

# OURVILLAGE



Higher Kinnerton  
Community Council

Your Monthly Higher Kinnerton Community Newsletter



## HIGHER KINNERTON SCARECROW COMPETITION 2023



Yes, It's back! The popular, fun, friendly FREE 2023 Scarecrow Competition. Starts 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 with prizes for the top three scarecrows.

**WITH THE FORTHCOMING CORONATION THE THEME FOR THIS YEAR IS ROYALTY.**

**MAYBE A FAVOURITE PRINCE OR PRINCESS OR A REAL-LIFE CHARACTER – ITS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE YOUR IMAGINATION!!**



Groups and individuals can enter, and an awards celebration tea will be held in the village hall on Sunday 21st May at 4.00.p.m. The more entries we have, the more fun we all have.



To enter send an email to  
[scarecrows@higherkinnerton.org.uk](mailto:scarecrows@higherkinnerton.org.uk)

**JOIN IN THE FUN**



## The Village Hall and Bouncy Castles

The Trustees of the Village Hall have reluctantly and unanimously decided that they can no longer permit the use of Bouncy Castles or other inflatables at the hall. We have discovered that our Public Liability (P.L) insurance cover specifically excludes their use. Additionally, the insurers have informed us that they will **NOT** provide us with annual cover in this respect. Even if this was possible, one of the Trustees would have to attend each event to supervise the activity. We cannot guarantee to do this.

Many parents are under the mistaken impression that they are 100% covered by the Hiring company's own P.L policy when hiring equipment from them - this is very likely to be incorrect. We have recently researched several Hire companies, some of which have operated at the hall, who state in their websites that they are fully insured but, at the same time, "strongly advise" clients to take out their own P.L insurance. Why is this? It's very likely that their insurance cover only extends to your event on condition that one of their staff is present at the venue and is deemed competent to supervise it. This will usually entail an additional charge.

When you read the small print in their websites and especially when you check their conditions of hire, you may find statements like "We do not accept liability for any accident or injury" and they may ask you to sign a disclaimer absolving them from all responsibility. One company in this area, whilst stating in the FAQ's that they are fully insured, actually then states in their Conditions of Hire "We cannot be held responsible for what your children are doing when we are not there".

It is, of course, possible for you to arrange your own cover (£55 - £60 seems to be the norm), but you must also nominate a competent supervisor to the insurers and ensure the cover certificate is posted at the venue prior to and during your event. The venues may also require proof of insurance at least 7 days before an event. We are informed that commercial and Council-run leisure centres do allow Bouncy Castle parties that their own staff supervise.

We understand that parents will be disappointed with this decision and we will, of course, review it in the future.

## Higher Kinnerton Village Litter Pick

Ysgol Derwen is running a green initiative project at the moment. Pupil Jacob O'Brien arranged a litter picking event around Higher Kinnerton on Saturday 18th March.

The volunteers met at Walter's, they were (as picture) Jude, Jacob, Archie, Harry, Joshua, Jackson, Beatrice & Alice.

They went up the Main Road, along the old railway path, up Bennetts Lane and down Park Avenue, then finished at the Playground...obviously!

They did really well and collected an amazing 4 big bags of litter between them. An excellent effort by all!

A huge thank you to all involved.



## Higher Kinnerton Environmental Group news

We are happy to announce that our first Higher Kinnerton Environmental Group meeting will be held at **The Swan, Higher Kinnerton** on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023** at **6pm**. All are welcome so please come along to share your thoughts and ideas to determine the direction of the new group! If you can let me know if you intend to join us, that would be even better so I can give Lou at The Swan an idea of numbers. You can text on 07940 787031 or email [helen101a@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:helen101a@hotmail.co.uk). We look forward to seeing you!

## Biodiversity Blog: April

April has usually warmed up enough to tempt bats out of their hibernation roosts and they will want to fill up and build up strength for their mating season in May. Spring is usually in full swing by April with plenty of shrubs and flowers coming to life and late April to early May heralds the return on some migratory birds including swifts.

You may also start to see ladybirds, aphids and other seasonal insects. To support biodiversity why not consider building a bug hotel in a quiet corner of your garden. Bug hotels can be built using a variety of materials, just use what is available to you.

It is important to find a good location/ area to build your bug hotel and to take into consideration the preferences of the insects you would like to attract (e.g. sunlight or damp conditions).

Your bug hotel should include several different layers such as:

- Dry leaves to mimic a forest floor so it's useful to include them at the bottom.
- Dead wood and bark are ideal for creepy crawlies like spiders, beetles, woodlice.
- Bamboo canes and other hollow stems are great for solitary bees (plastic straws are not suitable).
- Dry sticks, twigs and straw attract a variety of bugs such as ladybirds and beetles.
- Ventilation bricks provide useful shelter and protection from the elements.
- Rolled up wastepaper and corrugated cardboard for lacewings.
- Logs with holes drilled on the ends facing out are perfect for bees. If possible, lightly sand the holes to protect the delicate wings of the insects.

There is an abundance of ideas for bug hotels on the internet and the RSPB also has some guidance on their website under the 'give nature a home section' (see link below for more information)

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/give-nature-a-home-in-your-garden/>



## Pollinator Flower Seeds Offer

It's not too late to sow your flower seeds for a summer display of colour in your gardens. HKCC still have packets of pollinator flower seeds for bees and butterflies which are available free to all households in the community, one per household. Sowing now should ensure flowering plants in your borders for mid-summer which will help to attract the bees, butterflies and insects into your gardens and help with pollination. If you would like a packet and haven't yet got one then please do get in touch with Liz or Jason via our dedicated email address [seeds@higherkinnerton.org.uk](mailto:seeds@higherkinnerton.org.uk) Let's make Higher Kinnerton an even brighter, better place to live!

## Higher Kinnerton Walking Group

March saw the group head to Birkenhead Park for a 5 km walk travelling from Penyffordd station to Birkenhead Park station.

Bit of trivia - Birkenhead Park was designed by Joseph Paxton and opened on 5 April 1847 and is the oldest publicly funded park in the world. The park was the inspiration for Central Park in New York. It was designated a conservation area in 1977 and Grade 1 listed in 1995. The Park has many listed buildings including the Swiss Bridge and the Roman Boathouse and a modern visitor centre and cafe. Well worth a visit.



## What's in Your Kitchen? by Jack Farrand

Hello, I'm Jack, Kinnerton's Local Repair Man. I'd like to take a moment to write about what you might not know about the companies that make your kitchen appliances, what to look out for and, rather than the initial experience reviews you're likely to get elsewhere, what you're likely to encounter long-term in my opinion. Hopefully my fellow Kinnertonites will benefit from the experience of a man who wrestles washing machines for a living!

The below is a brief and non-exhaustive list of the most prolific manufacturers of appliances for the UK Market, and a brief summary of their characteristics from the point of view of a repair man. **All opinions are my own, and not those of Higher Kinnerton Community Council, and as always, your mileage may vary!**

**Whirlpool**  
CORPORATION

Common Sub-Brands:

**KitchenAid®**

**Hotpoint**

**Indesit**

Whirlpool is an American company, and they contract for their machines to be made all over the world by different manufacturing firms. Their machines are, above all, inexpensive. Repairs are typically binary in nature, in that it is either a very simple and cheap repair, or the machine is written off. For example, door handles and main bearings on Whirlpool washing machines can fail, the former taking 20 minutes and under £100 to fix, the latter typically being far too extensive a repair on machines this cheap to buy new. I would not expect a recently purchased and well-used Whirlpool machine to reach 5 years old

without a repair of some form being required.



**BOSCH**

Common Sub-Brands:

**EFF**  
COOKING PASSION SINCE 1877

**SIEMENS**

Although costly up-front, Bosch GMBH machines are well-made and stand up well to the test of time. Repairs can be expensive however, as cost-engineering has led Bosch to consolidate many parts into one, for example on their dishwashers; where the recirculation pump, temperature sensor and water heater are a single unit, more expensive than any of those parts would be individually. I typically encounter a fault when a Bosch machine is 8-12 years old, although this seems to be decreasing with newer machines.

**Haier**

Common Sub-Brands:

**CANDY**



**Baumatic®**

Chinese conglomerate Haier is one of the lesser-known brands in Europe, despite their complete global dominance in volume sales of white goods over the past decade and a half. Their acquisition of Hoover/Candy, machines more commonly encountered in the UK, completed in September 2018. That means any major changes to the manufacturing quality have yet to reach the repair man so to speak, as the machines haven't had chance to fail! Existing Hoover/Candy Machines are generally well made, with principal failures being washing machine belt pulleys and general circuit boards, the former being a simple fix,

the latter being an expensive repair that requires careful consideration. I typically encounter these failures after 3-6 years.



**Electrolux**

Common Sub-Brands:

**FRIGIDAIRE**

**ZANUSSI**

**AEG**

Electrolux have established themselves in Europe as a manufacturer capable of a broad range of quality and expense across their entire range, although from a repair man's perspective the two do not always correlate! Electrolux-made fridges, freezers and ovens are some of the most budget-friendly and long-lived I have encountered, whereas the AEG built in combination ovens (sometimes also sold under the whitelabel Lamona) are my main source of microwave repairs, where the Magnetrons inside can fail in less than 3 years. For these ovens, which are commonly sold in new-build properties or through

fully-supplied kitchens and cost between £600 and £1,000 new, the component and design quality does not match the price in my opinion!

There are many other manufacturers, Korean giants LG and Samsung come to mind, and hyper-expensive but unbelievably well-made Miele machines as well, but to keep this short I'll reserve comment for another time. As always, I'm happy for you to call me if you need your appliances repaired or just want some advice.

All the best, Jack the Repair man.



## **Kinnerton Cricket Club**

After just missing out on promotion last season we will be again playing in Division 3 of the Chester & District Midweek League. The format is Twenty20 and we play our home games on Tuesday evenings at the wonderful Northop Cricket Club whose clubhouse has a bar and lounge. We have net facilities on the Main Road Recreation Ground and usually practice on Sunday morning. We try very hard to keep this team as a village side but increasingly it is becoming more difficult and really need some additional players to enhance our squad. If any newcomers to the village would like to play or get involved in any way you would be made very welcome. We entered the League in Division 7 and have been very successful and are aiming to play in the top Division. If interested please contact Mike 07977 119179 or Terry 07775 792388.



## **All Saints Church news**

### **Church Services**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 9.30am – Palm Sunday. Morning Worship, led by Rev Robin Mosley.

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30 pm - Maundy Thursday. A Joint service at St. Mary's, Dodleston led by Rev. Robin Mosley.

Good Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2.00 pm - An Hour at the Cross. A Joint Service at All Saints led by Rev. Robin Mosley.

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April 9.30am, Easter Day - Holy Communion led by Rev. Robin Mosley.

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April 9.30am, Holy Communion led by Canon Roger Clarke.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 9.30am, Holy Communion led by Rev. Robin Mosley.

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 9.30am, Holy Communion led by Rev Denise Williams.

### **Coffee Morning**

Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> April. 10.30am – 12.00noon Come and join us for a coffee and a chat.

### **Seniors Lunch**

Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> April. Invitations will be sent out.

**Easter nests and chicks for sale, now at the Church, knitted by our crafters**

**A super gift for Easter**

**All proceeds towards Church Funds.**

## **Kinnerton WI News**

Our forthcoming talks

**April** : Thelma Keegan will be talking on nature's colours.

**May**: speaker to be confirmed

**June**: WI open evening. Bernie Hollywood will be talking about his epic crossing of the Atlantic. Please note that this event will be open none WI members, gentlemen will be more than welcome. Entrance fee for non WI is £2. Refreshments will be provided.

**July**: Stretch and well being with Sandra Bayliss

For further details please contact Hazel on 01244 660751

## Higher Kinnerton Village Hall Activities

The village hall hosts a variety of groups offering many different activities to members of the community. This is a list of what is currently available, but it changes all the time .

Further information can be found on the Village Hall website at <https://hallbookingonline.com/kinnerton/>

HIGHER KINNERTON VILLAGE HALL – WHAT'S ON?			Thursday	Pilates(M) Walking Club(A) Cambrian Chords(E) W.I (1 <sup>st</sup> in month E)	Lucy Palmer 07816776230 Brian Foley 07983494235 Steve Wallace 07596750098 Marion Round 01244 660915
DAY	ACTIVITY	CONTACT			
Monday	Zumba(E)	Julia Kelly 07989408582			
Tuesday	Yoga & Baby Yoga(M) Indoor Bowls(A)* Aerial Fitness(E) Foot care Clinic(M)	Laura Blanchard 07415832299 Geoff Haffenden 01244 660721 Sarah Jones 07766100369 Lynsey McCabe 07538523011	Friday	Mothers&Toddlers(M) Craft Group( <sup>th</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> )A) Street Dance (A/E)	Jane Lidell 07401369062 Margie Edwards 01244661090 Samantha Dene 07598430454
Wednesday	ArtClasses(M) LineDancing(A) IndoorBowls(E)*	Carol Udale 01352219028 Eileen Scattergood 01978 760070 Geoff Haffenden 01244 660721	Saturday	Tae Kwon Do (M)	Phillip Starr 07772525380
			Notes (M) morning sessions (A) afternoons (E) evenings. *Bowls operates September to March–Tuesday League, Wednesday Club.		

## Growing sunflowers

For those of you who are growing sunflowers this summer using the seeds provided by HKCC there are some handy hints below.

The Gardener's World website has useful hints on growing sunflowers, including growing them with small children: <https://www.gardenersworld.com/how-to/grow-plants/how-to-grow-sunflowers/>

### Planting sunflower seeds

Sow sunflower seeds from April to May, individually in pots of peat-free, multi-purpose compost. Sow one seed per 7.5cm-10cm pot. Push the seed 1.5cm into the compost and water in. Cover pots with a clear plastic bag and place in a cool but bright place. Gently give them a small amount of water each day, don't let them dry out. If they have flourished you may need to move them to a bigger pot. The first shoots should begin to appear in one to two weeks. Plant out into the garden when all risk of frost has passed, from late May to early June.



### Where to grow sunflowers

Sunflowers need sun. They do best in fertile soil in a sheltered spot but will also do well in containers. However, if you want your sunflower to grow really tall, it's best to plant it in the ground. Prepare soil by removing weeds and add plenty of organic matter. Plant the sunflowers at the same depth they were in the pot. Water well and stake plants with a bamboo cane or similar.



### Caring for sunflowers

Annual sunflowers need plenty of water. Feed them with tomato feed just before flowering. Don't allow plants to dry out as very tall varieties will have a job to recover. Very tall varieties may need the support of a garden cane – especially when growing in an exposed position. After flowering, leave the faded flower head intact so the birds can feast on the seeds.

Good luck!





## Scout Group Plant Sale by Lesley Holden

Every spring for many years the Scout Group has sold bedding plants to raise funds towards the expenses of the Scout building. **We're doing it again this year.** We collect your order in advance. Our grower, who has been in business for many years, and produces excellent plants, delivers our bulk order on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May**. We then deliver your plants **to your door**. If you have not purchased from us before, please give us a try, our prices are very competitive.

In this newsletter you should have an order form listing the plants we are offering this year. There is a list of collectors and the area of the village that they are covering. Fill in your requirements and put it through their letterbox. You can also contact them to collect your order. You can pay by cash, cheque (made out to **1<sup>st</sup> Kinnerton Scout Group**) or bank transfer. The details for this are on the order form. We do ask for payment with order please. **Please return your form to your collector by 16<sup>th</sup> April.**

If you need another order form or have any queries at all. contact me on **01244 660579**

### Jumble Sale 22<sup>nd</sup> April. 2-00pm to 4-00pm at the Scout HQ

This is our other fundraising event at this time of the year. We will be accepting donations on the Thursday 20th April from 6pm to 8pm, and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April from 10am to 5pm, at the Scout Headquarters, but if you are unable to make this time, we will be able to collect them from you from 1<sup>st</sup> April. Contact Julie on 660907 or 07761 208742 or Lesley on 660579 or 07817 131961.

All the members of the Scout Group thank you for your continuing support for the youngsters of the village.

## Useful contact information

The following contact details might come in handy.

Community Council Contact	Liz Corner	<a href="mailto:liz@higherkinnerton.org.uk">liz@higherkinnerton.org.uk</a>
PCSO / SCCH	C3967 Helen Holden	Mobile Number : 07890 388786
Volunteer Group	Jane Liddle	<a href="mailto:jane@higherkinnerton.org.uk">jane@higherkinnerton.org.uk</a>
Village Hall Bookings	<a href="https://hallbookingonline.com/kinnerton/">https://hallbookingonline.com/kinnerton/</a>	<a href="mailto:jason@higherkinnerton.org.uk">jason@higherkinnerton.org.uk</a>
All Saints Church	Hazel Clarke	<a href="mailto:hazelclarke@jcscomputers.co.uk">hazelclarke@jcscomputers.co.uk</a>
Defibrillator Locations	Ysgol Derwen School	Higher Kinnerton Village Hall



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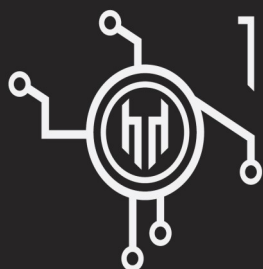
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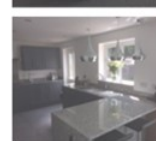


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