

**Welcome**

Spring is always an exciting time at Kings Hill and this year we have much to look forward to. Our new park is progressing well, with most of the heavy lifting done with regard to the hard landscaping. It's going to take a while for the planting to settle before people can walk on the grass so it's difficult to say exactly when it will be open but watch this space! Our new aviation-themed playground in Gibson Drive is proving very popular and we are in the midst of planning the play area for the new park. As ever, our clubs and societies are thriving, and the community café for people to meet new friends, started by our Rev Mark Montgomery, is very popular.

**Andrew Blevins**

*UK Managing Director, Liberty Property Trust*



# Latest park update



Drone view of the new park taking shape

Work is progressing well on the new park. The earthworks, amphitheatre and pathways are now virtually complete and landscapers Coblands have planted mature trees throughout. They are now putting in the shrubs and plants as well as seeding the grass areas.

Lighting has been installed and the planning application for the new junior and toddler play area has been submitted to the borough council.

The main focal point will be the amphitheatre. Kentish Ragstone has been specially selected from a nearby quarry and used to create tiered seating overlooking a flat grassed area, within which the centrepiece will be the rare World War II Pickett Hamilton fort, one of only a few in the

country that remains in its original location.

This has created a wonderful space for possible performances and community events which will have the capacity for more than two hundred people.

Very little material has been imported to build the park – the sub base for the pathways are the ‘planings’ from the resurfacing of Tower View, and subsoil and top soil has

been reused from land which is being developed into a new residential neighbourhood. Paving uplifted from the former Kings Hill Avenue extension was crushed and used throughout the park.

“The landscaping will have to settle before we can open the park and we can’t say exactly when that will be as it will be weather dependent”, said Liberty’s Derek Lloyd, who is responsible for the project.

“The park is half a kilometre long and the size of three and a half football pitches so has been quite an undertaking but we are sure it will become the heart of our community and a place for leisure, exercise, play and entertainment.”

Throughout the park all the landscaping has been chosen to provide colour, scent and year-round interest and there is an interesting variety of native and specimen trees, shrubs and areas of wildflowers, as well as wildlife habitats.



Newly constructed amphitheatre



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Caroline Binns from Liberty (left) and Lisa Farmer, Director of Strategic Development RBLI, with the book

## Kings Hill book

There are still some copies of 'Kings Hill – A Different Ball Game' available. The book charts Kings Hill's history from medieval royal hunting ground to wartime airfield and to the thriving community it is today.

Many of those working and living in Kings Hill have contributed stories and memories and some of the many photos and illustrations are of them and their life in Kings Hill.

Copies are available at the Control Tower reception priced £10 and all proceeds are being donated to the RBLI, which is raising £14.5m to create a new Centenary Village close to its Aylesford headquarters from where it delivers care, accommodation, training and employment services for veterans.

# New housing

Anchor Hanover will start construction of its 75 apartment Independent Retirement Living Development in summer 2019, on the site opposite Waitrose and next to Hazen Road. The development will take approximately 92 weeks to complete and people can register their interest by emailing the sales team – [tlsales@anchorhanover.org.uk](mailto:tlsales@anchorhanover.org.uk) – to find out more information including event dates, pricing and reservations.

### New residential neighbourhood - Area 9

A reserved matters planning application pursuant to the Phase 3 outline consent was submitted to Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council on 23 November 2018 for 70 new dwellings and associated roads, parking and open space. TMBC granted planning consent for this exciting scheme on 1 March. We hope that construction will commence on the site later this year.



Image of the Anchor Hanover development for illustrative purposes only

### Future residential sites

In December 2018 outline planning applications were submitted for five separate parcels of land in Kings Hill and Heath Farm. The applications together seek consent for

a total of 475 residential dwellings, including family homes and apartments, affordable housing and self-build opportunities, along with additional open space provision. The Council aims to reach a decision on the applications by 12 April 2019.



Chloe Ayling (centre in black dress) with the award

## Tennis award

For the third year running the Kings Hill tennis club has been named Kent LTA Community Venue of the Year, an award which recognises the achievements of individuals and venues during the past twelve months.

The club was founded in 2016 by professional coach Chloe Ayling and now offers coaching for children from two to eighteen years old, adults and the over 50's. It also organises tennis camps and tournaments for adults, children and families.

"It is so rewarding to know that our club is going from strength to strength and is an important part of the community," said Chloe. "I would also like to thank the coaches and volunteers too, as without them the success of the club would not be possible. We have another packed programme this year and I am really looking forward to it."

For more information or to join, contact Chloe on [kingshillcommunitytennis@hotmail.com](mailto:kingshillcommunitytennis@hotmail.com).



# New playground open



**New playground**

The new aviation-themed playground in Gibson Drive is proving a great success, with children of all ages enjoying the imaginative equipment - which includes a landscaped 'Control Tower' mound with a tunnel, swings, slides and spinners on a safety surface printed with RAF insignia

and images of aircraft.

Eagle-eyed visitors may have spotted some initials on the tail of an image of a Spitfire. They are of Captain John Peaty, who flew Spitfires from RAF West Malling during the Second World War, and they are there because his grandson, Steve Hyder,

was one of the installers from HAGS, who designed the playground, and which has been approved by the relevant safety bodies.

The playground was funded by the Kings Hill Residential Estate Management Company which is financed by the residents of Kings Hill.



Share the journey

## Car share

Want to do your bit for the environment and save money at the same time? People living and working in Kings Hill can find people to share lifts with by signing up to LiftShare. The site enables people to specify where and when they want to go, how often, whether they want to provide the lift or be a passenger and receive updates when others are travelling their way. You can find more information on the link below, along with a downloadable travel guide for Kings Hill, which forms part of Liberty's Phase 3 Residential Travel Plan - <http://www.kings-hill.com/location-and-travel/kings-hill-car-share>.

Anyone who would like to get out of the house for a while for a chat, tea and coffee as well as home-made cake can now do so at a new community café started by Kings Hill Missioner Rev Mark Montgomery.

Held on the first and third Thursday of every month in The Kings Hill Cricket Pavilion from 9am until midday, people of all ages, including children, are welcome.

For a fixed price of £1 unlimited tea and coffee is available with free squash for children. Plenty of delicious

# Tea and chat



Visitors enjoying a chat in the community café

home-made cakes are on offer for a small suggested donation.

"People can bring a book, games, their knitting or painting - or just turn up for a chat," said Mark. "We have a community book swap and daily papers as well as toys for the little ones to play with and it's a great opportunity to get out of the house for a few hours to catch up with old friends and meet new ones."

More information on <http://www.kingshillchurch.org.uk/thehub>.



## Kings Hill Sports Park Summer 10K

A brand new event is taking place this year – the Kings Hill Sports Park Summer 10K. Suitable for novice runners as well as experienced ‘pros’, it will take place on Sunday 9 June and participants can choose to run 10K or 5K and there will be a 1K run for children. There will be medals for all finishers and a treat for all participants in the children’s race.

Race entry and chip timings (the exact time you cross the start and finish line) will be organised by Nice Work and the event will be marshalled throughout.

More information from Kings Hill Parish Council.

# Nearly time for cricket



Cricket match in action

With the cricket season about to start, the Kings Hill club is raring to go and celebrating the promotion of both the senior first and second teams - with the firsts now playing in Kent League Division 4.

Plenty of practice has been put in over the winter both in the nets and at the junior indoor leagues and, said club chairman Nick McGeorge, the club is looking forward to another successful year.

“As always we have had huge interest from the juniors with many new members joining but we are always looking for new players of all ages. And as it’s World Cup year we

are anticipating even more interest than usual.”

More information on the club, upcoming events and joining from [www.kingshillcricketclub.com](http://www.kingshillcricketclub.com) and the Facebook page.

The maintenance and quality of most of Kings Hill’s residential neighbourhoods is the responsibility of the Kings Hill Residential Estate Management Company (KHREMC) which is a not-for-profit company.

It is run by Liberty but has two residents as directors, John West ([john@westij.net](mailto:john@westij.net)) and Deborah Petty ([deb@khremc.com](mailto:deb@khremc.com)).

Kings Hill Residential Estate Management Company Ltd can be contacted on 01732 870375 or [kingshillresidential@libertyproperty.com](mailto:kingshillresidential@libertyproperty.com).

Kings Hill Estate Management Company Ltd, which is also a not-for-profit entity, looks after the commercial business park within Kings Hill.

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[www.kings-hill.com](http://www.kings-hill.com)

# Log on for latest news

A brand new website at [www.kings-hill.com](http://www.kings-hill.com) will be going live soon. It includes helpful information on all aspects of the village including: latest news; links to the Kings Hill amenities such as shops, restaurants, surgery etc; public transport timetables and information on matters that affect those living and working in Kings Hill.

