



Kington Walks Festival ***Thursday 20th to Sunday 23rd September 2018***

Kington is one of the great small market towns of Britain. Situated close to the Welsh border it was for centuries a centre for cattle drovers, so a web of footpaths and byways, accessible on foot from the town centre, await discovery by present day walkers. The Offa's Dyke Path National Trail, the Herefordshire Trail, Mortimer Trail from Ludlow, and the Wyche Way from Broadway all pass through (or start/finish) in the town.

The programme for the seventh annual Festival is as extensive as ever with 28 walks covering history, natural history, geology, industry, landscapes and a pub or two. This year, in addition to some old favourites, we have introduced many new walks including a creative walk around Kington, a Nordic Walk over Hergest Ridge to Gladestry, a walk from the masterpiece of English rococo Shobdon Church and many more.



We are opening this year's Festival on Thursday night with a Tagine Evening provided by David Pickersgill of Weobley Ash. Saturday night will feature the Whiskey River Band at the Burton Hotel with their inimitable brand of Cajun, Blues and Country music. No matter how far you have walked, it will be impossible to sit still.

Due to a clash with several other national events, we have decided to stage the Eight Peaks Challenge on Saturday 15th of September (the weekend before the main festival). For lots more information, list of walks and events, or to book an event/walk, go to the website:

www.kingtonwalks.org

Kington Horse Show and Agricultural Society ***Saturday 8 September, Ovals Farm, Kington HR5 3LN, 9am to 6pm.***

Kington Show is one of the largest one-day shows in the country. With its roots firmly embedded in farming the show brings the local community together, blending the traditional agricultural purpose of livestock and horticultural competitions with the lively entertainment and shopping opportunities popular in many of today's county shows. Attractions include: Grand Parade of livestock, vintage tractors and vehicles, Welsh trotting racing, the Radnor and West Hunt, Wye Valley Axemen, sheep-shearing, Young Farmer competitions, Broke FMX Motocross display team, Builth Wells Male Voice Choir, the Bill Bailey Band, Action Wheels, Van Buren Magic, trade stands. Entry: £12.50 for adults, £5 for 10 to 17 year-olds, children up to 10 free. Free parking. Well-behaved dogs welcome. FREE return bus from Mill St, Kington.

Check out the back page for cut-out-and-keep info from the Town Council

Kingswood Show - Sunday 26 August

Held at Woodlands Farm, Kingswood Rd, Kington HR5 3HE, courtesy of Philip and Norma Williams. Yes, it's showtime! This traditional country show offers you all the usual goodies: dog show, chicken show, horses and ponies, Pony Club and adult show-jumping (novice to experienced), Team Scurry, plus tasty lunch options including sandwiches and drinks in the village hall and a Hog Roast. The Show is open from 9am to 3pm. No entry charge but we are asking for donations on behalf of the Air Ambulance.



Kington Artists will be giving us all something special to look at during h.Art this September.

H.Art is an annual Herefordshire-wide Open Studio event that brings visitors into the county from around the U.K. and overseas. It will be held this year from Saturday 8 September through Sunday 16 September. Most venues are open between 11 and 5 daily (check the brochure), and all entry is free of charge.

Kington's involvement with h.Art has grown year on year and the town contributes a strong local cluster to the h.Art map. This year the Kington offering will be the largest yet. 38 Kington Artists will be showing at 12 venues in and around the town, with some venues offering demonstrations or refreshments, and all giving visitors a chance to meet and talk to makers about their work.

The h.Art brochures and maps are available now from the Kington Tourist Information Centre, the Border Bean, and many other local venues. Collect your brochure soon and start to plot your route so that you can make the most of our town's incredible riches.



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Keep Kington Tidy!

Litter pick, 1st Sat of month, meet at the Coop at 10 a.m.

Contact: Tina gordydavison@aol.com

Kington Markets

Kington is blessed with an historic Market Hall still hosting markets throughout the year. The weekly **Local Food and Craft Markets** are held every Friday all year round, and on the **3rd Saturday** of every month (between April and December, with an extra date for Christmas) the **Art, Craft & Vintage Market** takes place, with the KLEEN Repair Cafe on hand as well.



The weekly **Friday Market** features local food, produce, locally made herbal bodycare products, and crafts. It is held from 9:00 – 1:00 in the Market Hall and adjacent Place de Marines. During the growing season the Locally Kington stall makes possible the buying and selling of spare garden produce – you can't get fresher than that - as well as being a force for good in the movement towards Zero Waste shopping. Come and chat, see what we are doing, drink coffee...and participate!

The monthly **Art, Craft & Vintage Saturday Market** starts at 9.30am and goes through until 3pm, between the months of April and December. Here you will find local artisans selling their work, and often actually making it right before your eyes. You can purchase work on the spot, or commission bespoke items. There are local artisans with a wide variety of great gift ideas, practical and beautiful objects for your home, and a new addition for 2018 are the **Vintage stalls** selling quality interior items along with collectables, antiquarian books etc. These Markets are held in the Market Hall, the neighbouring Place de Marines, and the adjoining Coach House, all under cover.

Don't forget the ever-popular additional Country Market venue on Bridge Street every Friday morning, 9 to 11am. When it comes to local markets, we are spoiled for choice!

New website: www.kingtonmarkets.co.uk

The Saturday Art, Craft & Vintage Market dates for 2018 are:

- **August 18**
- **September 15**
- **October 20**
- **November 17**
- **December 8 & 15**

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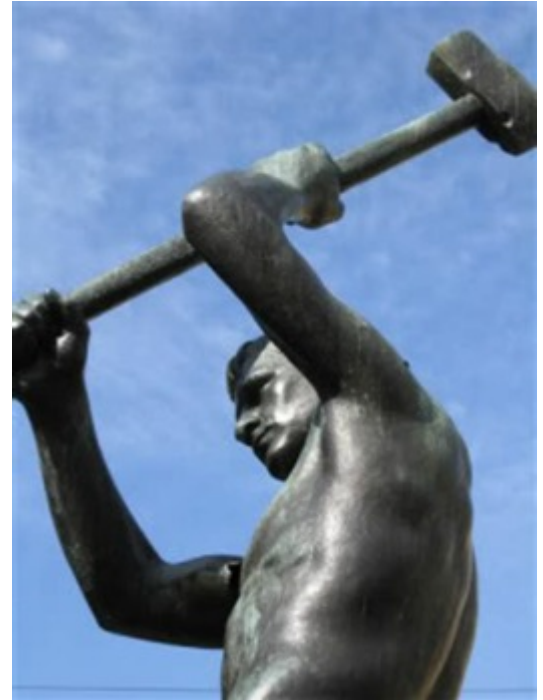
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You've heard about the Repair Café, would you like to help?



The KLEEN Repair Café is a place where people can bring their broken items and get them repaired. You can also have a drink (or before Christmas a mince pie and mulled wine) and stay and learn about how to repair things yourself in the future if you wish. All for a donation to the running costs.

In Kington we started the Repair Cafe with some help from the Malvern RC group in June 2016 and it's been going well since then (we first checked with a couple of local businesses to make sure we did not conflict too much). We

have synchronised with the Arts and Craft Market that runs for 9 months of the year from April to December on the 3rd Saturday of the month in the Market Square.

We started off with a core team of specialist volunteers and support from KLEEN (Kington Local Energy and Environment Network) and have grown this to a team of seven.

We will have a go at fixing a wide range of items that can be hand carried to us, including electrical appliances, mechanical items, tools, textiles, clothing repairs, computers, crockery, jewellery, toys, musical instruments and furniture. Almost anything in fact that could ideally be repaired in about 30 minutes.

We have a reception area where you can take the chance to see some relevant books on repair ideas and complete the form giving details of your item so that we can keep track and there is a clear understanding of what we will be doing; these are the 'house rules' to avoid any confusion. We bring all the tools and materials needed to achieve a safe and successful repair whenever possible.

Since starting in Kington we have been successful in returning over 250 items to use. And we are repairing an unusually high number of toasters, so I'm not sure what that says about the region....?

Overall the advantages of the Repair Café include:

- repair of peoples' treasured items that are either unable to be locally repaired or it would cost too much
- avoidance of resources going into the landfill, or recycling before their useful life is over
- transfer of knowledge about how to repair and the general approach to fault-finding
- provides an opportunity for people who have specific skills to share them with others in a useful way, with the positive social consequences that follow.

If you or anyone you know has a specific set of skills that could prove useful to the Repair Cafe then please get in touch. It does not need to be a commitment every month, nor even for the whole Saturday (only from 10.00am till 2.30pm at most) we are trying to run a rota system to give people breaks. So the more fixers and experts joining the group the better. Electrical knowledge is always useful, as is clothes/textiles repair, tool sharpening, but just discuss with us what you would like to bring and we will see if we can make use of it!

Gordon Coppock

Chair of KLEEN. Kington, the Toaster Town

Email : kleen@live.co.uk Twitter: @KingtonKleen , Facebook : Kington.Kleen

Other Upcoming Kington Events

Kington Library Mischief Makers Summer Reading Challenge

Read six or more library books over the summer. Collect stickers to complete your Beanotown map, with prizes along the way. Free, open to all 4 to 11 year-olds, 14 July to 8 September. FFI about the Reading Challenge and Summer Art Competition go to www.herefordshire.gov.uk/src
Your local library: **The Kington Centre**, 64 Bridge Street, Kington HR5 3DJ. opening hours: Tuesday 9.30am to 1pm and 2 to 6pm; Thursday, Friday and Saturday 9.30am to 1pm.

How to use Your Smartphone

FREE event at **Kington Library**, Tuesday 21 August, 10am to 12pm. learn the basics of how to use your smartphone: learn about apps, picking up emails, using the internet and how to connect to our library wifi. bring your own phone or we have a few smartphones available for the workshop. Places are free but booking is essential. Book at the library or phone 01432 260600.

Meet and Make (with tea and cake) every Wednesday at the **Border Bean Café**, 2 to 3.30pm.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Friday 31 August, 10am to 12 noon at **40 Headbrook**, Kington HR5 3DY. Sheila Diggory is hosting the Kington Trefoil Guild's annual Macmillan coffee morning. All the usual stalls, cakes, plants, produce, books, bric a brac and raffle. Give your support to a good cause.

Brilley Events

www.brilley.co.uk

Monday Club is a social club which takes place on the third Monday each month starting at 7.30pm. Between September and April we have a speaker each month and in the summer we have outings to local places of interest. Membership is open to all and new members and visitors are always welcome. Details of forthcoming speakers can be found on the calendar (see website).

The Walking Group A friendly group who walk the highways, byways and fields around the village and surrounding areas each Wednesday, meeting at 10am at the Village Hall car park. If you like easy walking for 1 – 2 hours then do contact our leader Trish on 01497 831735

Brilley Patches is a sociable and informal patchwork and quilting group which meets fortnightly in Brilley & Michaelchurch Village Hall on Thursday afternoons from 2.00 – 4.30pm. The group is open to all abilities and help is available for beginners and to those who want to learn new skills and techniques. We share ideas and either work on our own projects or work on the same type of project together to gain new skills. The cost is £3 per session which includes tea or coffee. For further information please phone Phyllis Jones on 01497 831535 or Trish Gilbert on 01497 831735.

Brilley and Borders Environment (BABE) aims to build an informal network of people with a shared interest in the environment. Through the network it wants to support existing local eco organisations and actions and hopes to engage local residents in some new BABE specific activities. To stay in touch, please subscribe to the email alerts on the Brilley website so you can receive news items from Brillley. If you are interested in helping the BABE initiative forward or for more information contact Els on 01497 831743 or email brilleyandbordersenvironment@gmail.com

Brilley Green Dingle. We are very fortunate as residents of Brilley to have a Herefordshire Wildlife Trust nature reserve, Brilley Green Dingle, on our doorstep. Brilley Green Dingle is part ancient semi-natural

woodland and part plantation on an ancient site. It lies on the south-facing slope of a steep sided valley through which runs the fast-flowing Millhalf Brook. The reserve can be visited all year round.

Friends of Brilley Green Dingle. We are a newly started (July 2017) group of local volunteers who work in partnership with Herefordshire Wildlife Trust to manage and monitor Brilley Green Dingle. We have regular practical work sessions in the Dingle and are also due to start with monitoring work. If you are interested in joining us or want to find out more please email brilleyandbordersenvironment@gmail.com

Annual Huntington Chase

Saturday 29 September. Ride a horse, run, cycle or walk 11km. Course starts at the village hall, taking in Hergest Ridge and finishing at the Swan Inn. Walkers can enrol from 10.30am and start at 11am. Runners, riders and cyclists enrol from 11am and start at noon. £10.00 entry to include sandwiches. Children are free but must be accompanied. All proceeds to local charity.

Titley Village Fete

Saturday 11 August from 2pm. on Stagg Meadow, by kind permission of David Forbes. Dog show, Titley Teas, competitions, children's races, bouncy castle, circus skills, workshop and balloon modeller, Grand Draw, vintage vehicles, lots of stalls. Free admission, ample parking. A fun family afternoon!

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Marches Makers Festival

Held over the Early Spring Bank Holiday, the Marches Makers Festival was a brand-new enterprise for Kington. The town has many talented artists, crafters and makers living in and around it; Town Councillor Christine Forrester initiated the idea of an Arts Festival and drew together a group of makers to discuss the possibilities. Thus the Marches Makers came into being to promote and support the wealth of local art and craft.

The Marches Makers Festival covered 12 venues displaying over 500 pieces of art and craft. It brought a greatly increased footfall into Kington and local businesses have reported that custom to cafes, pubs and accommodation was significantly better than in previous years. In total the amount spent at the Festival was in excess of £15,000. This is in addition to the extra benefit to local businesses.

Most visitors went to more than one venue and they came from a wide variety of sources, not just local but as far afield as London, Birmingham and Manchester. One visitor said, "I think the standard of the displays is excellent. Works beautifully as a whole. I love that nearly all venues are close to the town centre. Well done, a fantastic effort. I hope it will be an annual event."

The Leg of Mutton Gallery almost sold out and Studio 54 also did well, selling sculpture both in the studio and at Hergest Croft Gardens. Made in the Marches Gallery in Church Street had Festival exhibitors amongst its other works on show and received a steady stream of buyers. The Art and Craft Market was held over two days and included demonstrations of pottery, printmaking, airbrush art and woolcrafts which drew lots of interest. Harmony Handmade offered a Craft Café for people to try their hand at making something themselves. This proved so popular that there was a queue outside the door waiting for it to open. Kington Art Society held their Spring Exhibition as part of the Festival, at Kingswood Village Hall. They reported a doubling of their usual footfall and income despite being a mile out of town.

One artist commented, "I just wanted to say a huge thank you to you all for your incredible effort with Marches Makers. It was a lovely event. Great footfall and everyone who looked around said they were really enjoying it, so all in all a win - win situation."

Former Chair of the Marches Makers committee, Christine Forrester, said, "It was extremely hard work to set up and organise this amazing event and I would like to thank everyone who supported us: the artists and makers, the venues, the visitors, Kington itself for being so positive, and last but not least the committee members who have given up months of their time and energy to make this happen."

The Marches Makers Committee wishes to express its gratitude to all who made this event possible: Christine Forrester for initiating the idea of an Arts Festival, bringing people together to organise it, steering it to a successful conclusion and for providing funding from the John Morgan Trust; church curating: Angela Soulier and Carrie Ede; Old Police Station curating: Isobel Hutton; Hergest Croft Gardens sculpture curation: Rachel Ricketts; branding and design: Wayne Summers; website creation and design: Andy Tobin; Instagram account: Dave Mullin; publicity and marketing: Nancy Frost, Annie Gamble and Annie Vickerstaff; finance and admin: Judy Weir; organising and logistics: Peter Horrocks, Paul Baines, Nick Holmes; admin: Annie Vickerstaff; roadside boards and printing: Gary Reuben; vicar Ben Griffith and church warden Ann Edwards; Elizabeth Banks; local gallery owners Shannon Donovan, Andrew Eastwood, Annie Gamble and Rachel Ricketts; Vonnie Smeaton at Harmony Handmade; Beccy at Border Bean; Fred at the Oxford Arms for providing free meeting space; Kington Chamber of Trade; Kington Town Council; and finally the people of Kington for embracing this new venture.

www.marchesmakers.co.uk or see our facebook page.



Your Town Council

A Town or Parish Council acts on behalf of the local community. However, Town and Parish Councils (and Councillors) can be quite restricted in what they can do.

Town and Parish Councils often work in partnership with the Unitary Authority (Herefordshire Council) and with local organisations

A Town or Parish Council is a separate legal entity and works on behalf of the local community. Its decisions are the responsibility of the whole council, not any one individual. Councillors are bound by strict rulings on what they are, and are not, able to do. For example, no Councillor can legally make a decision without the agreement of the whole Council.

There can also be a lot of confusion between the roles of the Town Council and Herefordshire Council. Here is a broad breakdown of some of the differences between what a Town Council and a Unitary Authority can do.

Town Council, on behalf of the local community

- Manages some local open / green spaces
- Makes comments on planning applications
- Provides play equipment on the areas it manages
- Provides some financial support /grants to local organisations.
- Manages the closed churchyard
- Looks after the War Memorial
- Provides sand bags to the local community
- Manages the markets via group of volunteers

The Town Council also reports the following to the County Council:

- pot holes
- overflowing bins
- dog mess
- provide allotments
- noise nuisance
- problems with drains

County Council on behalf of the wider community

- Mends the pot holes
- Empties the bins
- Fills the grit bins
- Has the final say on planning applications
- Deals with dog noise and general nuisance
- Provides sand bags to the whole of the County
- Cuts the grass on road verges and County Council-owned green spaces
- Flushes out blocked drains that are part of the road drainage

This is only a brief example. You are welcome to make any complaints to the Town Council first. The Town Council will advise whether this is a civic / council matter or legal / police matter. The Town Council will pass your complaint to the relevant Herefordshire Council department if appropriate but it is always worth making a complaint to Herefordshire Council directly yourself too as this can emphasise the issue. Most items such as potholes, full litter bins or blocked drains can be reported online and our website has links to the relevant reporting sites.

<http://www.kingtontowncouncil.gov.uk/>

Send the Kington Chronicle your information!

We want to tell the world but we need you to tell us.

Annie: aarghh1@btinternet.com or Fred: fred.hawkins1964@googlemail.com

Deadline for next issue: October 15