



Yes its back!
News, views, and reviews of all things Kington

This is an initial issue to get the Chronicle off the ground again but it is back on a quarterly basis if we can manage it. Help is always welcome so if anyone would like to assist us please contact Fred at the Oxford arms or email:

fred.hawkins.1964@gmail.com

Please send any articles you may wish to include in the next issue and we will try to put them in - in electronic form please, if possible. Advertising will also be available, subject to a charge.

NEWS FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL

Kington's Neighbourhood Plan is Taking Shape

The Neighbourhood Planning Group are now drafting the Plan policies on housing development within Kington, to meet our obligation to find sites for new dwellings required to meet Herefordshire Council's land supply targets.

Based on our extensive consultation and data gathering we have now identified sites sufficient for the housing development required. The majority are small sites, but it is proposed to focus the bulk of development on two sites west of the Old Eardisley Road estate. In addition Local Green Space which we want to protect has also been identified.

Policies for sustaining the local economy are also being reviewed. These include strengthening the role of Kington as a market town and maintaining the High Street as a prosperous and pedestrian friendly shopping area. We will be consulting on these proposals.

We expect to consult on the whole Plan early in the New Year. The Plan will then be referred to Herefordshire Council for review and returned for a referendum in Kington for final approval.

All details can be viewed on our website. (Kingtonareaplan.org.uk)

The recycling centre is now open on the Eardisley road, on the right hand side just before Kington Medical Practice. The road sign for the centre will be erected shortly according to Hereford CC. (See back page for details.)

The Kington Centre and Library are working well under the current funding arrangements but these will only continue for so long. Please remember that using the Kington Centre is the best way to help it keep a high profile so that it remains an asset for the population of Kington.

EVENTS

KINGTON WALKING FESTIVAL 2016

Kington Walking Festival 2016 was deemed a success by all those who took part with over 40 guided walks. The weather was incredible for the four days showing off our beautiful countryside at its best. Visitors from far and wide visited the town. The Place de Marines came alive with the opening event of the goulash evening. John Jones completed his 100 mile walk across Herefordshire in aid of Macmillan with 40 walkers on Saturday and celebrated with the Reluctant Ramblers band in the evening. The Festival also supported Parkinson's UK, Longtown Mountain Rescue and Herefordshire Wildlife Trust. There were walks for everyone from short walks around the town to long distant trail walks. The Eight Peaks provided a sporting challenge with more than 50 taking part. The children of Kington Primary School enjoyed a walk from Worzel Wood, to the summit of Hanter Hill and returned to school along Hergest Ridge. The Festival Calendar will be available shortly via the website – kingtonwalks.org

Helen Yeomans

KINGTON FESTIVE FOOD AND DRINK FROM THE BORDERS

3 DECEMBER

- A Kington Chamber of Trade event for CHRISTMAS. 80 top Producers from the marches .
- Celebrity chefs, children's activities including Father Christmas. Live music.
- A real day of celebration for Christmas spirit in Kington.
- Support the High Street and the festival on Small Business Day..
- Free entry and free parking.

Pam Peek (Kingtonfoodfest@gmail.com)

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

22 Oct	Apple juicing day at the Place de Marines
27 to 29 Oct	The MIKADO at Lady Hawkins School
2 Nov	Festival committee AGM 7.30 at the Burton Hotel
5 Nov	Bonfire night on the recreation ground
13 Nov	Remembrance Sunday Parade.
26 Nov	Twinning race night at the Oak
3 Dec	Food festival

PAGE TREE

Kington Tree Warden News

Last winter we helped Kington Park Residents plant a damson avenue along the lower park circuit path with an apple circle and a walnut tree in the West. We also helped the KPS kids plant a plum tree and a "Here we go 'round the Mulb'ry Bush," in their back playground and 4 other Walnut trees at the Park View & Crooked Well Meadow community orchards. Get in touch if you are interested adopting a fruit or nut tree planted on an open space near you.

Ash Disease & the KLASH

Kington Living Ash Survey Helpers are starting to monitor the health of the Ash trees near where they live in the Kington Area. This is part of a national effort to find signs of resistance to Chalara, the Ash Dieback fungal disease which is now here, in Kington. It would not help prevent the spread of the disease to cut-down all the ash trees and we would also miss any signs of resistance within the local gene pool. If you would like to help with this simple citizen-science project please get in touch.

Hunting for Ancient Trees

We are also helping to update the County Records for the **Native Black Poplar** which shows only 150 old individuals left

in Herefordshire! If you know of an old one that may not be on the map (*see below) or if you have planted a young Black Poplar whip and know where it came from please let us know.

The old track around the bottom of Herrock Hill is home to the UK Champion **Field Maple** tree; its' massive girth is probably the result of being managed for hundreds of years as a pollard. I visited this fabulous tree during Kington Walking Festival on the excellent "Ancient trees & Tracks" walk led by David Griffiths & Sarah Cadwallader who recorded it on Ancient Tree Hunt interactive map* on the Woodland Trust's website; have a look, you may be surprised more local veteran and champion trees there are 'round here!



Branches Everywhere!

Re-established in 2015, the Herefordshire Tree Warden Network (HTWN) has in its first year tripled the number of Tree Wardens in the County to over 36. The Network provides official support, expert information, advice and access to training. Kington Town Council has subscribed to HTWN to support me as Kington Tree Warden with my assistants Jon Cooke & Rob MacCurrach and a growing team of volunteers. This year we took part in HTWN training events on Ash Dieback and other tree diseases; winter tree identification; surveying & mapping; veteran tree management; Tree Legislation, TPO's, Conservation Areas etc. This year we are looking forward to sessions on community orchards, coppice & woodland management and much more. We bring our enthusiasm from what we have learned back to Kington.



National Week - 26th November to 4th December

There's lots going on around the county in H.Tree Week: www.h-trees.net/events.html

In Kington we are hosting:

"Inspired by Trees" – Tue. 22nd Nov. to Sat.10th Dec. Local artists exhibit Tree.Art in cafes, hotels, shops, the library & pubs during opening hours.

Riverside Tree management – 10:30am Mon. 28th Nov.

"Pretty Weird Walk & Talk" Louis MacDonald Ames of the Wye & Usk Foundation Managing Riparian trees for a healthy river ecology along the Arrow & Back Brook. Assemble at the Old Police Station.

"Grows on Trees" – Sat.3rd Dec. Kington Festive Food Fair – Progressive Tree Feast;

Try the Tree Specials on the menu at participating Kington gastro-venues and stalls.

Not battered squirrel's feet but what about a nut-burger, damson crumble or sloe-gin!

Coppice Volunteer Group – Sun.4th Dec. 11am to 3:30pm at Bradnor Green.

Learn to re-cut hazel trees using hand-tools & a little common-sense. Glebe Woodland alongside Offa's Dyke Path. Good for wildlife, greenwood products and groovy firewood. *Events are free but donations are welcome.*

There are lots more opportunities to manage our local public trees for wildlife & people. For flood mitigation and diverse habitats, for food security and renewable energy.

Contact Richie Cotterill on:

Tel: 01544 231236 or 07777 661252

Email: kingtontrees@live.co.uk

Web: www.htreewardens.org.uk

"The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The next best time is now!"

Chinese Proverb

Kington Household Recycling Centre

Useful information for residents

The Household Recycling Centre in Kington is provided for Herefordshire residents local to the facility as a place where they may take their own household waste.

Location: Kington Household Recycling is located on Eardisley Road, opposite the Kington Surgery.

Open Times: Open three days each week Friday, Saturday and Sunday 8.00am to 6.00pm. *The site is closed **Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day***



Materials Accepted: (Household Waste Only)

- Garden Waste
- Furniture & bicycles for reuse
- Paper and Cardboard
- Scrap Metals
- Household Electrical Goods
- Energy saving light bulbs
- Fluorescent Tubes
- Household Batteries
- Waste Wood
- Soil and Rubble
- General Household Rubbish

Not Accepted:

(But accepted at main sites in Hereford and Leominster)

- Plasterboard
- Cement Bonded Asbestos

IMPORTANT

If you wish to bring your household waste using a commercial vehicle and/or trailer you will need a permit. Visit our website for further info:

www.herefordshire.gov.uk/recycling

No business/commercial waste may be deposited; doing so will lead to penalty and/or prosecution (this is any waste which is not your own household waste from your own domestic property). Please check before you visit the site if you are unsure.