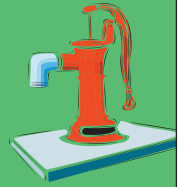


The Kingswinford, Wall Heath & Wordsley

# PARISH PUMP



## KINGSWINFORD METHODIST CHURCH

*Stream Road, Kingswinford DY6 9NP*

[www.kingswinfordmethodist.co.uk](http://www.kingswinfordmethodist.co.uk)

**Rev Alan Combes** (01384 823146)

[alan.combes@methodist.org.uk](mailto:alan.combes@methodist.org.uk)

All Age Worship - 14 April—with a time of praise from 10.00am. Uniformed organisations will be on parade. Service continues from 10.30am.

Coffee and Craft - 4 May from 10.00 am.

Coffee and Conversation. - 16 April from 10.00am and then 7 May from 10.00am.

Our Café Praise service starts at 6pm on 21 April - a relaxed time of worship with lots of cake and drinks available.

Young Church meet on 28 April from 10.30 am. All pre-school age and upwards through to Uni are welcome.



## WORDSLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

meet at 7.30pm on the second Thursday of the month at  
**Wordsley Community Centre, Wordsley Green DY8 5BN.**

Following yet another very popular meeting in March where the subject related to the translation of the original Kingswinford Parish from that of an agricultural base to that of an industrial base, we are proud to present the following meetings:

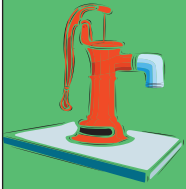
### **11 April: The Diggum Uppers!**

An illustrated talk about body snatching and grave robbing in the Black Country.

**9 May: Our AGM and Members' Supper.** Members please book your meal no later than the April meeting.

**13 June: A House Through Time**—the tale of a house in Dudley and its inhabitants over the years. A fascinating history assured to be very interesting.

Membership is now due for renewal at a cost of £20.00 which includes the affiliation fee for the Wordsley Community Centre. Visitors are most welcome at our meetings at a charge of £4.00—all meetings commence at 7.30pm.



The Kingswinford, Wall Heath & Wordsley

# PARISH PUMP



The Glasscutters Bowling Club in Wordsley is a community group which is home to children and adults of all ages and physical and mental abilities. They provide a minimal cost membership that enables people of different socioeconomic backgrounds to come together and participate in

gentle exercise thus improving health and wellbeing through participating in a gentle sport.

The club are supporting people in order to combat loneliness, reduce isolation and build new friendships. If you think this is something you would like to get involved with please contact Joanne on the number below.

The club are also actively trying to attract businesses and organisations who might be able to help them with funding with either a straightforward donation or sponsoring on an annual basis an advertising sign on their fence — this way visitors will be able to see exactly who is supporting the club. There are many ways in which a donation will be able to help the club:

- advertising on club tops and jackets
- advertising your name on the club trophy
- providing snacks and refreshments for the elderly
- helping to decorate, modernise and furnish the small clubhouse

If this is of interest to any business or organisation please contact Joanne Antcliff either by phone on **07375 119669** or email her at [joanneantcliff@icloud.com](mailto:joanneantcliff@icloud.com)

## WHAT CAN KINGSWINFORD LIBRARY OFFER YOU?

**Free computer use and printing, scanning and photocopying facilities**

**A large choice of fiction, crime and non-fiction books**

**A dedicated Children and Teen area with a large selection of books**

**Audio books and DVD's for hire**

**Quiet study seating areas**

**Regular Saturday Children's crafts (between 10am and 12pm every Saturday)**

## OR WHY NOT JOIN A GROUP?

**Crime and fiction reading groups**

**Craft group**

**Board Game group**

**Rattle and Rhyme Children's sessions**

**Monthly Lego club**

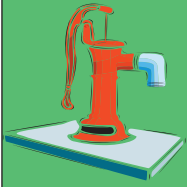
**Ancestry sessions**

## ROOM HIRE AVAILABLE

**For further information about any of the above please contact:**

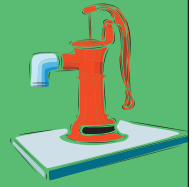
**KINGSWINFORD LIBRARY**  
Market Street, Kingswinford DY6 9LG  
**01384 812740**

**[Kingswinford.Library@GLL.ORG](mailto:Kingswinford.Library@GLL.ORG)**



The Kingswinford, Wall Heath & Wordsley

# PARISH PUMP



## MENS BOWLS AT WORDSLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE



### YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!

Friday afternoons between  
1.00pm and 4.00pm.

Why not pop along and join this highly popular group for Short Mat Indoor Bowls, Cards and Dominoes. There is always lots of laughter and jollity with this group and it is the perfect way to meet new friends and enjoy a nice cup of tea/coffee and, of course, cakes and biscuits! All equipment is supplied. If you have never played before that is not a problem as the group welcome all abilities. There are subsidised subscriptions.

If this is of interest to you, please give **Bob** a call on **07572 321401** and leave a message with your phone number or call the Community Centre on **01384 273186**.

THE NEXT PARISH PUMP WILL BE IN THE **MAY** EDITION AND THE COPY DEADLINE IS **FRIDAY, 19th APRIL 2024**.

Insertions are free if you run a Group or Association that is non-profit making. Please send your details via email to Gail at **villagevoice@hotmail.co.uk**

**WORDSLEY SENIORS GROUP—50+** have some interesting talks coming up in April and May.

17 April will see **Ron Pople** addressing the group on “**Entertainment and Magic**”. He will have plenty of jokes to offer and tricks up his sleeve.

1st May— “**Black Sheep of the Family**” is a talk by **Karen** who will be telling tales and secrets of family history and connections.

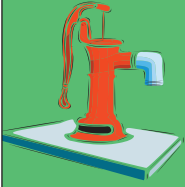
The Group meets at 2.00pm every Wednesday at **Wordsley Green Community Centre, Wordsley Green DY8 5BN**.

Members £3.00 and Visitors £4.00  
For further information, please ring **01384 288219**.

## DUDLEY RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS SUPPORT GROUP

was established back in 2007 to support patients within the local area who were suffering with inflammatory conditions. The Group have close links with the Rheumatology department who regularly contribute to their speaker schedule. They meet monthly on the first Thursday of each month at 1.30-3.30pm at **The King William Pub, 16 Pensnett Road, Holly Hall, Dudley**. They host speakers from various backgrounds as well as running afternoon teas and outings. Their next talk is on 2 May when Karen Phillips will be addressing the group.

For further information please contact:  
**Andrew—07941 937205**  
**Ranjana—07963 785586**  
**Edith—01902 676136**



# The Kingswinford, Wall Heath & Wordsley **PARISH PUMP**



**WALL HEATH COMMUNITY  
CENTRE,**

**Enville Road, Wall Heath DY6 0JT**

**Telephone: 01384 273744**

**Email: wallheathcommunityassoc@gmail.com**

**There is a lot going on in the community centre during April and May:**

**4 April:** Thursday at 2 Club, 2.00pm:

Pete Kelly, singer/songwriter brings his Irish foot-tapping music, songs of folk and 60's music to the club.

**9 April:** Sgt. Pepper's Friends, 10.30am:

Songsmith Pete Kelly.

10 April: The Wednesday Club, 2.00pm:

John Butterworth presents his talk "**Editing the Black Country Bugle**". As editor of the only weekly nostalgic paper in the country, John talks about how the paper started, the characters and some of the amazing stories featured.

16 April: Sgt. Pepper's Friends, 10.30am:

Debbie Miles. Princess of Pershore, with wonderful songs.

18 April: Thursday at 2 Club, 2pm:

Paul Carpenter, "**Into Africa**". Paul will be talking about his travels around Africa searching for, and studying, insects and arachnids and their amazing habitats.

23 April: Sgt. Pepper's Friends, 10.30am:

Barry Smith, one of the UK's great accordion entertainers.

24 April: The Wednesday Club, 2.00pm:

Bob Booth, "**Silver to digital magic**". The story of the designing and making, from hand production to computer-driven imaging of the largest buildings to the smallest electronic components. Bob will show some of his own pieces in silver and will talk about the people who have influenced his work.

30 April: Sgt. Pepper's Friends, 10.30am.

# BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

## WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



**Whilst we tend to think of April 23rd as being St George's Day, we sometimes forget that it is also the anniversary of the birth and indeed death of William Shakespeare, our greatest playwright.**

Sometime in April 1564 a baby was born in Stratford-upon-Avon to John and Mary Shakespeare. The child was baptised William on 26th April 1564 at Holy Trinity Church in that town and of course, he was destined to become widely recognised as the English language's greatest dramatist. In those days it was usual to wait three days after the birth of a child before the baptism, making William's birthday likely to be 23rd April.

Not much is known about his formative years but when he was just 18 he married 26 year old Anne Hathaway who, six months later gave birth to their first child, Susannah. This was followed two years later by the birth of twins Hammet and Judith. Little is known of his life between 1584 and 1592 although it is believed that in this later year he moved to London, primarily as an actor. This, however, was put on hold the following year when many of the theatres and other places of entertainment in London were closed due to an outbreak of the plague. He did, though, use the time to write two epic poems—Venus & Adonis and The Rape of Lucrece.

The following year he became a founder member of the Lord Chamberlain's Men, a group of actors who became the most influential theatre group in England. As well as a founder member, William Shakespeare was a stockholder, playwright and actor within the company.

The success of the group brought considerable wealth to all the main investors and with this money in 1597 Shakespeare was able to purchase New Place, the second largest property in Stratford.

Certainly when it came to money Shakespeare was an astute investor and in 1607 he purchased some 107 acres of land bordering the centre of Stratford and in 1605 he bought several houses in the town which he let out, bringing him an annual income of £60 (a not inconsiderable sum in those days).

By then his acting days were over and his writing had slowed to a trickle. Throughout his career he is known to have authored at least 39 plays himself plus several in association with other playwrights of the time. In addition he wrote some 154 sonnets as well as the two epic poems mentioned above.

In 2016 an auction of a book of 36 of Shakespeare's plays raised some £2.4 million, which at that time was a world record for a literary work. The buyer—an American collector of all things Shakespearian—then announced that the book would be the centrepiece of an

exhibition that would tour the world. One of the most remarkable 'sales' of items connected with the Bard of Stratford was in 1998 when another American supposedly bought the Royal Shakespeare Theatre from a very convincing confidence trickster for £1 million!

Shakespeare died on 23rd April 1616, on his 52nd birthday. He was buried in the chancel of the nearby Holy Trinity Church. He left most of his estate to his elder daughter Susannah.



*New Place in Stratford upon Avon—home of the Shakespeares.*

## FACTS ABOUT SHAKESPEARE

- ★ In 2016 a tale about a Black Country version of Hamlet went viral. The story was that Stuart Ash, a postgraduate of the Birmingham School of Acting was performing *Yamlet* at various locations around the Black Country and South Staffordshire. Details of *Yamlet* were released on 1st April 2016.
- ★ Although it is known that Shakespeare wrote a play called Cardenio no copy of it now exists. It has been estimated that if a copy should be found it would be worth at least £10 million.
- ★ Shakespeare rarely signed his name in full. He most often signed as *Willm Shappere*.
- ★ In his works Shakespeare used over 25,000 different words. Most people have a vocabulary of no more than 6,000 words.
- ★ On his grave are the words *Curst be he who moves my bones*.
- ★ The *Comedy of Errors* is Shakespeare's shortest play at 1,770 lines long.
- ★ In 1599 the Lord Chamberlain's Men (of whom Shakespeare was a leading member constructed their own theatre—the *Globe*—on London's South Bank.

# ADVERTISERS' INDEX

## ACCOUNTANTS

Nicholas Barwell & Co 47  
TaxAssist Accountants 50  
Clover Accountancy Ltd 14

## BLINDS & AWNINGS

Castle Blinds & Awnings 54

## BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION

Lockside Construction Ltd 29  
GMD Orangeries & Conservatory Specialists 51

## CAFES

Village Cafe 39

## CAR SALES

All Electric Garages Group PLC 36,37&OBC

## CARPETS

Trinity Carpets 59

## CARPET CLEANING

Zero Dry Time 44

## COUNSELLORS

Dudley Crossroads 55

## DECORATORS

Patrick J Bellew Decorating 41

## DOUBLE GLAZING

Cloudy 2 Clear Windows 5

## ELECTRICIANS

Wilf's Electrical 28

## EVENTS

Gracie's Birthday Ball – a Masquerade Party 48

## EXERCISE FOR SENIORS

Active Seniors 28

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

TKV Financial Management Limited 28

## FLORISTS

Kay's Flowers & Balloons 22

## FOOTCARE

Step Ahead 47

## FUNERAL SERVICES

J.T. Brookes 38

## FURNITURE

Dreamworld Furniture 45  
Buy Sofas Direct 18&19

## HAIRDRESSERS

Blaze Hair 21

## HARDWARE SHOPS

Bargainware 31

## HOME & GARDEN

Decormar 16

## HOME CLEANING SERVICES

Lisa's Cleaning Services 26

## JEWELLERS

Arthur's Jewellers 28

## KITCHENS & BATHROOMS

Shawfit Interiors 6

Dream Doors 7

Round Oak Interiors 30

## MOTHER & BABY SHOPS

The Elephants Pyjamas 17

## NETWORKING

Loop 15

## NURSERIES & PLANT CENTRES

Prestwood Cave Nurseries 43

Beacon Nurseries & Plant Centre 56

## PLUMBING & GAS SERVICES

Nuco Group 26

Price Plumbing & Heating 40

Wheeler's Gas, Plumbing & Heating 60

## POLITICAL CANDIDATES

Shaz Saleem 35

## ROOFING

Shayne Orme Roofing 24

GMD Roofing & PVC 8&9

Rightway Roofing 32&33

## SECURITY SAFEBOXES

Vittoria Safeboxes IBC

## SEWING SERVICES

Total Sewing 12

## SOLICITORS

Waldrons Solicitors 23

Thursfields Solicitors 11

Corrie's Solicitors Ltd 13

## SPORTS

Dudley Kingswinford Rugby 25

Football Club

## TRAVEL

Phillips International 10

## TREE & LANDSCAPE SPECIALISTS

Tree & Landscape Specialists IFC

## VENUES

Dudley Kingswinford Rugby Club 25

## YOGA CLASSES

Exhale with Claudia 27

Zen Den Yoga and Mindfulness 49

## Village Voice MAGAZINE

Three separate editions each month in the areas:

Sedgley / Gornal /  
Coseley / Tipton;

Kingswinford / Wall Heath /  
Wordsley;

Wombourne / Swindon /  
Penn / Kinver

If you would like further  
information then please

call Gail on  
0781 790477

or email:

[villagevoice@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:villagevoice@hotmail.co.uk)

PLEASE MENTION

## Village Voice

WHEN USING THE SERVICES  
OF OUR ADVERTISERS  
THANK YOU.

## ON THE HOME FRONT PAGE 40

- Stuart's Handyman Services
- Sam's Exterior Cleaning Services
- Shaggy Dog
- Oven Blitz
- Orion Security

To Advertise in Village Voice call Gail on **01384 866688** or **0781 790 4477**  
It's cheaper than you thought – Prices start at just £10 (+VAT) per month!

**CALL TODAY!**

VILLAGE VOICE is published by Village Voice Magazines © 2024



# Keep your Valuables Safe and Secure

Reserve a Safety Deposit Box  
and have total peace of mind at

## Vittoria Safeboxes



**Vittoria Safeboxes**

VITTORIA HOUSE  
1-7 VITTORIA STREET  
THE JEWELLERY QUARTER  
BIRMINGHAM  
B1 3ND

6-8 TETTENHALL ROAD  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
WV1 4SA

**[www.safeboxesltd.com](http://www.safeboxesltd.com)**  
**email: [info@safeboxesltd.com](mailto:info@safeboxesltd.com)**  
**Telephone: 0121 679 0516**



# Discover our award-winning vehicles.



**Explore the entire Hyundai range of new and used cars.**

With sporty hatchbacks, sleek saloons and family-friendly SUVs, there's a Hyundai for every lifestyle, and an offer for every budget.

**New cars | Offers | Used cars | Servicing | Motability**

**Book your test drive today.**

**Hyundai Stourbridge**

95 Enville Street, Stourbridge DY8 1XW  
01384 438022 | [www.allelectric.co.uk/hyundai](http://www.allelectric.co.uk/hyundai)

**Hyundai Kidderminster**

112 Worcester Road, Kidderminster, DY10 1HT  
01562 752566 | [www.allelectric.co.uk/hyundai](http://www.allelectric.co.uk/hyundai)

