturday 16 March 2024
2pm to 4pm
Kings Langley Community Centre

Tutor: Gordon Twemlow
Course no: Q00012255

The tutor is an experienced lecturer in art appreciation. He will be looking at 20th Century artists and craft workers in a variety of media, who have lived in or been inspired by the Chilterns.

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Kings Langley shined brightly this Christmas

The village once again lived up to its reputation for putting on a great show at Christmas, with the usual displays of beautiful lights, festive shop windows and plenty of carol singing opportunities.

This year's Parish Council Christmas Lights Festival enjoyed its usual mixture of rides, stalls, shops, entertainment, fireworks and, of course, a visit from Santa.

Santa's Little Helpers, aka volunteers from the cricket club, helped switch on all the lights while elves from 1st Apsley Scouts were doing sterling work at Santa's Grotto as the man himself greeted children of all ages.

'Many people work together to make this the pre-eminent Christmas event in the Borough,' said Councillor Alan Anderson. 'We are so lucky to have such a brilliant team to call upon every year to make it such a great event for the thousands of people who attend – and to keep their fingers crossed for decent weather.'



Above: This year Santa had another little helper to switch on the Christmas lights – MP Mike Penning, who is standing down at the next election having served Kings Langley for almost 20 years.



Left & below: There was fizz from Oscars and mulled wine at Dalling & Co. Santa was kept busy in his grotto whilst, on the main stage, the primary school choir sang their hearts out!



As always, the evening finished with a fantastic firework display in Green Park.



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Winners announced for 'Best Christmas Themed Window'



Cllr. Gerry Angiolini and MP Mike Penning were on hand to present the Atkins Award for Best Christmas Themed Window to Miranda and Grace at Sweet as a Button



PHOTO: BEVERLEY ROSS

The winner of the Best Christmas Themed Window, as judged by Carol Chandler, Chair of the Christmas Committee, was Sweet as a Button. The winners were delighted with their festive High Street display.

Runner up was Oscars and highly commended was The Lunch Box. Lunch Box, the Hospice of St Francis shop window winner was awarded £100 for a charity donation. Miranda Button chose DENS.

The annual Parish Council competition for the best Christmas Themed window was also conducted, with several entries running. Once again, 24 Belham Road and Village News lured residents out to see the displays alongside their creations.

Below: Oscars Pizza Co., the fun inflatables of The Lunch Box, Laines colourful window display and the Hospice Shop window now proudly showing their certificate

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Christmas Themed Window' and 'Best Resident's Display'

Christmas Themed Window
 Chair of the Carnival
 tton, who once again
 h Street display
 mended went to the
 and Laines and Co. The
 ty of their choice and

n for the best decorated
 aral new contenders in the
 d put on a splendid display
 into the rain to pose



PHOTOS: BARRY KEMP



Kings Langley Parish Council Residential Christmas Lights competition 2023 results

First place, winning £100 in Prize Money:

24 Belham Road

Second place, winning £100 in Prize Money:

38 Abbots Rise

Highly commended, awarded £20 each:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Silverstone Lodge, Love Lane | 45 Beechfield |
| 16 Five Acres | 33 Watford Road |
| 17 Chipperfield Road | 1 Riverside Close |
| 16 Meadow Way | 21 Rectory Lane |
| 9 Great Park | Conifers, Rucklers Lane |
| 25 Great Park | |

Clockwise from above: David Dunham, from 9 Great Park, was joined by a little festive friend to show off his reindeer-themed lighting. At 21 Rectory Lane Jackson, Leanne and young James were happy to model for us on their impressively lit steps. Both families were highly commended in the competition. The overall winners at Belham Road added to their previous year's colourful display to benefit from £100 in prize money.





PHOTO: CHRIS PETTIT

Traditional Christmas carols in the Village Garden

On 16 December about 100 people came together in Kings Langley Village Garden to sing traditional carols and hear again the Christmas story. From *Hark the Herald* to *Jingle Bells* and many others, adults and children fully entered into the spirit of the occasion.

The event, which was run by Christian Aid Kings Langley, raised £220 for the charity. Organisers extended their thanks to all who helped run the event, and to Dalling & Co. for supplying mince pies.

Christmas Tree Festival

All Saints staged their 6th annual Christmas Tree Festival in early December and were delighted to have 27 trees on display around the church for the weekend, sponsored and decorated by local businesses and organisations.

Organiser Carolyn Andrews told us 'We tried some new elements this year – we had live music on Saturday evening and the Community Choir singing amongst the trees on Sunday afternoon; plus we had a mini beer fest with real ales and cider on offer as well as the more traditional mulled wine and mince pies. Visitor numbers were up on 2022 so we were very happy with the results.'

The festival raised just over £3,000 which the church will share with several local charities.



PHOTO: CAROLYN ANDREWS

Above: This whimsical contribution from Kings Langley Allotments was voted 'Favourite Tree'



Carol singing with local schools in The Marlowes

Children from two local schools (above) delighted shoppers with their carol singing in The Marlowes on 15 December.

Nash Mills Church of England Primary School sang in the morning and The Divine Saviour Primary School, Abbots Langley, in the afternoon and with a mixture of traditional carols and modern songs brought joy to those who passed by.

Between them the pupils succeeded in raising £543 for Christian Aid's Christmas appeal.

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Amazing? It's Official!

As winter continues its chilly grip on the country and the warm, sunny weather of 2023 seems to be a distant memory, there is some fantastic news to warm the cockles of the hearts of everyone in the village. We are world record holders. How so?



Remember the bright sunshine back in June and the fun we had at the Kings Langley Carnival when we all sat down and attempted the World Record for the largest number of people dancing to *Oops Upside Your Head*? Well after pages and pages of evidence being submitted, months of waiting and numerous emails, we finally have the news that we have been waiting for...

Kings Langley Carnival is now the 'Guinness World Records Title Holder of the Largest *Oops Upside Your Head Dance*', with 435 participants. According to Guinness World Records we are now 'OFFICIALLY AMAZING™'.

'What a brilliant way to start 2024,' said Carnival Chair Carol Chandler. 'It was a wonderful community event. All of those who took part or supported the attempt in any way should feel particularly proud of their achievement – they are all world record holders.'

'For the avoidance of doubt, we will not be attempting any more records this year,' added Carol. 'Instead, we are looking to make the day even more special for sponsors, stall holders, participants and attendees, including



PHOTO: BARRY KEMP

some different ideas to give the Carnival a refresh, whilst retaining popular favourites such as the local performers, dog show and Scout BBQ.'

This year's Carnival is on Saturday 22 June 2024, where the Guinness World Record certificate will be on display. To get involved or find out more about sponsorship, see www.kingslangleycarnival.com or visit the Facebook page. Applications for stalls open in February 2024.

WI programme for 2024

Kings Langley Evening WI meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm at the Community Centre, The Nap.

Visitors are welcome at most meetings, and the WI is always looking to increase the lively, friendly and enthusiastic membership – several new members joined in 2023. There is a thriving social calendar for members including outings and lunches.

9 January Social Evening

WI Update, a view from members on what makes you unique

13 February

Mervyn Edwards 'Walking the Beat to Nirvana'



12 March

Trevor Baker 'Ancient History'

9 April

Presentation from Isabel Hospice

14 May

Annual Meeting & Resolutions – with cheese & wine

11 June

Joanne Bogle 'Four Seasons'

9 July

Annual birthday party (members only)

For further information email kingslangleywi@gmail.com or call Nova Horley **07876 614250**

KLMTTC presents *The Matchgirls* – A Musical

Rehearsals at Kings Langley Musical Theatre Company are well under way for *The Matchgirls*.

The subject of the show is the London matchgirls strike in 1888, seeking reform of working conditions for women and teenage girls working at the Bryant and May factory in east London.

Despite the serious subject matter, the show is exciting and great fun, and there are some entertaining musical numbers.

The talented cast will be performing from 17–20 April at the Community Centre in The Nap, and tickets are now available at klmtc.org



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New Year New Warden

Kings Langley Parish Council are delighted to introduce the new Village Warden, Simon Walmsley. Simon started his new role on Tuesday 2 January.



The Warden has a unique role, helping to make Kings Langley a special place to live, work and visit. Simon's primary role is to carry out a number of services to ensure the upkeep of the village, providing a clean, safe and well-presented environment, which includes caring for the village garden, planting and maintaining public shrubs and flower beds, and litter-picking.

Many people will recognise Simon as a resident of Kings Langley, having lived in the village for nearly forty years. He said 'The opportunity to feel that I am helping to keep our village looking as well maintained and as appealing as possible will give me a real sense of satisfaction.'

Pictured above, with Daisy, he aims to provide a positive contribution to the village and Parish Council.

KLPC seeks new Clerk

Kings Langley Parish Council has an opportunity for someone to work in their local community as they are on the hunt for a new Clerk to the council, based in the heart of the village, at Charter Court.

More details to be published online later this year on www.kingslangley-pc.gov.uk

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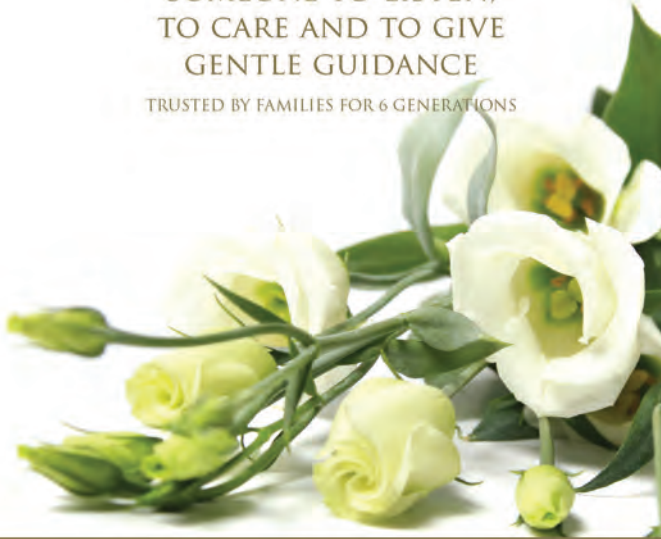

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Residents Association to celebrate success

Early in 2023, Kings Langley was facing the prospect of major development in and around the village from our two councils' Local Plans, which threatened the very existence of Kings Langley as a village.

Three Rivers District Council (TRDC) were considering 1,273 new dwellings on green belt farm land at Numbers Farm and Kings Langley Estate South, straddling the M25 and effectively merging Kings Langley with Abbots Langley.

Kings Langley & District Residents Association (KL&DRA), with the Three Rivers Joint Residents Association, has worked with TRDC to remove these sites from the Local Plan.

Dacorum Borough Council (DBC) has now removed Rectory Farm, a potential site for 135 new dwellings on green belt, from their Local Plan, and have refused the planning permission lodged by the land owners.

The owners will appeal against that decision, but KL&DRA believe that is now the most crucial battle to win to

prevent a precedent of green belt loss and our village expanding into Nash Mills and Apsley.

Despite the ongoing threat of the Rectory Farm development, the Residents Association feels it is time to celebrate the success in keeping Kings Langley's village status following a number of years defending the precious green belt.

An event is planned in February at Kings Langley Services Club, to which residents will be invited to share in the celebration. Gary Ansell (Chairman) commented 'The last five years have been quite stressful but now is the right time to celebrate all the hard work put in and acknowledge our successes.

'Announcements will be made in January through local media about our free event when we hope to see as many residents as possible come along to hear about our work. We'll provide a welcoming free drink and buffet so we hope to see a full house.'

The KL&DRA Committee wish all Kings Langley villagers a very Happy New Year!



New development for Meadowbank

A former Montessori nursery school site in Meadowbank could be converted into a supported living setting, providing four new homes, associated communal facilities and four parking spaces, if plans are approved.

The homes, which are being proposed by Watford Community Housing in partnership with Hertfordshire County Council, will be available for adults in the south-west of the county. The site has been vacant for around six years following the closure of the nursery school, but a planning application will be submitted shortly with a view to work beginning in late 2024.

Howard Button, chairman of the Parish Council, said 'The Parish Council has been lobbying for the building to be repurposed for some time as it is in a prime village location adjacent to All Saints Church. This appears to be a very worthwhile use of the site, although we will need to see the plans in due course.'

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Are you free on Tuesdays?

Kings Langley's Good Neighbours Association has a current need for more help with their Tuesday Lunch Club, either driving locally or serving and chatting with those having lunch.

This weekly event draws in people who normally cook and eat alone, providing a meal and companionship – those attending are full of appreciation for the club. Research shows that volunteering benefits the well-being of the volunteer as well as the recipient!

If you can help on Tuesdays, or on any other day, please get in touch with Good Neighbours on **07790 668672** or www.klgna.org

Drop in to Christ Church Baptist on the 2nd Wednesday of each month 10.30am – 12noon to find out about volunteer opportunities in the village from Dacorum Volunteer Bureau.



Christ Church Baptist

The church is still seeking the right person to become minister, Revd Matthew Cooper having moved on just over a year ago, but activities continue as normal in the meantime.

Children's and Youth Clubs are starting up again after the Christmas Break. Visit christchurchbaptist.co.uk for more details.

First Steps for pre-school age children, with adult:
10am on Thursdays
7Up for school years 4,5 and 6:
7pm on Fridays
Ultim8 for school years 7 upwards:
8pm on Fridays

Mark Allchorn of Dnipro Hope Mission extended his thanks to everyone who made a donation when they visited the church for coffee and mince pies during the recent village lights festival, saying the beneficiaries in Ukraine are extremely grateful.



HERTFORDSHIRE

CONSTABULARY

Is your New Year's resolution looking for a new career?

Join Herts Constabulary on Saturday 20 January, 1pm to 5pm, at Gosling Sports Centre in Welwyn Garden City for a recruitment event – they are seeking police officers, Police Community Support Officers (PCSO), emergency call handlers and volunteer police officers (Specials).

Sergeant Dan Phillips from the Recruitment Team said 'I've been with the constabulary for 30 years now and have had such a varied and rewarding career. There are lots of opportunities which you can explore. I wouldn't hesitate to recommend the police to anyone looking for a new and exciting challenge.'

On the day you can find out more about the joining process and the next steps if you want to apply. To attend the event, register your attendance at bit.ly/klvn-police

Leewood RECYCLING SKIP & GRAB HIRE

Looking to clear an entire house or just have a general tidy up in the attic, shed or garage? Leewood Recycling is based in Kings Langley and have the perfect sized skip to help you deal with your unwanted rubbish and dispose of your waste in an environmentally sound way.

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Prize Xword

For this issue, we have **chocolates and wine** for the first correct entry drawn from the hat! To enter, simply post or email your crossword entry and contact details to us (see page 2) to arrive no later than Friday 15 February 2024. Good luck!

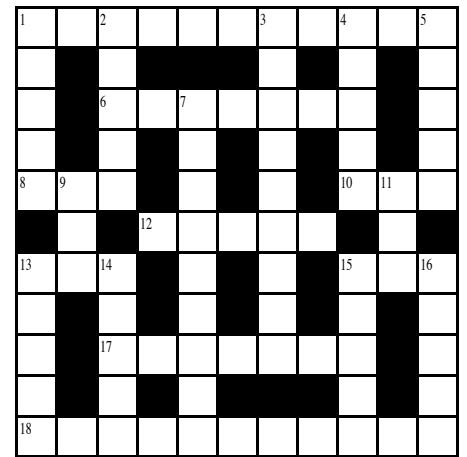
Across

- 1 A fairly new road off the A4251 (7,4)
- 6 Ancient Greco-Roman god who enjoyed a tippie (7)
- 8 In short, a younger female close relative (3)
- 10 Affirmative response (3)
- 12 One of the drivers of the Industrial Revolution (5)
- 13 Suitable (3)
- 15 Bright electrical discharge between two points (3)
- 17 Originally, a Japanese artform (7)
- 18 All confused, sly electors name this Village cul-de-sac! (6,5)

Down

- 1 Last name of a well-known, long-standing Village shop (5)

- 2 The little ones in a popular traditional pantomime (5)
- 3 Flowering plant with pink petals that may have health benefits (9)
- 4 Determine the ingredients of a metal, or an ore (5)
- 5 When combined with 16 Down, this leads to a regal sounding, Chipperfield cul-de-sac (5)
- 7 A maker or supplier of theatrical or fancy-dress clothes (9)
- 9 Mischievous, mythical being (3)
- 11 Find that you did something wrong in the middle of an overrun! (3)
- 13 Very skilled (5)
- 14 Originally an ugly creature from Nordic folklore, now perhaps a provocateur (5)
- 15 Spanish friend (5)
- 16 See 5 down (5)



Prize Xword - No. 36 set by Andrew Selby

Answers to Crossword No: 35
Across: 1 Brain, 4 Jolly, 7 Serum, 8 Basic, 9 Miscellanea, 10 Kings Meadow, 14 Omega, 15 Agent, 16 Abeam, 17 Khmer
Down: 1 Besom, 2 Acres, 3 Numbers Farm, 4 Jubilee Walk, 5 Lysin, 6 Yucca, 10 Krona, 11 Niece, 12 Dream, 13 Water

Below: Winner of our previous Prize Xword, Maria Budd, collecting her voucher kindly donated by Laines



PHOTO: BARRY KEMP



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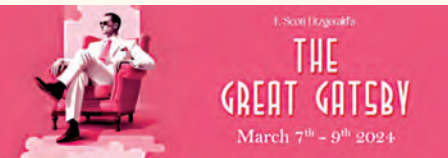


Kings Langley Players present *The Great Gatsby*

Rehearsals are well underway for KLP's next production, *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald, adapted and directed by their very own Amie Bailey.

In this new adaptation, the undisputed jewel of American literature is brought to life, putting the glamorous façade of the Prohibition era into the spotlight, as well as the broken dreams it stood upon.

Performances are in the Theatre@TheNap (Community Centre) on 7 – 9 March, with tickets available now at www.klp.org.uk



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Football

Kings Langley Football Club
Fixtures January – February 2024

Away games:

Saturday 20 January, Hertford Town
Saturday 3 February, Biggleswade FC
Saturday 17 February, Stotfold

Home games:

Saturday 13 January, Bedford Town
Saturday 27 January, Barton Rovers
Saturday 10 February, Hadley
Saturday 24 February, North Leigh

Public Information

Kings Langley Parish Office, Charter Court, Vicarage Lane
Parish Council Meetings are normally held on the first Tuesday of each month. Planning and Licensing on the first and third Tuesday of each month.
Office hours 9.30am – 12.30pm
Telephone 01923 261828 or email KLPC@kingslangley-pc.gov.uk

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Singing

Kings Langley Community Choir
Christ Church Baptist, The Nap, WD4 8ET
Music for all – Pop, Folk, International, etc.
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For further information contact Pat on 07714 701316. Also see Facebook and www.kingslangleychoir.co.uk

Jazz

Kings Langley Jazz Club
Kings Langley Services Club Theatre Bar
5 High Street, Kings Langley WD4 8BJ
Live Bands! Every Tuesday night 8.15pm – 10.30pm. Visitors welcome.
See posters for details or telephone 01923 262982

KLMTTC Bazaar & Craft Fayre

Stalls can be hired by crafters who wish to sell their wares, on a first-come, first-served basis. All enquiries: klmttc@outlook.com

Come Along To Our Bazaar & Craft Fayre

Saturday 3rd February 2024
Open from 10.00am-3.00pm
Kings Langley Community Centre, WD4 8ET

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- Kiddies activity room

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Children Under 14: Free

For more information contact us: klmttc@outlook.com

Cream teas & refreshments available throughout the day.

PROBUS club for retired men.
Kings Langley Cricket Club every third Tuesday in the month at 10am, with a speaker and coffee.



Occasional excursions, dinners and other social events (including partners) are also arranged.

Future speakers and subjects in 2024
16 January: 'Blessed are the Cheesemakers', John Pearson
20 February: 'The Royal Flying Doctor Service & the \$20 note', Graham Laurie
19 March: 'UK's First Female Bomb Disposal Expert', Lucy Lewis

Contact the secretary, John Addy, on 07477 900290 or 19jca41+v@gmail.com for further information.

Local Produce Market

Village Garden, Church Lane.
Food, crafts, books, cards, homemade cakes and refreshments and lots more.
The Local Produce Market is held on the third Saturday of every month from 9.00am – 1.00pm.

Women's Institute

Kings Langley Community Centre, The Nap.
All welcome.
Every second Tuesday monthly at 7.30pm.
For further information please contact Nova on 0787 661 4250 or Wendy on 01923 263348 or email kingslangleywi@gmail.com

Short Mat Bowls

Kings Langley Community Centre, The Nap.
A friendly group who play all year round. New members welcome.
Every Wednesday morning 11.am – 1 pm.
£3.70 for members of Everyone Active, £4.70 for non-members (first time is free). All equipment supplied.

Woodside u3a

Stanborough Centre, St Albans Road, Garston WD25 9JL
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