

KINGSLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS 2019/2020

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Vice Chairman	Steve Easton	788050
Treasurer	Simon Batey	788788
Secretary	Elizabeth Batey	788788
Kingsley News Editor	Elizabeth Wilson	787678
Kingsley News Accounts	Julie Mort	
Bookings Secretary	Heather Hayes	788494
(Available from 12.30-7.30pm)		

COUNCIL MEMBERS (elected)

Carol Rowlands, Vic Wodhams

COUNCIL MEMBERS (not elected0

One representative from each of the affiliated groups and clubs (NB. This is a condition of affiliation)

CONTACT DETAILS FOR PARISH COUNCIL

Contact:	The Parish Clerk
Email:	parish.clerk@kingsleyparishcouncil.org.uk
Mailing address:	The Boardroom, Hollow Lane, Kingsley, WA6 8EF
Mobile:	0074 3157679

The Parish Clerk will be available at the following times: Every Friday of the month between 09.00 and 15.00

Editorial News and Views

Dear Readers,

As I write this the sun is shining and it is a beautiful Spring day and it makes me want to go for a walk and celebrate the beautiful countryside that we are fortunate to live in. There are two walks outlined in this edition. The one in the centre pages is to Warburton's Wood which will soon be filled with Spring flowers. The second walk is over the Jubilee Bridge at Runcorn, a very different walk and one with special interest for bird watchers.

A copy of the Government's Covid Roadmap is included to clarify dates when activities, socialising and retail will be opening again. It seems a long way off until June, when hopefully the clubs and activities in Kingsley will be able to open again and we can have some sort of normality again.

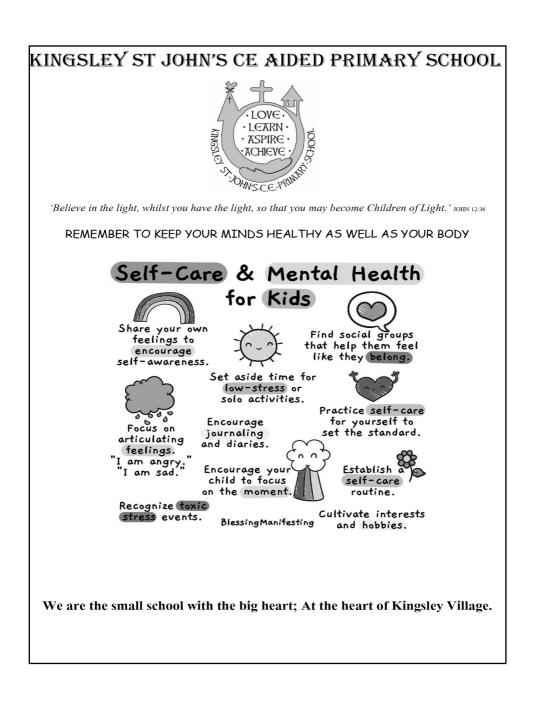
I can't wait for the rest of our local businesses to re-open. There's nothing to beat looking round a proper shop, seeing and feeling the quality of the goods and importantly supporting the local economy. Internet shopping just doesn't offer the same experience.

Don't forget that the clocks go forward on the 28th March. Lighter nights at long last.

Elízabeth

Articles for the magazine to be sent to the Editor By email to: kingsleynewseditor@gmail.com Tel: 01928 787678 Copy deadline is the 21st of each month

www.kingsleyvillage.co.uk



KINGSLEY AND NEWTON VILLAGE INSTITUTE

This is an update on what we have been doing at the Institute over the last year. Whenever government guidance has allowed, the Institute has ensured outdoor sporting activities have taken place in a socially distanced manner. A Covid risk assessment was done and procedures put in place to cover this. Unfortunately bowling tournaments have not been allowed, but a good number of members have enjoyed small group or household games. The bowling green has been kept beautifully throughout and currently looks immaculate in readiness for the spring. We are delighted to announce that new outdoor floodlighting has been erected around one of the tennis courts, which allows tennis to be played into the evening. During the periods of Lockdown, no tennis has been allowed, but when restrictions were eased last year, members enjoyed singles and doubles play and adult coaching (following all government and LTA guidelines), and the courts were busy throughout until the present, January, Lockdown.

It is very sad that indoor activities have not been taking place in the building. However, time has not been wasted and it has been fully decorated and we now have a refurbished accessible toilet, complete with baby changing facilities. The bar has also been refurbished.

We have accessed all available government and other grants, which have been on offer to help with the disruption caused by Covid. We have made the building Covid secure for when we can open up again. It has been deepcleaned, notices and hand sanitiser are easily accessible and there is a Perspex screen at the bar. We are following guidance issued by ACRE – Cheshire Community Action in making it secure. We would like to thank Members and Friends for their support throughout the last year. It has been essential to ensuring the Institute remains viable.

Whilst we expect it will be some time yet before the building can be opened, we are hoping outdoor sports will be allowed again within a few weeks. We are also aware that the 2020 AGM needs to be held at some point. KNVI constitution does not provide for an on-line AGM, so we have taken the decision to hold this later in the year, when it is hoped we can meet again, possibly holding the 2020 and 2021 AGM together. In the meantime, we have met Charity Commission requirements and the accounts are available on the Charity Commission website.

KNVI Management Committee

The stream with no name

There are many such streams in our countryside. Hardly noticed, they wend their way quietly, largely lost in time and place. Most are little more than a good stride wide, yet many have an untold history. Some fade away, while others continue as before, perhaps, for centuries and never recorded. Anonymous, most are not named or on any map or plan. And so it is with the subject here, no name, but part of a hazy story dating back a thousand years or more. Here, the stream and its path have a local name, the Knab or Knabb. More correctly, 'Knabbe', meaning, 'a hilltop', a word originating between the 12th and 16th century. Could this offer a sign of its historic context? After all, a hilltop stands behind Whitegate House. Is it possible a Norman lord set a motte-and-bailey castle there to oversee what passed in the valley below? And, if not Norman, then some folk maintain there was an Anglo-Saxon presence in the area. Not only locally, more specifically, where the Knabb stream once fed Kingsley Mill.

This then, is not just a minor flow of water. It's a stream of historical significance flowing through a valley created during the Ice Age some 20,000 years ago. A stream may or may not have existed then but there is certainly evidence of its ice age past.

The Knabb is therefore an important stream connecting the present to a distant, largely forgotten past.

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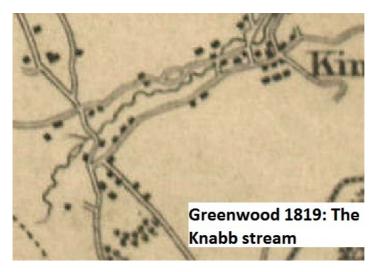
The source of this stream is a matter of guesswork. It certainly flows eastwards by Waterloo Farm before heading north. Visible alongside the road at Mill Field Farm, it turns beneath Guest Slack, to pass through a valley, not of its making, to Dark Lane. Disappearing in culverts, it shows itself at Brookside, then alongside Mill Lane, with a diversion, to the pool at Kingsley Mill.



A narrow, fast flowing stream greets anyone walking alongside it, from Guest Slack to Dark Lane or by return. The stream is not how it once looked. Indeed, most, if not all, streams travelling across low-lying land have been modified at some point in time. Such a small stream struggles to flow over a level gradient. It seeks the easiest path and in so doing meanders, rather snake-like to make progress.

Gone are the gently meandering bends in its journey, as mapped in the early 19th century, as shown in this map.

Please email <u>dbkeogh@hotmail.com</u> if you have any questions or further information.



There is no way of knowing the state of the stream at that time. I would suggest it was wider, by virtue of its meandering path. Waterlogged land was likely on both sides of its course. Flooding would increase its flow and further erode the valley sides, especially on the Dark Lane side. Travelling along the valley would be difficult for anyone on foot. Roads were no better; dry and dusty in summer, muddy and impassable in winter. One thing is certain, a footpath by the stream was highly unlikely for people, not for horses, and certainly not for packhorses, but that's another story.

More on the stream in Part 2:

Road Map – Covid-19 Spring 21

STEP 1 8 March

29 March

EDUCATION

8 MARCH

- · Schools and colleges open for all students
- Practical Higher Education courses

SOCIAL CONTACT

8 MARCH

29 MARCH · Rule of 6 or

indoors

- Exercise and recreation outdoors with household or one other person · Household only
 - two households outdoors
- Household only indoors

including sport,

for all children

BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES

8 MARCH

- 29 MARCH · Wraparound care, Organised outdoor
 - sport (children and adults)
 - · Outdoor sport and leisure facilities
 - All outdoor children's activities
 - · Outdoor parent & child group (up to 15 parents)

BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES

- All retail
- Personal care
- Libraries & community centres
- Most outdoor attractions
- Indoor leisure inc. gyms (individual use only)
- Self-contained accommodation
- All children's activities
- · Outdoor hospitality
- · Indoor parent & child groups (up to 15 parents)

0 TRAVEL

8 MARCH

- · Stay at home
- No holidays

29 MARCH

- Minimise travel
- · No holidays

EVENTS

- Funerals (30)
- Weddings and wakes (6)

٠ TRAVEL

- Domestic overnight stays (household only)
- No international holidays

EVENTS

- Funerals (30)
- Weddings, wakes, receptions (15)
- · Event pilots

STEP 2

No earlier than 12 April

At least 5 weeks after Step 1

EDUCATION

As previous step

SOCIAL CONTACT

- Rule of 6 or two households outdoors
- Household only indoors

STEP 3

No earlier than 17 May

At least 5 weeks after Step 2

🗿 EDUCATION

As previous step

SOCIAL CONTACT

- Maximum 30 people outdoors
- Rule of 6 or two households indoors (subject to review)

STEP 4

No earlier than 21 June

At least 5 weeks after Step 3

All subject to review

EDUCATION

As previous step



No legal limit

BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES

- Indoor hospitality
- · Indoor entertainment and attractions
- · Organised indoor sport (adult)
- · Remaining accommodation
- Remaining outdoor entertainment (including performances)

BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES

 Remaining businesses, including nightclubs

TRAVEL

- Domestic overnight stays
- · International travel (subject to review)

EVENTS

- Most significant life events (30)
- Indoor events: 1,000 or 50%
- · Outdoor seated events: 10,000 or 25%
- · Outdoor other events: 4,000 or 50%

Domestic overnight stays

International travel

TRAVEL



0

EVENTS

- · No legal limit on life events
- Larger events

A walk across the Silver Jubilee Bridge

A few members of the Kingsley Walking group used the Christmas easing of lockdown to meet up for outdoor, distanced exercise at the car park of the Ten Locks Flight pub in Runcorn for a walk over the Silver Jubilee Bridge (originally Runcorn Bridge). It was a great opportunity as the bridge was closed to vehicles.



We crossed the bridge in cold but dry weather and toured Spike Island in Widnes, before returning and getting views of Wigg Island on the Runcorn Side. I guess many of us will have spent hours around the bridge stuck in traffic and it was a fascinating opportunity to see the stunning construction from a variety of different angles, as well as getting great views up and down the river and of the new bridge. The whole area has a fascinating history, a few details of which are below.

The first bridge to carry vehicular traffic across Runcorn Gap was the Widnes-Runcorn Transporter Bridge which opened in 1905, cost £130,000 and could only carry 6 cars at a time. The Silver Jubilee Bridge opened in 1961, it is a through arch bridge with a main arch span of 330 metres and a design similar to that of Sydney Harbour Bridge. It used 720,000 rivets and cost £2,433,00, whereas the new cable stayed bridge which opened in 2017 cost £600 million.

Spike Island is artificial and was created in 1833 when the Sankey Canal was extended from Fiddler's Ferry to the River Mersey at Widnes. Widnes Dock was the first rail-to-ship dock in the world. The island had a network of interlinked railway lines, which remained in use until 1968. The canal closed in 1963 and the footpath now forms part of the Trans Pennine Trail. The dock was accessed by Mersey flat boats which could transport goods downstream to the Port of Liverpool or along the canal network. The dock could hold up to 40 vessels, and have a single Mersey flat boat loaded with 70 tons of coal from railway wagons and en route to Liverpool in 40 minutes. The wreck of

one flat (Eustace Carey) can be seen at low tide.

Beginning in 1848, John Hutchinson built the first chemical factory in Widnes on Spike Island. The chemical industry allowed the mass production of soap, bleaching powder, glass and fertilizer, amongst other products. The population of Widnes grew rapidly but the industry brought exceptional levels of pollution. The town was described in 1905 as a "poisonous hell-town". Between 1975 and 1982 the island was reclaimed and returned to green spaces. All of the chemical works were removed and only two former pyrite kilns remain.

Spike Island was the site of a famous outdoor concert by The Stone Roses in May 1990. A film about the concert called *Spike Island* was released in 2012. A tribute concert on the island by "The Clone Roses" was planned for May 2020. The event was rescheduled for 2021 because of COVID-19.

Wigg Island is between the River Mersey and the Manchester Ship Canal, it is reached via The Old Quay Bridge, a Grade II listed swing bridge built in 1894. When the Manchester Ship Canal was cut through Runcorn the island was physically detached from the town and stranded between the canal and the Mersey. There is a cycle path leading from Wigg to Port Warrington and <u>Moore Nature Reserve</u>.

It was named after <u>Charles Wigg</u>, who started an alkali works there in the 1860s.During the Second World War this factory became a centre for the production of <u>mustard gas</u>. When ICI stopped operations in1960s the area had become heavily polluted with a diverse range of chemicals. A community park was opened in 2002. The nature reserve covers 23 hectares (57 acres) and is used by birdwatchers. Bee Orchids are among the wild flowers found there. There is a visitor centre and a wind turbine.

Malcolm Clark

A Walk to Kingsley's Special Woodlands



A delightful 2.5 mile walk to see a stunning display of spring flowers

Start at the corner of Hollow Lane and Pike Lane (1) by the lych gate. Turn into Pike Lane, passing Paddock View on your right. Continue along Pike Lane until you reach Wood Lane on your right (this lane is not signed anywhere). Turn down Wood Lane towards the river (2). You will pass a footpath on your right which leads back to Hollow Lane (3). Continue down Wood Lane for just less than % mile until you reach a white house on your right (Wood Lane Cottage). Just before the cottage there is a wooden gate into Hunter's Wood, a Cheshire Wildlife area (4). Turn right and follow the lane alongside the hedge on your left. There is a Cheshire Wildlife board ahead of you. This whole area is worth exploring. It was bought in 1999 and has been planted up with trees and a pond has been established. There are now some seats in this wood.

To get to Warburton's Wood, follow the track through Hunter's Wood, following the new drainage ditch on your right until you reach a clearing. Turn right towards a lone tree. At the tree, turn right again. There will be a pond on your left. Enter the tree plantation and walk straight ahead until you reach the hedge on the other side. Turn left at the hedge. You will soon reach the entrance to Warburton's Wood on your left. This, too, has a Cheshire Wildlife signpost. Enter the woods over a stile.

Warburton's Wood (5) is an ancient semi natural clough woodland. In the spring time it bursts into life with more than 50 species of flowers. The anemones and bluebells cover the whole woodland. The path through the woodland is very steep and although there has been work to improve the steps, it can be slippery.

Once you reach the bottom of the woods you will reach another board on your left and exit from the wood. Turn right and follow the track steeply downhill to reach the River Weaver. Turn right along the river, cross a footbridge and immediately take the track on your right (6). Follow this track (uphill) for half a mile until you reach Ball Lane. Go straight on until you reach Mill Lane. Turn right (7) to return to the village. To follow the brook back to the village, turn left into Chapel Lane (8) and follow the footpath along the brook until you reach Well Lane and the back of the Red Bull. Continue following the brook until you reach the Doctor's surgery, turn right on to the main road to reach the Cross.

St John the Evangelist, Kingsley

On Thursday 1th February Rev'd Canon Ron Iveson was Inducted as the Vicar of Norley, Crowton and Kingsley and Priest in Charge to Alvanley with Manley Bishop Keith.

Here is a message for Ron

My name is Ron Iveson and I look forward to meeting you in the coming months and years. I've been ordained for 20 years and have been the vicar at St Oswald's Bidston for nearly 18 years. Before vicaring I was a psychiatric nurse and ran a day centre for older people.

I'm married to Tracey with two Sons Dean (23) and Alex (21) I love music, reading, people, good jokes, nice food, clean beer, full-bodied wine, all kinds of films, zany humour and can generally be found singing Rat Pack songs for charity events, normally at the end of the evening when they want people to go home!

But life has taken a turn and change and at the moment I'm still unpacking boxes of books! Unpacking boxes has a sobering effect on one's desire and delight in accumulating stuff. It gives the chance to clear out or keep, to change or treasure. And really such is life. All the time.

We have ideas attitudes and actions that are part and parcel of who we are, the culture we reflect and the community we are from. Often these are an unconscious part of our makeup and we give little thought to them.

Moving shatters that cosy comfortableness. As I tear open another box and peer inside, so I see something of my values, why did I buy that, wear that or keep that? Moving to a new area leaving all that is familiar makes for the same kind of reflection.

What is an urban townie to make of rural community? What will the community think of the new minister? Reflecting on these things fill the heart with trepidation, excitement and challenge.

As I write I've not met anyone yet, still in the midst of the February lockdown and not yet been inducted.

Similar thoughts are probably being felt by the members of the church community. So why move to such a different place? Is it the sheer challenge of something new and unfamiliar?

Within the Christian community there would be a sense of something else, much deeper, much more palpable that sense of calling that comes from God; and when there is a call there is a commission and a change.

It involves unpacking the old, treasuring what has gone before and

embracing what is to come. It is a call to newness. And this is the challenge that I am embracing as I arrive and looking forward to, as I start to make new relationships that will become treasured memories.

I am looking forward to being part of your community, sharing in its varied life, experiencing its joys and sorrows, and helping the church to be a place of encounter where we can all meet the calling of God in our lives that leads us to new things everyday.

Best Wishes

Ron

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 March we think of, and pray for people living in: -

W/c Mar 7thNewton/Hillfoot and Old Hall LaneW/c Mar 14thKingswoodW/c Mar 21stMeeting House Lane/Offalpits LaneW/c Mar 28thNorley Road

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