

# Hollingbourne & Hucking

April 2024

SPRING SHOW 2024  
SATURDAY 14TH APRIL

2.00-4.00 pm Hollingbourne Village Hall

Queries and notice of entries to Pat Bristow ( Show Secretary)  
01622 880457 emailpat-ann-1942@hotmail.com

By Friday, 13th April

HOLLINGBOURNE STATION  
THE SIGNAL BOX CAFÉ

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY  
7.00 AM-4.00 PM

SELLING SWEET TREATS,  
COFFEES & TEAS

9.00 AM-2.00 PM  
SATURDAYS

**'PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY'**  
**HOLLINGBOURNE PARISH ASSEMBLY**

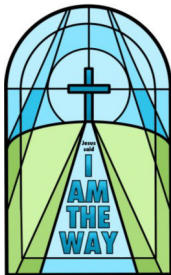
**MONDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL, 2024.**

at the Village Hall, Hollingbourne,  
at 7.30 pm.



**MEN'S BREAKFAST**  
**FULL ENGLISH**  
**GUEST SPEAKER**

08.30 am at THE HOOK & HATCHET  
SATURDAY, 13th April, 2024  
Contact : Jim Findlay  
Email: jwmfindlay@hotmail.com



**cubs** **BEAVERS** **scouts**  
be prepared . . .

**Quiz Night**  
Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> April

To book phone  
Alan 843019

## Church & Village News

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

## Parish Directory

### The Clergy Team

Team Vicar	Revd. Rob Tugwell	01622.630598
Churchwarden	Christine Jones	688830
<b>Bellringers</b>	Nigel Baker (Tower Captain)	07778 691 343
<b>Borough Councillor</b>	Patrik Garten, Kingswood House, Pitt Orad, ME17 3NR	807907
<b>Bourne Musicians</b>	Beccy Stroud, 1 Musket Lane	880377
<b>Brownies</b>	Sarah Ward	880397
<b>Cardwell Pavilion</b>		07856.180003

**Cricket Club** www.bearstedcricketclub.co.uk

**Cubs** Jane Newsome 862558

**Doctor Yeomans Lane :** Repeat Prescriptions Appointments, etc. 737326

**Football Club** Roseacre Raiders Football Club roseacreraidersfc.teamapp.com

**Garden Society** John Ross 737080

**Hospitals:** Maidstone 729000 Eye, Ear & Mouth Unit 729000  
Preston Hall 710161 9am – 5 pm

### Kent Messenger Correspondent

**Vacant**

**Maidstone Volunteer Bureau** 01622 756662

**Meadows Trust** Ben Williams 07968.123165 or 880584

**Mid-Kent Arts Society** John Holley jgholleyberry@icloud.com

**Neighbourhood Contacts** June Pockett junepockett@hotmail.com 880763/07767.367611

**Parish Council Chairman** David Ardley [pchollingbourne@gmail.com](mailto:pchollingbourne@gmail.com)

**Vice Chairman** Andrea Marshall [pchollingbourne@gmail.com](mailto:pchollingbourne@gmail.com)

**Parish Clerk** Vickie Smith [pchollingbourne@gmail.com](mailto:pchollingbourne@gmail.com) 07856.180003/880526

**Pre-School** Christine Judges 07864 065753

**Police** PCSO Shiron De’Rose 101

**Railway Enquiries** 0845 748 4950

**Reading Group** Barbara Lloyd 880282

Dawn Perry 880634

**School** Mrs. Helen Bradley-Wyatt, Headteacher 880270

**Scout Group** Alan Poulton 843019

**Village Hall** The Windmill 889000

**Women’s Institute** Mary Henderson 734370

**Hucking WI** Sharon Lee 07714.756354

Kate Blacker 07760.905416

**Magazine Contributions** should be in by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month latest to the Editor :

Carole Findlay, 1 Pimpernel Close, Bearsted, Kent ME14 4QQ. 01622.583636

Email: [hollingbourne.parish.magazine.editor@hotmail.com](mailto:hollingbourne.parish.magazine.editor@hotmail.com) For advertising please contact Kathy Cox at HBNTreasurer@gmail.com (880087). **Subscriptions £5.00 p.a.**

**Magazine also available in All Saints Church and  
online at Hollingbourne Parish Council website.**

### Hollingbourne Neighbourhood Drivers

Katie Brice	01622. 880520
Chris Childs	01622.880087 / 07887.611655
Mel Sheldon	07780.668563
Barbara Tremble	01622.880216
<b>June Pockett (Coordinator)</b>	<b>01622.880763 / 07767.367611</b>



## Love Languages

I wonder if you are familiar with the theory of 'love languages'?

It is a concept based on research by Dr Gary Chapman, a marriage counsellor and public speaker. Despite the original focus being couples/partners, elements of the theory can be applied to any form of relationship.

Basically, Chapman explains that there are five different love languages and each of us will have dominant language(s) through which we feel most loved or cared for. As an extension of this, there will be other 'languages' which, whilst such gestures are nice, they don't mean as much.

The languages are:

**Words of Affirmation:** communicating affection through spoken and written praise, appreciation and encouragement.

**Quality Time:** expressing love/care through shared activities, conversation, and togetherness.

**Physical Touch:** showing care through physical contact, including hugs, etc.

**Acts of Service:** doing thoughtful deeds and gestures to help the other person.

**Receiving Gifts:** giving meaningful surprises and thoughtful presents to celebrate affection/friendship.

Having conversations about what love language we and others have can be a really helpful activity. It helps you know each other better and affirms friendship by 'letting in' the other person.

It can also be a great way of avoiding disappointment...(!)

If ever you have put time and effort into a gesture and it hasn't led to quite the reaction you were hoping for, well, this could be the reason!

You gave them a hug, they wanted the *whatever* fixed.

You bought a gift, they just wanted time together.

And so on....

There are all sorts of resources online, including simple quizzes where you can find out your love language (if you're currently unsure). Why not give it a go and share the quiz link with family or friends. You could then chat about it and, in doing so, learn a bit more about yourselves and each other.

### **Rev Rob**



## **SERVICES 2023/24 (YEAR B)**

### **APRIL 2024**

**7th April**

**Service**

**Readings**

**14th April**

**Service**

**Readings**

**21st April**

**Services**

**Readings**

**28th April**

**Services**

**Readings**

**Easter 2**

Hollingbourne 11.00 am  
Acts 4: 32-35; John 20: 19-end

Eucharist

**Easter 3**

Hollingbourne 11.00 am  
Acts 3: 12-19; Luke 24: 36b-48

Eucharist

**Easter 4**

Hollingbourne 11.00 am  
Acts 4: 5-12; John 10: 11-18

Morning Worship

**Easter 5**

Hollingbourne 11.00 am  
Acts 8: 26-end; John 15: 1-8

Eucharist

### **LEEDS SERVICES**

7th April

Leeds 9.30 am

Worship

14th April

Broomfield 3.30 pm

Communion

21st April

Leeds 9.30 am

Worship & Communion

28th April

Kingswood 11.00 am

Family Communion

Seen in a parish magazine: "We shall be meeting on Wednesday, when the subject will be 'Heaven - how do we get there?' Transport by bus is available at 6.45pm opposite the King's Arms.

Seen on a church notice board: 'Despite inflation, the wages of sin remain the same.'

**HOLLINGBOURNE STATION**

**THE SIGNAL BOX CAFÉ**

***MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY***

***7.00 AM - 4 PM***

***SATURDAY 9.00 AM - 2.00 PM***

**BREAKFASTS AND LUNCHES,  
SWEET TREATS, COFFEES AND TEAS.**

## EDITOR'S NOTES

One minute I am scouring sites for items of interest for the diary, the next I am overwhelmed with lots of new events. After the Easter break (with yet another **Bank Holiday on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup>** of the month, I have noted that the **Mobile Library** visits the **Village Hall** every fortnight, between **12.10 and 12.40 pm**. Don't be late or you will end up with a fine for taking your book back late. It is good to support the library service and you will be able to obtain the books (probably) recommended by **Dawn Perry** of the **Hollingbourne Reading Group**.

Breaking news - the **Signal Café** will now also be open on **Saturdays**, from **6<sup>th</sup> April**, between **9.00 am and 2.00 pm**. To launch these new hours, '**Spring at the Station**' will have stalls and activities (including an **Easter Trail**) and will be on **Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup>** – so hasten and support your local community project.

The **Men's Breakfast** takes place on **Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> April**, at **8.30 am** at the **Hook & Hatchet** – always a popular meal with the regular participants. Later in the day (**2-4 pm**) is the **Garden Society Spring Show** – ad for details of entries.

The **WI** meets on **Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup>** at **7.30 pm**. However, for **non-members** wishing to attend entry is at **8.00 pm**.

There will be a **Police Surgery** at **Hollingbourne Station** at **10.00 am** on **Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April**. (see ad).

The **Detling Players** have another of their amazing productions ('**Travels with an Old Bag**') at **Detling Village Hall** on **Friday, 19<sup>th</sup>**, and **Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup>**, at **7.30 pm** (see ad for ticket details).

**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup>** also sees the **Leeds & Hollingbourne Scout Group** holding a **Quiz Evening** at **7.30 pm** at **Langley Village Hall**. (see ad) Time to sharpen your brains.

You may be torn by conflicting interests on this day as **The Friends of Leeds & Broomfield Churches** are hosting a **Chilli & Soul** evening at **7.00 pm** at **Leeds Village Hall** (see ad for details).

**Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup>**, may see you comfortably seated on the sofa as you admire the efforts of those taking part in the **London Marathon** – maybe you are sponsoring someone for their good cause.

**Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup>**, heralds the **Hollingbourne Parish Assembly** at the **Village Hall** at **7.30 pm**. Local organisations will make (short) speeches to keep you informed of all the amazing things that happen in our village. You may be persuaded to volunteer.

The end of the month is quieter with just **St. George's Day** to celebrate on **Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup>**. The local hostelrys will appreciate your participation in toasting the England's saint.

Enjoy the (hopefully) better weather to come and the lengthening days.

**Carole Findlay**

## Country Notes for April 2024

April is the first full month of spring, and this is the month when there can usually be no doubt that winter is behind us and spring is really underway. Hopefully the rains of the last few months, which have left our fields and gardens waterlogged and which have taken a certain amount of pleasure out of walking, are now behind us.

This really is a month of change. Some trees and bushes will be beginning to show signs of green growth, elder being one of the early examples. In our lanes, fields and hedgerows primroses will continue to flower and will be joined by coltsfoot, which looks very similar to a thickly stemmed and rather short dandelion. Tiny blue violets will also be in flower, joined towards the end of the month by starry white wood anemones. More and more bluebells will also be appearing, ready for their full display in early May.

At the beginning of the month some of our wintering migrant birds, such as fieldfares and redwings, will still be around, but there will also be the first summer migrants arriving, often beginning with the first chiffchaffs and swallows. In fact, this year I heard my first chiffchaff in my garden at the beginning of the second week of March! It is also wonderful to see so many of our resident and migratory birds flying into trees and bushes with beaks full of nesting material, knowing that they will soon be laying eggs and rearing their nestlings.

There will also be the first sightings of our early butterflies, such as red admirals, small tortoiseshells, peacocks, brimstones and orange tips. Despite the generally very wet weather I saw my first yellow brimstone in my garden in the second week of March, on one of the few sunny days!

Perhaps you will be joining the Easter Trail organised by Hollingbourne Station in the first weekend of April. There will be lots to look out for if you do to add to the delight of all that chocolate!

**Andrew Snowdon.**



Primrose



Coltsfoot



Violet



White Wood Anemone



Bluebells



Fieldfare



Redwing



Chiffchaff



Swallow



Red Admiral



Small Tortoiseshell



Peacock



Brimstone



Orange Tips



## LEEDS & KINGSWOOD SCOUT GROUP



**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2024.**

**7.30 pm**

### LANGLEY VILLAGE HALL

£10 per person (Ploughman's Supper included)  
Bring your own refreshments

Make up a table of any number up to 8 persons

*To book please phone Alan 843019*



Insanity runs in some families; in others it positively gallops.

### LOCAL ELECTIONS

Local elections are being held on **Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May**. Changes introduced last year now require anyone voting in person to bring acceptable **photographic ID**. This includes British passports and driving licences, even if they have expired as long as the photo is recognisable. Anyone without photographic ID can apply for a **Voter Authority Certificate** free of charge at [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk). This will require a National Insurance number and an upload of a clear image of the applicant's signature. Further information regarding postal votes, proxy and proxy votes can be found on [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Anyone unable to go online or for any further advice on voting, please contact : Helpline **01622.602.007** email : [electoralservice@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:electoralservice@maidstone.gov.uk)

## LEEDS CASTLE & HOLLINGBOURNE GARDEN SOCIETY



Spring is most welcome after what has been a rather long, wet winter. We held our AGM and have enjoyed meeting up each month since for tea at the thriving Signal Box Cafe. Many of the Spring flowers have bloomed early giving us much pleasure.

Now we look forward to coming together for the LC&HGS Spring Show on Saturday, 13th April, in the Village Hall (behind The Windmill) and we hope to see you there.

Do look at the Schedule <lcgardensociety.co.uk> to see what classes you could enter and bring those entries to the Hall between 10 am and 12pm on the 13th. Then return to enjoy the Show, along with a good chat and an excellent cream tea, from 2pm to 4pm.

It helps the Show Secretary setting out the show benches at the start of the day to have an idea as to how many exhibits are in each class. If you know, before what you find on the morning, please let Pat Bristow know 01622 880457 <pat-ann-1942@hotmail.com>

We hope to see you there.

### **The LC&HGS Committee.**

A musical concert was about to be performed in a prison. The Governor was talking to a titled lady guest, explaining that the orchestra was made up of murderers, embezzlers and other hardened criminals. The lady then pointed to a man in the corner, holding a trombone. "He looks a tough customer," she whispered. "Whatever has HE done?" The Governor paused and smiled. "Ah, actually, he is the chaplain."

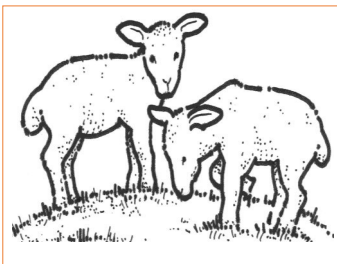
I have so many problems that if a new one comes along today, it will be at least two weeks before I can worry about it.



"Police? This is St Mary's Ladies' Knitting & Vigilante Circle. We've detained two gents trying to nick the church silver."

It's nice to have five years between elections. It takes people that long to regain their faith. *Anon*

Common sense isn't. - *Anon*



**St. George's Day  
23rd April**





# MEN'S BREAKFAST

FULL ENGLISH

GUEST SPEAKER

**Saturday, 13th April (change of date)**

**8.30 am**

**At The Hook & Hatchet, Huckling**

Contact : **Jim Findlay 583636**

Email: [jwmfindlay@hotmail.com](mailto:jwmfindlay@hotmail.com)



# SPRING AT THE STATION SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL



The **Signal Box Café** is launching the **Saturday** café service on **Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> April**.

To celebrate the new opening day, we will have lots of local stalls, including the award winning local **'Say It With Gin'** company; **Pippa Joyner's** lovely books; the **W.I** are holding a **chocolate tombola**; **Sugar and Spice** will have their lovely jams and chutneys for sale and **Hollingbourne School PTA** will be selling **sweetie cones** and running a **children's craft corner**. There will also be an **Easter Trail** for the young and young at heart! Buy a trail for £1 and follow the clues around the village to claim your prize back at the station.

The annual **Williams Award**, recognising people who are our local **'Hollingbourne Heroes'**, will be presented at **1.00 pm**.

The event and café will be open from **9am to 2pm** and there will be lots for you to enjoy. For the foodies, Nikki will have some **Spring Specials**, so make sure you pop up and grab them while you can.



In the 1950s, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, visited the church of Scotland in Dumfries. As she was walking through the graveyard after the service, she asked the Lord Provost who was with her, why the headstones were so large? He replied "To hold them doon, Ma'am."

# HOLLINGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Next Meetings are to be held on

*Monday, 8th April*

*Monday, 13th May*

*Monday, 10th June*

*At 7.30 pm*

*At The Cardwell Pavilion*

*Residents and representatives of the media are most welcome to attend.*

*There will be 10 minutes allocated before the meeting to allow members of the public to speak.*

*[pchollingbourne@gmail.com](mailto:pchollingbourne@gmail.com) .*

## HOLLINGBOURNE READING GROUP

I have finally finished **'The Running Grave'** by **Robert Galbraith**. It was well over 1,000 pages and with a plot that took time to resolve. I am now reading **'Demon Copperhead'** by **Barbara Kingsolver**. I told myself I would not read this American take on David Copperfield as I am something of a Dickens purist. However, I felt I had to give this prize-winning novel a chance. The result is that I am enjoying it and find it amazing to see how the characters in the book correspond to Dickens characters so well. It is cleverly done.

I see that **James Cavell's 'Shogun'** has been re-released, probably the result of a new television series.

In the same way **David Nichols' book 'One Day'** returns to the charts, following the successful television series.

**Lisa Jewell** has a new book in the charts, **'None of This is True'**. Good to see that this author spoke at the **Maidstone Literary Festival** in the Autumn.

**Kate Morton** has a new book, **'Homecoming'** and **Richard Osman** and **Richard Coles** continue to produce new murder mysteries. The number of psychological thrillers seems to be on the rise with such titles as **'Listen for the Lie'** and **'Every Move you Make'**. These novels are very popular.

Enjoy reading in the Spring.

**Dawn Perry**

880634

# SPRING SHOW 2024

## SATURDAY 14TH APRIL

2.00-4.00 pm Hollingbourne Village Hall  
Set up from 10am-12 noon

Queries and notice of entries to Pat Bristow ( Show Secretary)  
01622 880457 emailpat-ann-1942@hotmail.com  
By Friday, 13th April

### FLOWER CLASSES:

1. 3 stems one variety trumpet daffodils
2. 3 stems one variety small cup daffodils
3. 3 stems one variety double daffodils
4. 5 stems mixed daffodils/narcissi
5. 3 stems tulips
6. 1 single bloom from a bulbous plant
7. 3 stems of flowers from bulbous plant (not in classes 1-5)
8. Pot of 5 narcissi/daffodils
9. Pot of Spring flowers 30cm (12") max
10. Pot of Spring flowers 18cm (7") max
11. Pot of alpines 18cm (7") max
12. Pot plant (not bulbous) in flower 18cm (7") max
13. Pot plant non flowering 18cm (7") max
14. 5 flower heads of one type of flower floating in a dish
15. 3 stems of primula or polyanthus
16. 3 stems one variety of hardy herbaceous plant
17. 3 stems one variety of flowering shrub, tree or climber
18. Good on the day



### CRAFT CLASSES

23. Knitted item
24. Craft item not knitted
25. Spring photograph
26. Spring card



### HOME ECONOMICS

27. Matching set of 6 eggs
28. Jar of homemade marmalade
29. 5 pieces of shortbread
30. Spring celebration cake

### CHILDREN'S CLASSES

31. Picture of Spring flowers
32. 3 decorated biscuits



## THE STATION@ HOLLINGBOURNE



**A POLICE SURGERY WILL BE HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY, 17TH APRIL, AT 10.00 AM  
AT THE STATION AT HOLLINGBOURNE. IT  
WILL RUN FOR HALF AN HOUR. THE  
SURGERY WILL BE IN THE LITTLE ANTI-  
ROOM, SO PRIVACY ASSURED.**



## **HOLLINGBOURNE W.I.** **FEBRUARY REPORT**

After a lot of preparation and excitement, the day of the Hollingbourne W.I. 14th Annual Pancake Race, on 13<sup>th</sup> February, finally arrived. Although the day was grey and overcast, the rain held off and the races started with the W.I. members' race. This was won by Susan Dicker, our Vice President, closely followed by Jenny, President of Madginford W.I., who had come along with one of her fellow members to support us.

The children from Hollingbourne Primary School had great fun running in the races and tossing their pancakes. The winner of each race was accompanied by the older children to receive their winner's rosette and have their name put on record. The children's races were followed by the teachers' races and then the rest of the grown-up races, with lots of Mums and Dads, villagers and visitors taking part. When the races finished, hot cross buns and drinks were served by the W.I. and enjoyed by all and it was agreed that the day had been a great success.

In the evening, the members held a Beetle Drive at their monthly meeting, which was good fun and was won by Mary, our President. She was presented with a Chocolate Orange (which she herself had provided for the winner!)

Some of us are meeting for lunch at the Red Lion at Lenham and are looking forward to this.

Our Annual Darts Evening will be held at Bearsted Men's Club and, although none of us are up to Luke Littler's standard, we usually manage to hit the board.

Once again, we will be holding our annual quiz in the Village Hall. This year it will be at 7.30pm on 22nd March. If you would like to get together with friends and neighbours and join us, please phone Janice (01622.880382) to book a table, price £8. The evening is always great fun, and we hold a very good raffle.

Our meetings are held at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month and on 19th March our speaker is Dreda Van-Beer, who will be telling us "How To Incorporate Colour Into Your Wardrobe". A good talk for this time of year and if you would like to join us, please come along. Visitors are most welcome from 8pm.

**Ann Bowler**

Is this apisdh umop or am I just standing on my head?

I'm living so far beyond my income that we may almost be said to be living apart.

*Sign seen in a store:* Unattended children will be given espresso and a puppy.

**'PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY' HOLLINGBOURNE PARISH ASSEMBLY**  
**MONDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL, 2024.**

The Hollingbourne Parish Council would like to invite you to this year's Parish Assembly, which takes place at the Village Hall, behind the Windmill PH, Eyhorne Street, Hollingbourne, on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 at 7.30 pm.

The theme for this year's event is 'Protecting our Community'. We all do our best to make Hollingbourne a village to be proud of, but there are various additional resources and help available to make even greater improvements. During the evening snacks and drinks will be available, as well as lively, very short speeches from the local groups, representatives and clubs in and around Hollingbourne.

If you would like to speak at the event, please contact me as soon as possible, or liaise with one of the Councillors on the night. It is preferable if speakers can stick to a five-minute length speech, but in certain circumstances an extension of time can be given.

The event is also a great way to network with others, both socially and professionally. There are on average about sixty people who attend the event, but I feel that with this year's interesting and timely theme, there will be an even greater attendance.

Please contact me on the email [pchollingbourne@gmail.com](mailto:pchollingbourne@gmail.com), or via telephone on 07856.180003 if you would like to make contact and gain more information about the Parish Assembly.

**Vicki Smith (Mrs)**

Hollingbourne Parish Council Clerk

**Don't hesitate to use hearing aids**

Here is something you didn't expect: using hearing aids if you are a bit deaf can be of great benefit to your overall health.

Crystal Rolfe, director of health at the Royal National Institute for Deaf People (RNID) said: "Hearing aids bring enormous benefits for people with hearing loss. Research shows that wearing hearing aids may reduce the risk of cognitive decline, and it is well known that they have positive effects on physical, social, emotional, and mental wellbeing.

According to hearing loss charity RNID, 12 million adults in the UK are deaf, have hearing loss or tinnitus and an estimated seven million people could benefit from hearing aids, but only about two million use them.

The researchers hope the findings, published in The Lancet Healthy Longevity journal, will encourage more people to wear hearing aids. As one doctor said: "If you have hearing loss, get hearing aids. The benefits could be limitless."

## **An update from your local MP Helen Whately**

Where would we be without businesses? They grow our food, harness ideas that make our lives better, and generate the tax that pays for our public services – and that's just the start.

It's good news therefore that we now have over 5.6 million businesses across the country, an increase of nearly a quarter since 2010. Better still, we're lucky to have a thriving mix here in Faversham and Mid Kent.

From farms to foundries, health-tech to rocket manufacturers – we've got all kinds.

In fact, one of the only things they all have in common is how tough they've found the last few years. Covid and then the global fuel shock have given businesses plenty to think about besides expanding.

With unprecedented support we got business through the pandemic, and, over the last year, we've worked hard to halve inflation. If we want to keep funding our public services, it's now time to get businesses thinking about growing again.

When I was a minister in the Treasury, I spent a huge amount of time looking at what we can do to help small businesses grow. Taking that next step can be a challenge, and we have to support businesses by getting policy right.

That's why at last month's Budget the Chancellor introduced a host of new measures to support them, including raising the VAT threshold, freezing alcohol duty to support pubs, and cutting tax for the self-employed. These measures are on top of the £11 billion investment incentive introduced back in the Autumn - the biggest business tax cut in modern British history.

But it's not just at a national level that we need to get things right. There are so many things we can do at a local level to help too, and I've made it one of my 5 priorities to help our local businesses grow - with support from councils and government ministers.

Just after the Budget I sent a survey out to all of Faversham's businesses asking them what more we could be doing to support them – like making sure the town's parking policy works for them.

You can find this survey on my website, and I'd love to hear from businesses from other parts of the constituency too. Fill it in at [www.helenwhately.org.uk/campaigns/help-local-businesses-grow](http://www.helenwhately.org.uk/campaigns/help-local-businesses-grow)

I invited the Farming Minister down to Graveney last year to listen to local growers' concerns, and have been sticking up for Stockbury's businesses as they deal with ongoing roadworks.

And last month I hosted the Maidstone Apprenticeship Fair where local businesses, like MEP Ltd from Aylesford and Bedfont Scientific from Harrietsham, could seek out the next generation of skills.

Local businesses make where we live richer in more ways than one, and the

more support we can give them the better. Please do think about backing local businesses when you can, and, if you run a local business and you need my help, please do get in touch . I'm here to help however I can.

Together we can boost our local economy and generate all kinds of new jobs.

Best wishes

**Helen Whately MP**

JOIN US FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING  
SUPPORTING THE FRIENDS OF LEEDS &  
BROOMFIELD CHURCHES

# CHILLI & SOUL NIGHT

SATURDAY 20TH APRIL  
7PM  
LEEDS VILLAGE HALL

LIVE MUSIC PERFORMANCE FROM SOLD ON SOUL THROUGHOUT THE  
EVENING

STOCKED BAR  
DELICIOUS FOOD CHILLI DISH WITH ALL THE SIDES  
CHARITY RAFFLE

**£35PP**  
TICKETS 07970119467

### **Strict bedtimes could make children's brains 'bigger and healthier'**

A family routine and a strict bedtime could help your child develop a healthier, bigger brain.

On the other hand, a disruptive family life with poor sleep patterns could mean your child has slower brain development, poorer cognitive function, and below average academic achievement.

Those are the findings of a new study from Colorado State University. It found that children thrive when the family has a weekly 'family time' together, when homework is done at the same time every day, the family eats dinner together every night, the child is expected to carry out regular household chores, and when bedtime is at a consistent time, accompanied by a bedtime story or similar calming ritual.

The underlying need is for the child to get enough regular and deep sleep. Children with disrupted families get disrupted sleep, and therefore are more likely to have thinner regions of the brain in the amygdala as well as parts of the left and right frontal cortex. These areas control skills related to language, behaviour, sensory perception, and emotional processing.

# THE HOOK & HATCHET INN



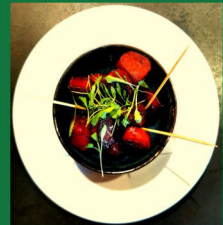
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### **Residents being encouraged to apply for HUG2 funding**

MBC is encouraging as many eligible residents as possible to apply for energy efficiency and heating upgrades via the Home Upgrade Grant – Phase 2 (HUG2).

Households struggling with rising energy bills and vulnerable residents facing impossible choices to try and keep warm may worry during the colder months and the government led grant could help them.

Open for applications until the end of 2024, HUG2 helps fund energy efficiency upgrades and low carbon heating systems, targeting some of the most inefficiently heated homes (i.e. an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) between D and G) and which are not heated by mains gas heating systems.

Homeowners and private tenants on low incomes can check whether their household is eligible via **maidstone.gov.uk** search: **HUG2 Application**.

The home must be heated by alternative fuels including electricity, oil, liquid propane gas, and solid fuels. The energy efficiency criteria will be determined by the Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of the property.

Once someone has applied, they will be guided by local installers to help them understand and establish eligibility for the scheme. If eligible, the installer will identify which improvements for the home will pred the greatest benefits and arrange any necessary surveys and installations.

HUG2 is a government initiative being led by the Department for Energy, Security and Net Zero. The scheme allows funding per property to provide a range of energy and cost saving upgrades, depending on the specific circumstances such as the fuel source, energy efficiency and EPC rating of the home, with the most funding available for the least efficient homes heated by the most polluting fuel sources.

To apply visit: **hugapply.co.uk** or call **0333.202.4820**.

More information about **HUG2**, including eligibility requirements is available on the government website : **www.gov.uk**.

### **Cat's eyes**

When you drive on a road late at night  
And the dark is affecting your sight;  
At that time of day  
It's easy to stray  
Too far with your car to the right!

Now drivers, protected from frights  
By mirrors reflecting our lights,  
May shout 'hip-hooray!'  
At all times of day,  
And drive with no fear of the  
nights!

But we've been protected from tears  
For most of the past ninety years,  
Since a man who was wise  
Invented cat's eyes  
So the edge of your lane now appears!

**By Nigel Beeton**

## **LEEDS CASTLE**

Spring has arrived on the estate, with increasingly warm and sunny days, which is hugely welcome after the long, rainy winter period. The daffodils are out, as are lots of beautiful purple crocus. The hellebores are out in the borders and soon, spring flowering plants will be popping up in the Culpeper, Pavilion and Lady Baillie Mediterranean Gardens, the clocks will be changing and Easter will be here!

Easter is extra early this year and we will be putting on a special Easter event from 29<sup>th</sup> March to 14<sup>th</sup> April. There will be an Easter treasure hunt, helping Lady Baillie's Great Danes, Boots and Danny, to find their lost treasure. This will include interactive installations, vibrant Easter floral displays and fiendish clues to solve, as well as encounters with live characters.

Also coming up this year are a number of major events included in your admission ticket, which is valid for twelve months. These include the Queens Joust, (25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> May), the long awaited return of Motors by the Moat (10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> August), a new Sculpture Trail (26<sup>th</sup> August to 6<sup>th</sup> October) and the magical 2024 Christmas Castle experience, the Nutcracker. (23<sup>rd</sup> November to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2024).

During March we will also be moving the popular Medieval cinematic experience, 'Queens with Means', from the Gatehouse into the Castle Servants Hall. This should ensure that more people get to see this introduction to the Castle's medieval story when they visit.

We held the Leeds Castle Weddings Showcase on 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> March, which was well attended and has resulted in a number of new bookings. We now have a new catering partner for the daytime business, who has introduced much more choice of range and menus, as well as an excellent new coffee offer and an Ice Cream Parlour in the Stable Courtyard. We also now have five additional caterers available for weddings, dinner or corporate events, giving excellent choice of prices and menu types.

We are about to start planning conservation work for the Moat Bridge, which needs to happen below water level. This may include an inflatable dam system to hold the water back while work is completed. This is an early heads up in case you spot them on your walks and think that we are introducing an inflatable water park for the summer!

We have started to work with a number of local secondary schools, in partnership with PAYE, our Castle stonemasons, to offer workshops in heritage skills. These have been well received by the schools and offer a great opportunity for teenagers to get an understanding of what careers are available in heritage conservation and building work.

We are also developing work with local Young Carers charities to offer experiences for these exceptional young people, as respite from their caring responsibilities. We hope to develop more of these community engagement opportunities during the year.

Work is currently underway to audit the estate to establish how we can make it more welcoming for people with access issues or a disability. These are improvement that we are very keen to make and we will be seeking external funding support to deliver access improvements over the next couple of years.

Hope that you have all had a lovely Easter break!

**Helen Bonser-Wilton**

Chief Executive

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Hi all,

**Leeds and Kingswood Scout Group** is 20 years old this year.

Some of you may wonder why Leeds is part of our group as we are based in Kingswood.

Well back in 2003 Kingswood and Ulcombe, as it was called, nearly closed down. We had the leaders, but not enough children to keep it going.

When Maidstone East District heard about this, they asked other scout groups in the area if they would like to merge with us.

The Chairman from Leeds and Hollingbourne approached me and said you have the hut, and we have the children. Why don't we merge with you? He said we have to rent the village hall and school for our meetings, so the groups got together to discuss about joining and it was agreed we will be called Leeds and Kingswood Scout Group.

Gloria is the only one from Leeds and Hollingbourne, and Simon and me from Kingswood and Ulcombe Scout Group, still involved with this group.

### **SCOUTS**

We have 16 Scouts. Amie Parker is the Scout Leader, with four assistant leaders.

The Scouts went on their first camp. The weather was one of the wettest weekends, but this did not deter the children. They all had a great time.

In the run up to Christmas, Scouts were delivering Christmas cards around the village, working towards their badges. We had Remembrance Day Service in Broomfield Church and also went to the Christmas Carol service, also at Broomfield Church.

We finished 2023 by taking the Scouts to bowling. They had a fabulous time.

### **CUBS**

We have 22 Cubs. Rickie is the new leader of the Cubs. He was made leader at the beginning of the year. All the Cubs with other groups had a sleep over in the Mall in Maidstone. One Cub was invested there. The reason of the sleep over was to get an idea of homeless people having to sleep rough in doorways. This also gave the Cubs an idea of being away from home.

### **BEAVERS**

We have about 12 Beavers. Their new beaver leader is Lydia. She took on the role at the start of this year. All the Beavers are enjoying doing badge work.

## **SCOUT QUIZ**

The scout quiz is on April 20th at 7-30 pm and will be held at LANGLEY VILLAGE HALL. It is £10 per person, with tables up to 8. A Ploughman's Supper is provided. Bring your own refreshments. To book a table call Alan on 843019.

## **100 CLUB**

The winners for the 100 club are :

January - Mrs Kerr £20, Mr Robins £10, Mrs Bowles £10, Mrs Parker £5

February - Mrs Aldous £20, Mrs Monk £10, Mr Hadlow £10, Mrs Green £5

March - Mrs Golding £20, Mrs Parker £10, Mrs Claire Jones £10, Mrs Carol Jones £5

If you would like to join the 100 club, it costs £12 a year and you have the chance of winning one of the four prizes a month. Call 843019 to join.

## **Alan Poulton**

Chairman

## **Do you remember your own PIN number?**

Nearly one in five of us can't. We are so used to paying by contactless that when we have to withdraw cash or type our PIN into a card reader, our minds go blank.

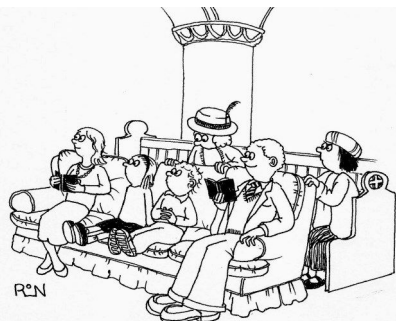
'Contactless' payments hit a record high last year. A staggering 93.4 per cent of all in-store card transactions up to £100 was made using contactless, rather than cash or PIN and card reader.

According to Barclays, we now depend on contactless payments and smartphone technology so much that more than a fifth of young people now leave their wallets at home when they go shopping.

Contactless technology was first introduced by Barclaycard 17 years ago. It had a spending limit of £10. The limit was increased during the pandemic, to reduce physical contact in shops, rising to its current £100 limit.



*...between you and me, it's the only way I can remember my PIN number!*



*Regular worshippers were upgraded to first class*

## PATRIK GARTEN'S NEWSLETTER

### TOWNCENTRE

Nationally and internationally shopping habits have shifted tremendously in the past 10 years, leading to town centres changing in character. Regrettably, we see many quality shops and larger chains closing. Again, this affects many towns and cities as we see long established national chains going out of business and their space being taken by charity shops, vape shops and betting shops. These problems are not new and by no means unique to Maidstone. For better or worse, we do not live in communism and, therefore, the authorities cannot prescribe what shops should and should not open in Maidstone. The council has only very limited powers, mainly under licensing laws, to restrict and control certain types of shops, like pubs and gambling places.

The current Conservative administration at MBC is working very hard not only to stop the decline of the town centre, but by devising a strategy how to make Maidstone more attractive and future proof.

Our work encompasses small things as well as more complex plans for the future. For example, you may have noticed our new planters with beautiful flowers popping up in many places along the pedestrianised zone. More elaborate greening and lighting strategies are currently being prepared for later in the year.

Our Environmental Services clean the town centre daily, and on a Sunday morning you will have trouble spotting any trash from the previous night's partying.

The MBC Environmental Protection Team, in conjunction with the police and the security officers from the BID (Business Improvement District), work hard to tackle the scourge of anti-social behaviour. For that, we now close Brenchley Gardens at night and established a manned sub-police station in that park, by converting the old toilet block.

My personal pet hate of anti-social behaviour is the illegal motor-traffic in the High Street. I lobbied long and hard for ANPR enforcement cameras to stop this dangerous behaviour in the pedestrian zone. I received assurances from the County Highways Authorities that we are considered to receive this vital enforcement tool in the not-too-distant future.

Long term, we are engaging with businesses to alleviate the decline of shopping facilities by bringing new attractions into the town centre, mainly in the entertainment and hospitality sector. Only last week we agreed at cabinet, to provide a permanent maker-space for creative businesses and artists. I can't give away too much now, but the plans are exciting and will be taken to committee **before the elections**.

Maidstone's heart must be accessible to all residents of the Borough and visitors from afar in order to be viable and to enhance the offer by increasing the footfall in the town centre. The Conservative members of MBC are ,

therefore **the only party who is committed to freeze parking charges** in order to support local businesses.

### **LITTER IN THE COUNTRYSIDE**

I wholly agree that this is a problem, a very disgusting one indeed !

A sociologist may be better suited to answer why society's standards are slipping. I, however, like to point out that during February things look even worse and are perceived worse. Especially after the recent rainy and windy months, vegetation cover is reduced and the detritus is far more visible and wider spread.

However, I can absolutely state that the amount of money spent on waste collection has NOT been reduced and will not be reduced in next years budget. The Street-Scene Team is responsible within the Maidstone Borough Council and elected councillors hold them to account for carrying out this work effectively and on a regular basis. As cabinet member for Environmental Services, I hold regular talks with the lead officers, who present KPI data to me and to all councillors during committee. I also go out with the teams on occasion and personally follow up complaints, which are raised with me or my fellow councillors.

As I mentioned in previous newsletters, last summer we recruited a waste crime team with an extremely competent team leader who has many years of police background. Only a few weeks ago we allocated £40,000 to them in capital investment to purchase crime-fighting equipment, e.g. CCTV.

As soon as national government permitted local authorities to increase fines for fly-tipping and littering, I instructed my officers to implement those fines, which came into force in October last year. Littering along a trunk road will now attract a fixed penalty of £500 or an unlimited fine. The waste crime team welcomes any CCTV and photographic evidence, which can assist us in pursuing a prosecution.

Recently, you may have come across the headline "**FOI request shows that MBC hasn't prosecuted anyone for fly tipping during the last three years**". Firstly, this FOI request deals with data up to March, 2023. As I said above, our Waste Crime Team expanded immensely since last summer. And even prior, since January, 2021, MBC Waste Crime Team have investigated 103 offences of waste crime where we have been able to recover evidence. We generated £26000 in fixed penalty notice fines.

So **why does this FOI request make such bad reading?** Because a fixed penalty is not a prosecution. A prosecution is where a case goes to court. Under previous legislation it was not in MBC's interest to prosecute in the courts because this would have cost us money to bring the case and any fine would have gone to Central Government. Since October, 2023, legislation changed significantly and we have access to the proceeds of crime as well as any court imposed fines.

Currently we have 25 live cases under investigation for prosecution and we

are seeking forfeiture of any vehicles involved in those crimes. This includes a 32-ton tipper lorry. As I mentioned before, a large proportion of fly-tippers are commercial rogue operations. Since 1st January, 2024, we have also dealt with over 40 abandoned vehicles; that is one abandoned vehicle each working day!

Finally, Kent County Council is the Highways Authority. They must be consulted when our (MBC) crews litter-pick trunk roads. It is KCC who will have to put lane closures in place to protect our staff. These operations are, therefore, often conducted in conjunction with other works, scheduled road-closures (e.g. construction) or grass cutting, the latter is also KCC's responsibility. Unfortunately, experience shows that, within 24 hours after a thorough litter sweep, the verges are already cluttered with detritus again.

I am extremely frustrated to see our hard-working crews fighting a literally never-ending wave of litter, day after day. I hope that you will take some comfort in our commitment to take on the fight.

The current Conservative administration at MBC has no plans to cut the funding for our Street Scene Department and we assured an inflation-adjusted funding in **next year's budget, which was passed last week.**

### **LAND EAST OF LOC8 / WOODCUT FARM**

You may be aware that a speculative planning application was filed a few months ago, to build another business park on the strip of land East of Loc8 / Woodcut Farm. Because we have a local plan, and this site was not in the local plan, I always considered this as a non-starter and made representations accordingly. MBC rightfully refused the application. MBC's refusal went to appeal and wiser people than me were less optimistic. I am happy to announce that the appeal inspector gave great weight to our local plan and the impact of the application site on the AONB. The inspector dismissed the appeal. We can assume that in the foreseeable future Hollingbourne will be safe from speculative planning applications.

### **PATRIK GARTEN**

MBC Councillor for North Downs Ward (Conservative)  
Cabinet Member for Environmental Services  
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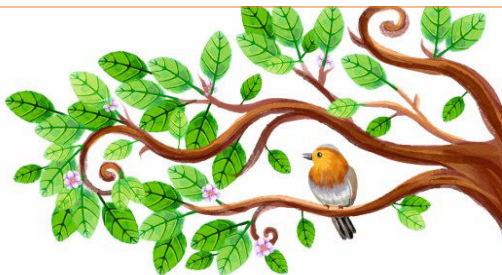
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## All in the month of April

It was:

**300 years ago**, on **7<sup>th</sup> April, 1724**, that the German composer **Johann Sebastian Bach**'s '***St John Passion***' was performed for the first time, at a church in Leipzig.

Also **300 years ago**, on **22<sup>nd</sup> April, 1724**, that **Immanuel Kant**, the German philosopher was born. One of the **leading philosophers** during the **Age of Enlightenment**.

**200 years ago**, on **19<sup>th</sup> April, 1824**, that **Lord Byron** died. One of the greatest **British poets** and a leading figure in the **Romantic movement**, he died of sepsis/fever while fighting for Greek independence from the Ottoman Empire, aged 36.

**175 years ago**, on **10<sup>th</sup> April, 1849**, that American mechanic, **Walter Hunt**, was granted a US **patent** for his invention of the **safety pin**. He immediately sold the rights for \$400, which is about \$12,000 today. The company he sold it to made millions from it.

**150 years ago**, on **5<sup>th</sup> April, 1874**, that **Johann Strauss II**'s operetta '***Die Fledermaus***' was performed for the first time, in Vienna.

**125 years ago**, on **29<sup>th</sup> April, 1899**, that **Duke Ellington**, American jazz/swing pianist, composer and orchestra leader, was born.

**100 years ago**, on **17<sup>th</sup> April, 1924**, that **Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios (MGM)** was founded when Metro Pictures, Goldwyn Pictures and Louis B Mayer Pictures merged.

Also **100 years ago**, on **23<sup>rd</sup> April, 1924**, that the **British Empire Exhibition** opened in Wembley, London.

**90 years ago**, on **3<sup>rd</sup> April, 1934**, that British inventor, **Percy Shaw**, patented the **Cat's Eye** reflective road stud. He set up a company to manufacture them in 1935 and in 1937 he was awarded a government contract to mass produce them for national use.

**75 years ago**, on **4<sup>th</sup> April, 1949**, that the **North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)** was founded.

Also **75 years ago**, on **7<sup>th</sup> April, 1949**, that the **Rodgers and Hammerstein** musical '***South Pacific***' was opened in Broadway.

**70 years ago**, on **7<sup>th</sup> April, 1954**, that in a news conference about Communism in Indochina, US President, **Dwight D. Eisenhower**, explained his '***domino theory***'. He said that if one country in a region came under the influence of Communism, then the countries surrounding it would follow. He and later presidential administrations have always believed this.

Also **70 years ago**, on **26<sup>th</sup> April, 1954**, that the **Soviet Union** transferred **Crimea from Russia to Ukraine**. In 2014 Russia annexed Crimea, but it is not recognised internationally, and a number of sanctions were imposed on Russia as a result.



**65 years ago**, on **9<sup>th</sup> April, 1959**, that **Frank Lloyd Wright**, American architect and writer, died. Regarded as 'the greatest American architect of all time.'

**60 years ago**, on **15<sup>th</sup> April, 1964**, that twelve men convicted of carrying out the **Great Train Robbery** in England in August of 1963 were **jailed** for a total of **307 years**. They were given some of the longest sentences in British criminal history.

**50 years ago**, on **6<sup>th</sup> April, 1974**, that the Swedish pop group, **ABBA**, won the Eurovision Song Contest with their song '**Waterloo**'. It was the first time that Sweden won the contest. ABBA went on to be one of the most successful groups in music history.

**40 years ago**, on **17<sup>th</sup> April, 1984**, that British police officer, **Yvonne Fletcher**, was shot dead during a demonstration outside the **Libyan Embassy** in London. This led to an 11-day siege by the police.

**30 years ago**, on **6<sup>th</sup> April, 1994**, that the **Rwandan genocide** began, when a plane carrying Rwandan president, **Juvenal Habyarimana**, and Burundian president, **Cyprien Ntaryamira**, was shot down by extremists. Civil war broke out the following day, and between 500,000 and one million people were massacred during the next 100 days.

Also **30 years ago**, on **26<sup>th</sup> April, 1994**, that the **first post-apartheid multiracial elections** were held in **South Africa**, with 18 million blacks eligible to vote for the first time. Nelson Mandela was elected president and took office on 10<sup>th</sup> May.

**25 years ago**, on **5<sup>th</sup> April, 1999**, that **Libya** handed over to the United Nations **two suspects** in the **1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103** over Lockerbie. They were taken to the Netherlands to face trial. One was found guilty, and sentenced to life imprisonment, only to be released in 2009 because he was dying of cancer. The other suspect was acquitted.

**20 years ago**, on **1<sup>st</sup> April, 2004**, that **Google** launched its free email service, **Gmail**.

**10 years ago**, on **14<sup>th</sup> April, 2014**, that the **Boko Haram** Islamic terrorist group **kidnapped 276 female students** from the Government Girls Secondary School in Chibok, Nigeria. Some of the girls escaped, some were rescued, or have been reported dead, but over 100 are still missing, fate unknown.

In reply to a question in Sunday school, one little boy said that the fifth commandment is: 'Humour thy father and thy mother .

Here's a sure-fire way to cross off every item on your To-Do list: Do the chores first, then write them down and *then* cross them off!

While the pastor is on holiday, massages can be given to the church secretary.



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St James the Least



My dear Nephew Darren,

I am not the least surprised you have got yourself into trouble; innovation is never to be encouraged. New ideas tend to cause revolutions. The move from incandescent lightbulbs to energy saving ones may ultimately change the Church of England.

Change is something everyone claims to be in favour of – provided it has no measurable effect on their own lives. I remember, as a young curate, once suggesting that, at the Harvest Supper, tables might be enlarged so that eight people could sit together rather than the traditional six, thus helping more people get to know one another. The response would have been similar if I had suggested we travel to London to murder the Prime Minister. I was firmly told that tables for six had been perfectly adequate for parishioners in Queen Victoria's day. For the rest of my curacy, I was regarded as a revolutionary, to be watched carefully.

So, at your last visit to our church, to suggest that our 11 am Mattins might be moved to 10.30am, in order to encourage those who wanted to have more of the day free to themselves, certainly lobbed a hand grenade among the post-Service coffee cups. The only person who was mildly in favour was Colonel Wainwright, who quickly realised that it would give him an extra half-hour at the gin and tonics before lunch.

Should you ever feel that people lack imagination, you should watch them in action when they find reasons for resisting an unwelcome suggestion. One said that the time couldn't be moved, since it would then be too early for the local bus – omitting to mention that none of our congregation travel to church by bus and that the service doesn't run on Sundays anyway. Another pointed out that it would confuse those who didn't attend church – not explaining why, if they never attended, it mattered what time the Service was. A third, rather touchingly mentioned that it wouldn't give the rector time to enjoy his breakfast after the rigours of the 8 am Service.

Your suggestion did, however, serve one useful purpose; it brought our congregation together in united opposition. They may not necessarily always know what they are for, but they certainly know what they are against. For that, I thank you.

Your loving uncle  
Eustace

Any opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the positions of the Editor or Parochial Church Council. We reserve the right to edit, and the right not to print: no reason will be given. Contributions will not be printed anonymously.

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## VILLAGE DIARY

**April**      *Hollingbourne Station Café – Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7 am – 4.00 pm*  
*Saturdays 9.00 am—2 pm*

1 <sup>st</sup>		Easter Monday Bank Holiday	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>12.10-12.40 pm</b>	<b>Mobile Library</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9-2.00 pm</b>	<b>Saturday Opening Launch</b>	<b>The Signal Café</b>
8 <sup>th</sup>		Parish Council Meeting	Cardwell Pavilion
13 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am	Men's Breakfast (date change)	Hook & Hatchet
	2.00 pm	Garden Society Spring Show	Village Hall
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>WI Meeting</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Police Surgery</b>	<b>Hollingbourne Station</b>
	<b>12.10-12.40 pm</b>	<b>Mobile Library</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>
<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>'Travels with an Old Bag'</b>	<b>Detling Village Hall</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>- Detling Players</b>	<b>Detling Village Hall</b>
	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Scout Group Quiz</b>	<b>Langley Village Hall</b>
	<b>7.00 pm</b>	<b>Chilli &amp; Soul (Leeds &amp; Broomfield Friends)</b>	<b>Leeds Village Hall</b>
<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>		<b>London Marathon</b>	
<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Hollingbourne Parish Assembly</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>		St. George's Day	

**May**      *Hollingbourne Station Café – Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7 am – 4.00 pm*  
*Saturdays 9.00 am—2 pm*

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>12.10-12.40 pm</b>	<b>Mobile Library</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>		<b>Local Elections</b>	
<b>4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Sweeps' Festival</b>	<b>Rochester</b>
5 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Hospice Bluebell Walk</b>	<b>Harrietsham</b>
6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>11.00-4.00 pm</b>	<b>Medieval Fayre</b>	<b>Brenchley Gardens</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.30-3.30 pm</b>	<b>Maidstone Zoo Exhibition</b>	<b>Mote Park</b>
8 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Bank Holiday</b>	
<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12.00 pm</b>	<b>Annual Parochial Council Meeting</b>	<b>All Saints Church</b>
13 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Cardwell Pavilion
<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12.10-12.40 pm</b>	<b>Mobile Library</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>
<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>WI Meeting</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Kent Garden Show</b>	<b>Kent Showground</b>
27 <sup>th</sup>		Bank Holiday	
<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12.10-12.40 pm</b>	<b>Mobile Library</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>

**June**      *Hollingbourne Station Café – Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7 am – 4.00 pm*  
*Saturdays 9.00 am—2 pm*

1 <sup>st</sup>	2pm	Garden Society Visit	Arnold Yoke
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>D-Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b>	
8 <sup>th</sup>		Village Fete	Lance Memorial Field
10 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Cardwell Pavilion
<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12.10-12.40 pm</b>	<b>Mobile Library</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>
16 <sup>th</sup>		Father's Day	
<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>WI Meeting</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>
23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30 am	Garden Society Visit	Wisley
<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12.10-12.40 pm</b>	<b>Mobile Library</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August</b>		<b>Shaun the Sheep in the Heart of Kent</b>	<b>Maidstone</b>

*New additions and amendments in bold italics.*

## REGULAR MEETINGS

### **After school Club:**

Schooldays to 6 pm **Cardwell Pavilion**

### **Ballroom Dancing:**

Wednesdays 7.15 pm **Village Hall**

### **Beavers & Cubs:**

Beavers (6-8years) Tuesdays 6.00—7.15 pm **Kingswood Scout Hut**

Cubs (8-10 years) Thursdays 5.30-7.00 pm **Kingswood Scout Hut**

### **Bellringing Practice:**

Mondays 7.30 - 9.30 pm **All Saints Church Tower**

### **Brownies:**

Thursdays \* not Wednesdays 6.30—7.45 pm **Cardwell Pavilion**

### **Cricket :** **Hollingbourne Cricket Ground**

Tuesdays 6-7.30 pm U11-U15

7.30-8.30/9.00 pm Senior Training

Sundays 10-11 am U9 **Bearsted Green**

Fridays 6.30-8.00 pm Senior Womens/Girls

### **Explorers:**

Thursdays 7.00 - 9.00 pm **Kingswood Scout Hut**

### **Hucking WI:**

3rd Thursday 7.00 pm **Little Budds Farm**

### **Kickboxing:**

Thursdays 7 pm—8.00 pm Adult **Village Hall**

Saturdays 9.30am—10.30 am Children **Village Hall**

### **Mobile Library**

Wednesdays 12.10 pm - 12.40 pm **Village Hall**

### **Parish Council:**

2nd Monday (*except August*) 7.30 pm **Cardwell Pavilion**

### **Pre-School:**

Every School Day 9.15 am – noon **Cardwell Pavilion**

### **Reading Group :**

Monthly **Contact:** Barbara Lloyd 880282  
Dawn Perry 880634

### **School Terms**

**2024**

**Term 5:** 15th April– 24th May

**Term 6:** 3rd June-19th July

**Term 1:** 4th September—25th October

**Term 2:** 4th November—20th December

**2025**

**Term 3:** 6th January—14th February

**Term 4:** 25th February—4th April

**Term 5:** 22nd April—23rd May

**Term 6:** 2nd June—18th July

### **Scouts:**

Wednesdays, 7.00 – 9.00 pm **Kingswood Scout Hut**

### **WI Meetings:**

3rd Tuesday (Not August) 7.30 pm **Village Hall**

2nd Tuesday in December

**Carole Findlay at [hollingbourne.parish.magazine.editor@hotmail.com](mailto:hollingbourne.parish.magazine.editor@hotmail.com)**

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