

Kingsland News

AUGUST
2026



The Rector writes...

I am writing this on a sunny afternoon, the final day of the school year. With children, staff, parents and families from Kingsland CE Primary School, I have just enjoyed a wonderfully joyful and moving whole school End of Year Worship Celebration in our beautiful village church.



'I Sing Pop Concert, 16.6.26
Photo Jake Everet, Kingsland P. Scht



Messy Church Jonah & the Whale 5/7/26



Junior Steel Pans (Craft Fair) 27/6/26



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Saturday 12th September
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August is often a month for rest and refreshment, a break from routine and hopefully some recreation and fun! Whether the school holidays mark a change of routine for you – a break from regular activities, looking after children or grandchildren perhaps. Or whether the summer is a busier time for you – thinking of those working in areas like agriculture and hospitality, I hope you can find a little time for fun and recreation this summer, doing something that restores and refuels you.

To inspire us, I want to share some photos of the fun and joy and time together that our children and young people have had at Kingsland Church and in the Mortimer's Cross Benefice recently..Enjoy!



Forest Church at Aymestrey.

'John the Baptist'

28/6/26

Wishing you all a very happy summer holiday ~ Maggie

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me. Don't stop them, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to people who are like these children." ~ Matthew 19:14, International Children's Bible (ICB)

Rev'd Maggie Tate-Druiff is Rector of The Mortimer's Cross Benefice: Kingsland, Eardisland and Aymestrey with Leinthall Earles.

rector@mortimerscrosschurches.co.uk



Youth Group World Cup Party 4/7/26



Forest Church at Aymestrey. 'Jesus te Good Shepherd' 22/3/26



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NEWS FROM THE CHAPELS

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God... For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

I Corinthians Ch1 vv18 and 25

Youth Group: The next meeting will be on Saturday, 5th September, 3-5 pm, The theme will be 'Old Enough', with crafts, discussion, games, snacks and quiz.

From September we intend to provide a 'safe space' for a couple of hours, twice a week, for those young people who go home to an empty house after they get off the school bus. There will be no formal activities but homework support, relaxation and fun activities will be available together with drinks and biscuits. We are grateful to those people who have already volunteered to help with this but would welcome more. All that is needed is a willingness to be DBS checked (No cost involved) and to be on a rota once a month. Volunteers would never be on their own but in teams of three. If you are interested in helping out in this way please let Becky(Bex) or Lesley know and we will explain further.

Sunday Breakfast:

Come and join us for an all-age 'Sunday Breakfast' There are cereals, fruit, toast and spreads, cooked breakfast, tea, coffee and fruit juice. This will be on **Sunday, 16th August**, and we will be cooking American Style pancakes with fruit, jam, syrup etc. Come and try them!

Books: By the front door of the chapel is a rack of books for young people of all ages, from board books to novels. These are

available for anyone to borrow- their return in due course would be appreciated. There are also some books for adults in the bookcase behind the front door.

Coffee Morning: There will be no coffee morning in August as so many people are on holiday. However, the Coffee Morning on **Saturday, 12th September**, will be to raise funds for the **Friends of Mortimer Medical Practice**. Do come along then and make it a Saturday to remember!

Advance Notice: In November we will be holding a free coffee morning to give local clubs, societies and organisations the opportunity to showcase what they offer and encourage participation.

Community Garden: I never thought I'd say this: HOT weather stopped play!!

Harvest Festival: On Sunday, 20th September at 3.00 pm, we will be celebrating the harvest in a short service of thanksgiving followed by a light ploughman's 'lunch'. It's our first Harvest Festival in four years so support would be amazing. We will be asking for donations of produce gluts, tins and packaged food which will be donated to the local food bank together with the collection. Nearer the time we will be asking for approximate numbers to ensure no food is wasted.

Becky(Bex)

Services for August

All services are at 10.30 unless otherwise stated.

2 nd Aug	Kingsland	Rev D Hargreaves
9 th Aug	Leintwardine	Sharon O'Connell
16 th Aug	Kingsland	Sharon O'Connell 9.30 am Sunday Breakfast
23 rd Aug	Leintwardine	Local Arrangement



Please have look at **Middle March Methodists** on Facebook. Do tell us what you think. We are still learning and would appreciate some cheering from the sidelines.

Have you thought of Kingsland Chapel as a venue for your children's parties. For further discussion, contact Bex or Lesley on 01568 708992

If anyone would like further information about any of the above or transport, please contact Sharon at:

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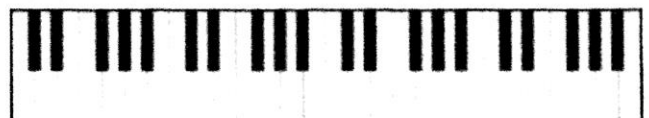
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Kingsland Footpaths Officer News

Well, July was certainly hot, wasn't it? Actually, it still is July as I struggle now to drag my fingers over the keyboard for this, the August edition. I wonder what this month will bring?

As far as footpaths go things have been, by necessity, a little low key of late although I have of course been out with the strimmer as always. One of the side effects of a long dry period, as anyone involved with farming will testify, is that everything struggles to grow. The farmers may be none too pleased about the very long hot spell of late but from a purely selfish standpoint being very dry does make my life a little easier.

That said, I have also been out thrashing around various stiles with a blade to keep them clear. I'm no botanist – or even gardener for that matter – but I assume there is a technical reason as to why I have been fighting with two-foot-high thistles and inch thick brambles that seem impervious to the heat when everything else looks wilted.

Those of you who walk the path alongside the church up to Pinsley Brook may have noticed the small footbridge over the stream is in a sorry state. I have, just today, been up there with a couple of short planks (there's a joke here somewhere, but I was on my own!) to fill a gap that appeared on the walkway. The bridge has been repaired piecemeal for a long while now and I will try to see if I can talk Herefordshire Council into providing a new one subject, I am sure they will say, to sufficient funding being identified.

While repairing the bridge I stepped aside for three walkers to cross, the little black dog with them sensibly took the cool water option. Having asked if I was the FPO I was delighted to hear that the local lady, the

Timothy Sparrow ,BSc(Hons) Ost.Med, MGOsC



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other two being family visitors, reads my witterings here in the Kingsland News. At last, confirmation that someone does!

Whenever I meet anyone when I am out and about on the PROW (as it were!), I often get a few kindly words for my efforts, and this time was no exception. While it is not the reason I became FPO, they did bring a smile to my face on a hot day. Proof if it were needed that you're never too old to enjoy a little positive feedback and a verbal pat on the head!

There will be no FPO walk in August. The next walk will be on Sat, 19th of September from the 'phone box at 10am. Why not put it in your diary now?

Best wishes

Steve Morgan

FPOfficer@kingsland-pc.gov.uk

<https://kingsland-pc.gov.uk/public-rights-of-way/>

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Kingsland Welsh Water Working Group

Following concerns raised by residents and discussions at Kingsland Parish Council, a Welsh Water Working Group was established earlier this year to focus on a number of water-related issues affecting the village and parish.

The Group was formed to examine three key areas of concern:

- The frequency and duration of discharge events from Kingsland Waste Water Treatment Works into the Pinsley Brook and the potential impact on the wider river catchment, including the River Lugg and River Wye.
- Sewer flooding and discharge incidents within the village, particularly along Park Terrace in the vicinity of the Coronation Hall.
- Reduced and inconsistent mains water pressure affecting properties in the northern part of Kingsland.



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The Working Group has now held two meetings and has begun gathering evidence and information to develop a clearer understanding of these issues. This work includes reviewing available data, collecting local observations and experiences, and identifying information that will help inform future discussions with Welsh Water and other relevant organisations.

The Group has also agreed a number of intended outcomes, including seeking a reduction in discharge events, eliminating sewer flooding incidents within the parish, improving understanding of the capacity of the wastewater infrastructure, and restoring and maintaining adequate water pressure levels across the village.

The Working Group is committed to taking a constructive and evidence-based approach and recognises that meaningful progress is likely to take time. However, a solid foundation has now been established, and further updates will be provided as the work develops.

The Parish Council would like to thank all those who have expressed an interest in the Group's work and those who have already contributed information and local knowledge.

Richard Hewitt (Clerk to Kingsland Parish Council)



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Patients' Participation Group (PPG)

DNA

In June 115 patients did not arrive for their appointment. Please notify reception if you are unable to attend so that the appointment may be offered to someone else.

Staffing News

In the past few weeks Nurse Ivonne Jarava Diegado and receptionists Kim Rawlings and Raihgan Barker have left the practice. The Practice is recruiting for all vacancies.

Staff training date

October 14th. from 12:00 noon until 4pm. Kingsland Surgery and Dispensary will re-open at 4:00 pm on each of these days. During the afternoon, you can

still contact reception in an emergency or complete an Anima form online if you need to get in touch

Information

The Practice pharmacies can only dispense medication that has been prescribed by Mortimer medical practice.

If you have any concerns or issues you would like me to raise at our PPG meetings please contact me at rosie.mortimerppg@gmail.com. The PPG are not able to deal with complaints. These need to be dealt with by the Practice Manager by calling 01568 708214

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Time is running out to join UK's largest environmental pollution claim

People have until the August Bank Holiday to join a group legal action over pollution in the rivers Wye, Lugg and Usk, the largest environmental pollution claim of its kind in the UK.

The deadline of 31 August 2026 follows the claim's first High Court hearing in April, at which a timetable for the case was set.

More than 4,800 people and local businesses have already signed up to join the claim, which argues that residents and businesses have been negatively impacted by river pollution caused by manure run-off from industrial poultry operations, as well as sewage discharges.

Residents say the pollution has prevented activities such as swimming and canoeing, affected businesses reliant on the river including fishing and tourism, and impacted property values.

Excess nutrient levels in the River Lugg have also contributed to a building moratorium which has resulted in some residents facing years of delays and extra costs from building projects.

Jenny-May While, a client on the claim who lives near the River Wye, said:

"Growing up in Herefordshire we would swim in the Wye and Lugg all the time, so it feels like home. When we moved in, we were aware of the pollution, but now being so close to the river, I see it getting worse almost on a daily basis. I haven't seen any live fish this year and the smell is so bad sometimes I don't want to go into our garden."

Visit our website <https://www.leighday.co.uk/our-services/group-claims/river-wye-claim/> or search 'Leigh Day River Wye claim' to see if you're eligible to join.

WE ARE FARMING MINDS



We are Farming Minds registered charity has been set up by farmers for farmers to tackle mental health in the farming community within Herefordshire.

How can we help?

24 Hour Support line:

We run a **FREE 24 hour support line 7 days a week** for farmers and their families within Herefordshire who are feeling distressed and need someone to talk to anonymously.

Call our support line:

0808 802 0070

Or text:

07786 203 130

Counselling:

We provide **fully funded counselling** to anyone in the Herefordshire farming community who may be struggling with their mental health.

Social Events:

We run a series of **FREE social events** throughout the year to break the isolation often felt by the farming community in Herefordshire.

Workshops:

We offer our **FREE mental health awareness** workshops to anyone in the farming community or those who may come in contact with those in the farming community.

If you wish to reach out to the team for further information, head to the website or email us on:

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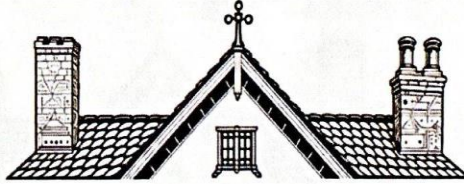


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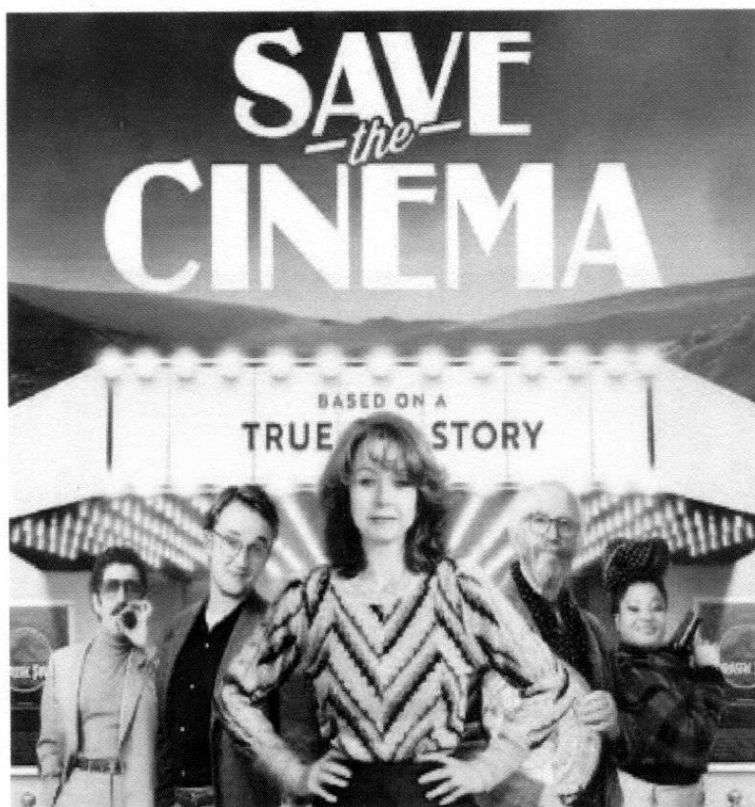
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Church Services in the Benefice during August

Date	Time	Church	Notes
2 nd Aug	10.30 am	Kingsland	Benefice Communion. Share God's Message
9 th Aug	10.30 am	Leinthall Earls	Lammas Communion Picnic Bring & Share (also bring a chair)
16 th Aug	10.30 am	Eardisland	Benefice Communion St. Mary: Sing out your story
23 rd Aug	10.30 am	Aymestrey	Benefice Communion St Alkmund
30 th Aug	10.30 am	Kingsland	Summer Songs of Praise

AI

All are very welcome at our services, including children and those who are new to church. On Thursdays in August, we will continue to meet at 9.30am for Holy Communion in someone's home. Please contact Jean Barbour for details (07866 418488)

Activities taking a break for August: Choir practice, Steel Pans, Messy Church and Youth Group will resume in September. To find out more about our services and activities, or to enquire about arranging a baptism, wedding or funeral, or a conversation about Christian faith, please contact our Rector, Maggie:

Mobile & WhatsApp: 07514 785568 / Phone (Mon-Thu): 01568 701 245 / Email: rector@mortimerscrosschurches.co.uk

New baby and toddler group for little ones and their grown-ups! There will be a new group starting in the church on **Thursday mornings, 10-12 in September**. Come along to build community and connection, have a hot drink and hopefully some decent adult conversation! Kingsland Playgroup have kindly gifted their baby toys and equipment to us, but we are still **lo asking for donations** of:

- good quality toys for older toddlers
- non-slip foam floor matting or foldable crash mats
- large storage boxes (preferably with wheels)
- travel mugs with lids

The Parish Diary, 2026

*(Editor's note: Events for this item need to be submitted by 15th of preceding month with clear instructions on the entry – **place, time, date & title** are essential information. Where more than one month's notice is given, items will automatically be repeated unless contrary instructions are received.*

August

5th WI Talk about Reflexology and Reiki Coronation Hall 7.30 pm
19th McMillan Coffee Morning Coronation Hall 10.00 am to 12.00 noon

September

2nd WI White Feather Beauty Coronation Hall (open meeting 7.30 pm
9th Flicks in the Sticks **Save our Cinema** Coronation Hall Bar 7 pm, Film 7.30 pm
12th Blue Moon Concert Coronation Hall from 7.30 pm
25th & 26th Kats presents **Lockdown in Little Grimley** Coronation Hall Doors Open 6.30 pm

October

3rd WI Steve Brown - Talk about Pottery. Open meeting Coronation Hall 7.30 pm
14th Flicks in the Sticks Film tba Coronation Hall Bar 7 pm, Film 7.30 pm
15th Flicks in the Sticks Film tba Coronation Hall Coffee & Cakes 10.00 am Film 10.30am

November

4th: WI Art Workshop (members only) Coronation Hall 7.30 pm
11th Flicks in the Sticks Film tba Coronation Hall Bar 7 pm, Film 7.30 pm

December

2nd WI Christmas Flower Arranging Workshop (Members only) Coronation Hall 7.30 pm
9th Flicks in the Sticks Film tba Coronation Hall Bar 7 pm, Film 7.30 pm

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The Chalford Group

Kingsland WI July and August meetings

We had the most glorious evening strolling around the beautiful gardens at Lawtonbury Farm, for our July meeting. Elaine and her family worked extremely hard to make us feel so welcome. They not only ensured that the gardens were presented immaculately but also provided us with delicious food too. It was prepared by Megan Lyke Catering (Elaine's daughter). Meg is clearly an extremely talented professional caterer. It was a fabulous evening and much appreciated and enjoyed by us all. A huge thank you again, Elaine, Will and Meg.

On Wednesday 5th August, 7.30pm, at the Coronation Hall, we will be welcoming visitors to join us for a talk given by Heidi Caldicott, a Reflexologist and Reiki Master. Heidi is a local practitioner, providing various relaxation and healing therapies from her studio in Leominster. There will be a Raffle, Sales Table, Tea and biscuits and a warm welcome, if you would like to join us for this interesting evening. **Visitors and Guests £6. Kingsland WI members -free.**

Sue Paton



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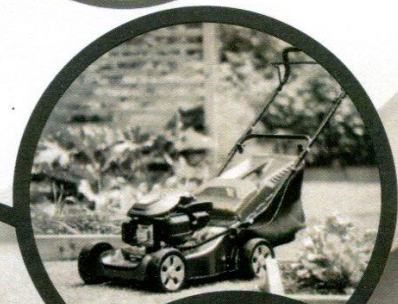
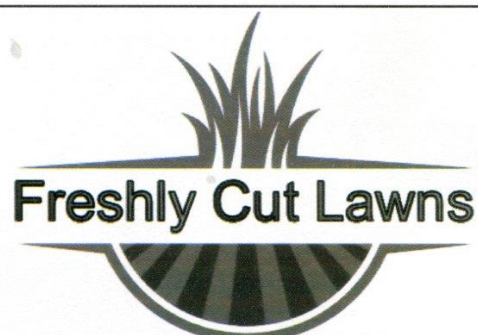
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Historical Jottings

The Corners Inn is still, as Rev. Jobling remarked, a “centre of village life”. Sadly, the march of inflation means that you can no longer sample its wares for the 1900 prices of 1s/6d per gallon (less than ½p per pint) for beer, 1s/4d a gallon for bitter, 1s/2d for porter and 3s/6d a bottle for whisky. Since, however, the average wage for an agricultural labourer was 14-19 shillings per week, there can have been few who could afford to spend 18-25% of their weekly pay on whisky.

In the 1850s the landlord was one William Phillips, who passed it to John Allen and his family a decade later. At the 1871 census, 34-year-old John Allen and his wife Elizabeth (32) ran the inn, assisted by their teenage daughter Eliza. By 1881, unmarried daughter Eliza was still at home, helping in her parents’ pub and living there with her 6-year-old son. The Allens passed it to Henry George Harrison, a widower whose daughter, Ann, was born in Kingsland in 1887. In 1901 the licensee was Thomas Mitchell, born in India, whose wife Helen was, according to Jobling, a daughter of John Allen. The couple had five children and were still running the Corners at the 1921 census.

The Bateman baronets of Shobdon Court used the Corners Inn as the venue for their baronial courts, or Courts Baron. Originally the principal manorial court, held every three to four weeks to administer the customs of the manor relating to tenure and land use, by the early 20th century these were largely ceremonial trappings of a family whose “aristocracy” was created in 1837 and ended with the 3rd baronet in 1931. The judicial functions and manorial

land tenures of courts baron were abolished by the Law of Property Act 1922, leaving them as largely social and ceremonial institutions.

Similarly, the Sanders family of Street Court used the Corners Inn to summon their tenants to the annual rent audits, held at Christmas. On a positive note, Mr Sanders provided his tenants with a dinner of roast goose and Christmas pudding. The downside was that it may have been the most expensive meal of the following year!

Jobling also reports that the Corners was the headquarters of the Oddfellows, formally the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (Manchester Unity) Friendly Society, a group that broke away from the Grand United Order of Oddfellows Friendly Society in 1810, some fifteen years after it was founded. This was one of many societies that evolved from trade guilds into lodges and were dedicated to mutual aid in a time before the welfare state and the NHS. There is some similarity to the Freemasons – they are described on their current website as having similar aims but “different paths”. According to the 1876 *List of Lodges Comprising the Independent Order of Oddfellows*, Kingsland was one of five lodges that, together with Knighton, Leintwardine, Leominster and Orleton, made up the Leominster District. The corresponding secretary of the district was R.O. Smith of Croase, Kingsland. The Kingsland Oddfellows met at the Corners Inn fortnightly on a Wednesday.

Originally a 17th century house and barn, the Corners Inn has been much altered over the past four hundred years. The most significant alteration was its re-fronting in

the early 19th century, along with many other contemporary properties in the village. Unlike some, however, it has retained its essential black and white character, although the painted brick infill is not original. The original components of the house can be seen in its front gable and 16-pane sashes under segmental heads. On the west side, facing Lugg Green Road, the three-panel structure can be seen, with its straight-angle braces to tie beams. The threshing floor entrance to the barn can also still be seen, now infilled with brick.

The most important feature of The Corners Inn remains its central place in village functions and hospitality. Long may that continue and thanks to Terence and Emma!

Chris Fear



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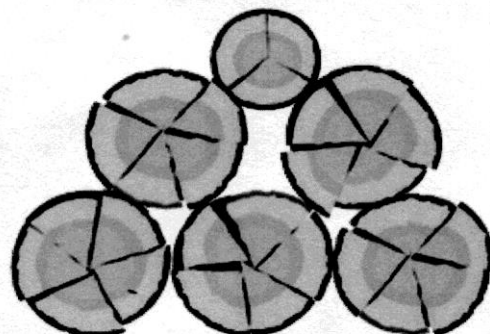
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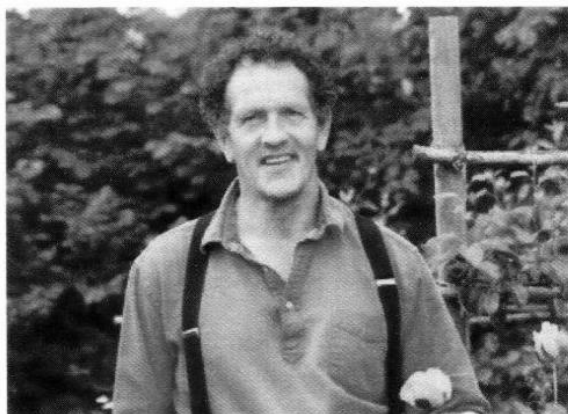
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Transforming Lives

Monty Don in conversation with Mary Rhodes

Weobley Church

Friday 11th September 2026, 7pm

Tickets £30 to include light refreshments



Monty Don (BBC Gardeners World) will be 'in conversation' with Mary Rhodes (BBC Midlands Today), talking about a life in gardening, emotional wellbeing and living well. Enjoy an evening in the beautiful Church of St Peter & St Paul in Weobley. Tickets available to purchase online following the link or QR code:



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Hedgehog News

I am so amazed at how many visits we have nearly every night to one of our feeding stations. The one which is monitored by a wildlife camera recorded 49 movements last night. Admittedly the same hog can return many times during the night, and of course it records them going in and coming out but, quite often they go in through the front of the feeding station and out at the back. Anyway, I am more than thrilled with the results. The hogs eat so much food and waste very little unless there is a fight in the feeding station, then the dishes and the food fly all over the place. Please take on board that it is important to put fresh paper (I use newspapers) every day and clean dishes in the feeding stations. Doing this stops any diseases spreading.

Although hedgehogs usually only eat slugs, worms and insects, I watched a video recently of a hedgehog eating the head of a pigeon that was still alive. It was awful and I didn't watch it all, but I must admit I was shocked. They will eat eggs and chicks of ground nesting birds; they eat carrion and may even eat small mammals if they can catch them. Of course it is all about survival.

This time I am going to mention to you about Hedgehog Rescue Centres. Many of these people, who dedicate so many hours a day and night to save hedgehogs, are getting very depressed because so many hogs are dying. Many rescue centres are reporting unprecedented numbers of abandoned hoglets. When mothers can't find food and water, they are forced to abandon their litter to survive. Many centres are full and can't take more hedgehogs and year on year, it is getting worse, because of the extreme heat we now experience every summer.. So many babies and adults are dehydrated and starving. In these situations, often, they cannot be saved. If you find a dehydrated hedgehog, it will need to go straight to a hog rescue without any hesitation. Put it in a

high sided box with a towel for it to snuggle into and a warm water bottle wrapped in a towel. Put the bottle where the hog can move off it if it wants to. Dehydrated, hungry hedgehogs go very cold because their bodies are shutting down. Put a dish of water in the box but no food. Please DO NOT try to give the hedgehog water with a syringe, water will go into the lungs and the hog will drown. For severely dehydrated or collapsed hedgehogs, veterinary professionals inject sterile fluids under the skin (subcutaneously) to safely absorb into the animal's bloodstream over a period of hours. Hedgehogs are being taken in with raw feet and no claws where they have tried to scratch the rock-hard soil to get food. Hedgehogs are still being taken in with strimmer injuries, noses trimmed off, tops of heads trimmed off, legs trimmed off, spines trimmed off. Many are so badly trimmed that the hogs are euthanized. Imagine the pain those poor creatures must be in, yet it is still happening. PLEASE, PLEASE check before you trim and don't think that a hedgehog would not nest in a particular area because they probably will. They nest in some very strange places and in some cases make very shallow nests. Hedgehogs will nest in compost heaps so please be careful when putting a fork into the compost.

Many small, independent hedgehog rescue centres are self-financing, so they rely on donations of money, food and newspapers. I really admire these people and try to do what I can to help. We are topping up our eight-hedgehog water dishes several times a day because the birds are bathing and drinking from them. Please do the same if you can, in your gardens. As you know hedgehogs are on the verge of extinction and we really must do our very best to help them, so please, take heed of what I have put in this article and do all you can to help them.

Thank you and best wishes,

Christina



Nathalie Cresswell

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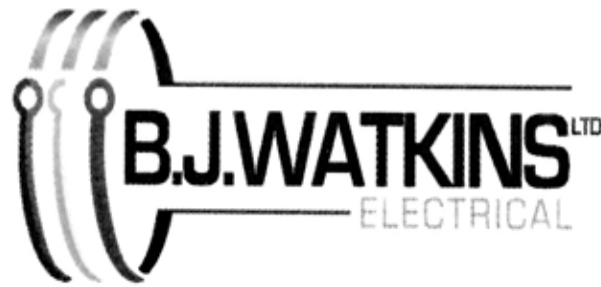
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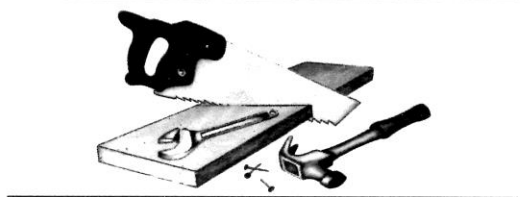
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Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I would just like to thank everyone who sent me their best wishes following my spell in hospital in February and subsequent recovery period. It is always very gratifying to know that there is an excellent level of support within our lovely community in Kingsland. Thank you again.

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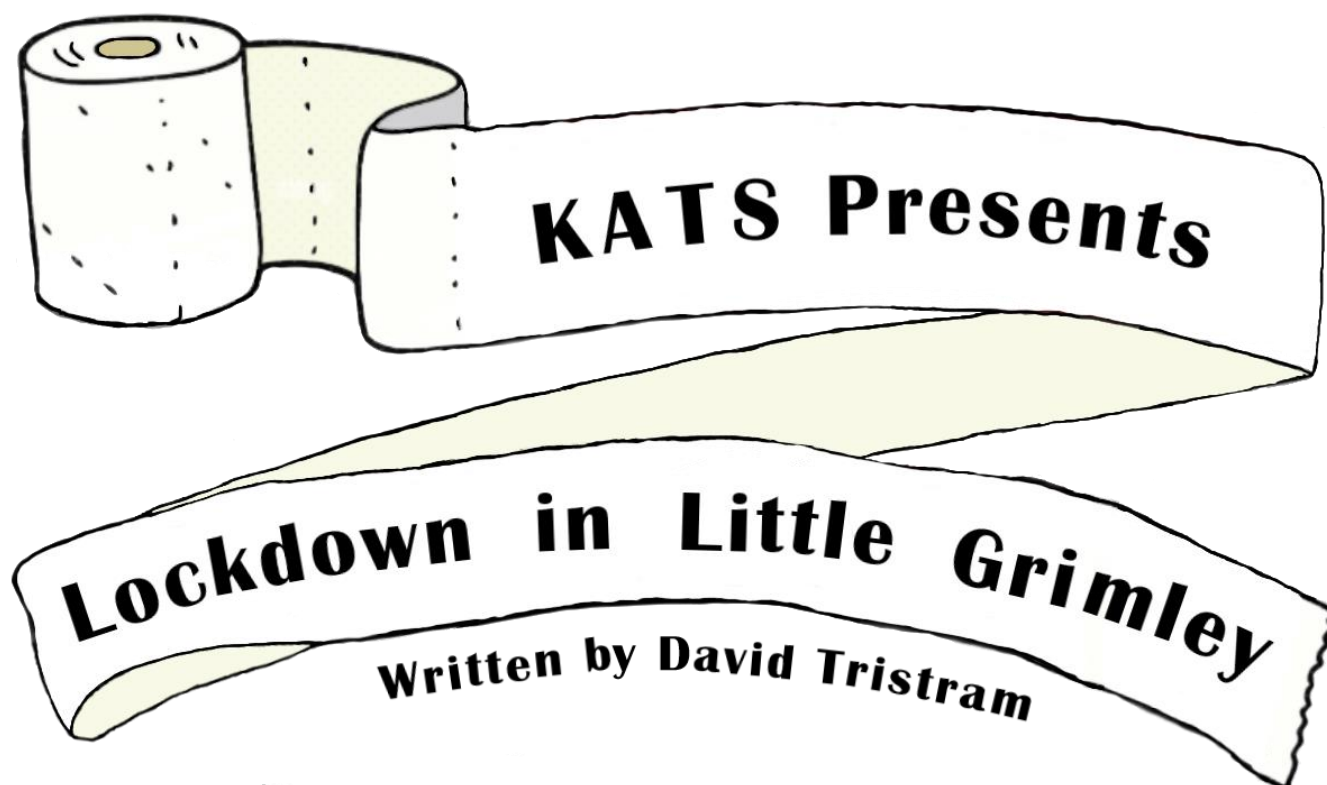
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The cost of the advert depends on the size, and there is a substantial discount for paying for a number of adverts in advance. Details are in the table below

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