AUTUMN

Kimpton Parish News

2026

Welcome to the autumn edition of the Kimpton Parish News

There has been a lot going on this summer, which means we have a few more articles than usual in this newsletter. Please read it through and if you can help the community, do let us know.



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Thruxton Circuit

As you are probably aware, this summer there have been some concerns about activities at the circuit and their plans for the future.

Following two events in May and June, which generated a lot of music noise in the evenings, and a Premises Licence application for the sale of alcohol and playing of live music and recorded music until midnight from Thursday to Saturday, the Parish Council contacted the owner of the circuit to raise our concerns.

The Premises Licence application was subsequently withdrawn with assurance that the circuit would explain their future plans to local communities before submitting a further application.

Alex Thistlethwayte, the owner of Thruxton Circuit, and Ben Taylor, CEO of the circuit, will be attending the Parish Council meeting on Monday 26 October to update us with their plans for the future and give us all an opportunity to comment.

Hampshire Air Festival

The Air Festival has been granted the required licences to allow the event to take place over the weekend of 12th-13th September 2026.

You should all have received a Residents' Information Update leaflet last month. Any further updates received from the organisers will be published on the Parish Council website. For more information you can also check the Air Festival website www.hampshireairfestival.co.uk

There will be a follow up meeting between the organisers and Kimpton, Thruxton and Fyfield Parish Councils and the Thruxton Community Engagement Forum to review the event organisation.

Neighbourhood Plan Survey

If you visited the Parish Council stand at the Village Fete, you should have seen our publicity about the Neighbourhood Plan survey. We want to thank those households who completed the survey.

To summarise the findings; people love the peaceful rural countryside setting of the village and our community spirit. The biggest concerns being potential housing development, speeding traffic and noise and activity at Thruxton Circuit.



New Dog Poo Bin

You may have noticed that we have a new dog poo bin on the footpath at Deacon Road.

The bin was purchased with a grant from our Test Valley Borough Councillor, Phil Lashbrook, and our thanks go to him for the funding.

We hope our dog walking parishioners and visitors find it useful.

PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG



Church Cemetery Mapping

Robert Manners has recently created a plan of the church cemetery. He has been able to identify most of the graves but the names on some gravestones have been eroded by the weather over the years and are unreadable. If you have details of relatives who are buried there, or you are interested in the history of the village, please contact Robert for more details. Robert's email address is: robertmanners@me.com

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR LATEST NEWS. NEXT ISSUE: DECEMBER 2026

LOCAL EVENTS

PARISH COUNCIL SURGERY

As you will see in the Village Hall update, Bright Futures Nursery has closed.

The Parish Council are introducing new surgery sessions to give you an opportunity to discuss any ideas or concerns you have about the parish directly with Parish Councillors and our Parish Clerk.

Our first surgery is on Tuesday 13 October, 10am - 11.30am in the Village Hall.

Followed by Tuesdays 10 November and 08 December.

Come and have a chat, we look forward to seeing you.



KIMPTON COFFEE MORNINGS

First Friday of each month

Time: 10am - 12 noon, at the Village Hall

Meet your neighbours to have a chat and a catch up over a coffee/tea and homemade cake!

04 Sept | 02 Oct | 06 Nov | 04 Dec |



Volunteering Opportunities

There are always opportunities to help out in our community. Please visit the Volunteering page on our website to see current opportunities.



Hampshire County Council Community Engagement Ranger, Alison Hellyer

Alison attended the Parish Council meeting in June and provided an overview of their role.

Alison manages the North-west Hampshire Countryside Access team, which has 14 staff who cover 3,000 miles of public rights of way (PROW). Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, maintenance of PROW's was undertaken by contractors, but post-covid costs had doubled resulting in a move to reactive rather than proactive maintenance.

Staff are supported by 147 volunteers, who undertake a variety of tasks, including cutting back vegetation, installing ditch crossings, working with landowners to change stiles to gates to support accessibility, and a footpath enhancement project on the River Itchen.

We have three registered volunteers in our Parish, if you would like to find out more, or even volunteer yourself, see the Footpaths page under the Community tab on our website.

Village Hall Update

Following the sad closure of Bright Futures Nursery at the end of July, the Village Hall has increased hiring opportunities. If you're looking to hold regular fitness classes (Pilates, Yoga, Zumba and the like), or perhaps you would like to start a sewing group, a 'Knit & Natter' session, an art club or dance class please contact Margaret Pearce on 01264 773235 or sue.michalczyk@btinternet.com.

The hall remains available to hire for children's parties and other family celebrations. The rates of hire are very reasonable and can be found, together with the terms of hire, at www.kimptonparishcouncil.gov.uk/village-hall/

Village Hall Parking

You may have noticed that cones have recently been placed across the entrance to the Village Hall car park.

The car park is not a public car park, it is for the sole use of Hall hirers and visitors attending events at the hall. Unfortunately, vehicles belonging to motor traders, campervans, horseboxes, private cars, delivery and trade vans, which have had no connection with the village, have in the past been parked there without permission.

The Trustees have therefore taken the decision to stop all vehicles from parking at the Hall. If villagers would like to use the car park for a limited time, please contact the Trustees, details are on the front door of the Hall.

Village Fete Wrap Up

It seems a long time ago, but the Kimpton Village Fete was once again a great success, raising over £3,500 towards cladding the outside of the Village Hall.

Thanks to Andy and his team for their hard work organising the Fete, and everyone who attended on the day for your support.



Hugh Flambert
24 June 1938 - 20 August 2026

Hugh Flambert has sadly passed away at the age of 88, after living with Parkinson's Disease.

Hugh was born in Kimpton, in a house where Poplar Farm is now, and his father owned and farmed most of the land in and around Kimpton. Hugh's family later moved to Ridgeway House, now known as 'Not the Old Rectory', and would hold village fetes in its large front garden.

Hugh became a teacher and taught for many years in comprehensive schools in Harlow, becoming Deputy Head. But farming was in his DNA and he returned to farm at LIttleton Manor, when his Auntie Dink died.

Gardening was his hobby and the garden was a work of art.

Hugh will be missed by many people in the villages, but most of all by his wife Jane, children William and Heather, 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Hugh's life will be held at St Peter and St Paul's Church, Kimpton on Thursday 24 September 2026 at 2pm. Family flowers only please.

Fundraising for Ukraine

One of our parishioners, Robert Manners, with his brother Charles, will be driving a 4x4 to Ukraine in October, packed to the roof with much needed medical supplies. As you will know, this conflict was 'supposed' to last a few weeks, but the brave Ukrainians, with the support of the UK and many others, are persevering. But they still require our support. Every penny raised is going directly on the cost of the car and medical supplies.

If you would like to read more about the effort, or would like to donate to support the effort, please visit their Just Giving page: https://www.justgiving.com/page/robert-manners-1

Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council meets in the Village Hall at 7pm, 9 times a year, in January, March, April, May, June, July, September, October and November. We warmly invite you to come along, share your thoughts and be part of the conversation that helps guide our future. We look forward to seeing you there.

26 Oct | 30 Nov | 25 Jan
29 Mar | 26 Apr | 24 May
*** 28 Sept has been cancelled ***

Church Service Times

20 September, 9.15am
Holy Communion

October service
To be confirmed

08 November, 10.50am
Remembrance Service



Kimpton Village WhatsApp Group

There is a Kimpton Village WhatsApp group which offers villagers an easy way to keep in touch and share community news.

If you would like to be added to the group, please message:
Sue Michalczyk on 07985517751
or
Niall MacGinnis on 07590808565