

KCS NEWS

Newsletter. September. 2023

Introduction from our Chairman Alisdair Cummings

Dear Shareholders

Welcome to September's newsletter with its aim to keep you informed about the KCS. Since our last newsletter a lot of things have happened. The most important of these is the news that our tenants have renewed their lease on the pub for another 4 year term! We've also passed staged 1 for grant funding for a new roof and work on our new porch has started. We are also very happy to announce that Linda Stockham has joined your Committee. Enjoy the newsletter and please do contact us if you want to know more.

Good News

Lease Renewal

We are delighted to announce that our amazing tenants have renewed the lease agreement on the pub for another 4 years. The combination of their hard work, business acumen and willingness to have a good time has proved a successful combination—roll on another 4 years of great food, drink and memories in our pub!



Events

Shrewfest 2023

Wow! What an event, our sincere thanks go out to all involved, particularly our tenants for putting on a fun filled weekend. We appreciate how much work goes into organising these things, so thank you! There were bands, beer, burgers and lots of laughter. We have reliably been informed the pub had its busiest day ever on Saturday.



Macmillan coffee morning Friday 29th September

An event being put on by our Tenants for a good cause—please see their poster below.

COFFEE MORNING
FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

FROM 3PM

JOIN US FOR A CUP OF TEA OR COFFEE AND A SLICE OF CAKE TO TRY AND RAISE AS MUCH MONEY FOR THIS FANTASTIC CHARITY.

BAKERS & FAKERS COMPETITION

PLEASE DONATE YOUR AMAZING CAKES TO BE ENTERED INTO A COMPETITION TO WIN A SHREWSBURY ARMS VOUCHER.

PRIZES FOR: **BEST BAKER** - FOR THE BEST HOMEMADE BAKE.

BEST FAKE - AWARD FOR THE BEST SHOP BOUGHT ENTRY.

WOODEN SPOON - FOR THE BAKER WHO IT DIDN'T QUITE WORK OUT FOR.

HAVE YOUR CAKE AND EAT IT ALL PROCEEDS TO MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

Porch—what porch?!

Time to mention the porch...! In our last KCS newsletter we mentioned that the grant money had been secured and the foundations were going to be laid imminently. Well both of those were true, we have the money and the foundations have been laid, but that's as far as its gone so far! Rest assured it hasn't been forgotten about, the windows are due by the end of the month, and the timber frame by mid October. So we'll be nice and warm for the winter. Watch this space...!

Roof update

Previously we have written to inform you of our long-term plans to refurbish the pub roof. As this requires a large funding investment, it would probably only happen once our loan had been repaid. We have recently applied for a capital grant from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. We are happy to announce that we have successfully passed Stage 1 of the Grant application (Thanks to Siobain Mathie for coordinating this). There is still a lot of work ahead (and a 90 page application form and report!!) but rest assured we are doing all we can to progress through Stage 2. We will keep you posted. Fingers crossed!

Other building updates

Toilet refurbishment - the loos at the pub are looking a bit tired, so we've contacted some local contractors to get a quote for a general tidy up. If you know anyone suitable, please get in touch!

Maintenance days - we had a successful couple of maintenance days in June. Walls were painted, French drains installed, doors fixed, there was even time for a beverage afterwards. Thanks so much to all the volunteers that gave up their spare time to help keep our pub looking tip top.

A Surprise - we've got something else in the pipe-line that we are planning to install at the front of the pub once the porch is finished. Keep your eyes peeled....!



Our Community

A big driver for us purchasing the pub, was so that it could act as a hub for our community. As a society, we are committed to this mission, here are a few things that we are doing to support this:

Gardening club - There are a small group of volunteers that meet at the pub who look after the garden and grounds and flower display. If you would like to be part of this group contact us for more details.

Walking club - we live in a beautiful part of the country, so we are blessed with many local walking routes. The walking club meets Wednesday mornings weekly at 10:45. Starting from the village hall, routes are of an adequate level to work up a good thirst, without being too strenuous.

Dog walking club - much the same as above, but bring your dog!

Technology advice & support from AbilityNet - we've teamed up with this great organisation to be able to offer FREE training on all things technology. This can be tailored from easy to quite complex use of phones, tablets, laptops, emails, text messaging, Facebook/Instagram. We would like to gauge interest from our Shareholders so that we can so that we can establish demand could you please email the KCS to register your interest.



FREE technology support from a friendly volunteer

AbilityNet believes in a digital world accessible to all. The right technology can transform the lives of older and disabled people. Our network of UK-wide volunteers can provide FREE, tailored, 1-2-1 impartial advice and support on technology that could help you. They will work with you to connect you to the internet, connect with other people online, and give you access to essential online services.

Our volunteers also provide specialist advice on adapting technology for those living with vision, hearing, cognitive or motor impairments whether you're disabled or living with a long-term condition.

300+ trusted, DBS-checked volunteers

Support for most technical devices in the comfort of your own home

Personalised support, at your own pace



Community book exchange - some of you may have noticed the KCS Book Shelf in the snug area of the pub. Free to use by anyone visiting the pub - simply come in, grab a book and replace with one that you have read if possible.

Website updates

We've been busy uploading some new content to our website, please visit- www.kingstonecommunitysociety.co.uk
Updates include: AGM minutes, previous KCS Newsletters and photo galleries of 'Fundraising' 'After the Auction' and 'Refurbishments'

Church Harvester Supper

Our friends at St John the Baptist Church are holding their traditional harvester supper - please see their poster below.

St John the Baptist Church
are holding their traditional

HARVEST SUPPER

on Friday 6th October

at 7.30 pm in Kingstone Village
Hall

We would love you to come and
join us

After supper we shall be entertained
by the Fox Brothers, Andy and Paul

End

That's the end of this update, we'll publish another newsletter before the end of the year. In the meantime, we'll keep you all informed via email and Facebook of any more exciting updates. Time for a pint!