

Hollingbourne & Hucking

December 2021



WISHING
YOU A
HAPPY
CHRISTMAS
AND A
BLESSED
NEW YEAR



Church & Village News

www.hollingbournepc.co.uk

VIEW FROM THE PULPIT

It may be expected that Christmas would dominate the December issue of this magazine. After all, it is a highlight of the year and a time which unites people possibly above and beyond any other occasion. And this year we hope and pray that our churches will be open, and we can, once again, welcome in people of the community to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Needless to say, I love Christmas: the celebration, the good news of hope, the parties, the family time, THE FOOD(!). It really is the most wonderful time of the year.

But despite what most children (and maybe adults) may be feeling over the next few weeks, there is also great beauty in the patient journeying towards this special day. After all, December will almost be over when we come to Christmas Day itself. So, how best can we use the twenty-four days preceding the big day?

The church's season of Advent is a beautiful time. It spans the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. For some readers this period in the church's calendar will help prepare for Christmas itself. It is a wonderful time of readings and themes and really helps Christians appreciate again the significance of the birth of Jesus.

However, for others this may not be relevant. And that, of course, is fine!

Nevertheless, could a challenge this year be to resist charging head-first into Christmas? Could each of us resist being overwhelmed by the 'performance' that comes with 'delivering' Christmas? Can we resist the fearmongering of the press, whether it be about snow, shortage of fuel, shortage of gifts, or whatever else they decide to induce panic over?

And can we take a moment or two to stop and breathe? Go for a walk, sit on a comfy chair, play some soothing instrumental music, do something to create space? And then reflect. What is at the heart of your Christmas this year? What are you prioritising? What will you not allow yourself to be carried away by? How can you keep these priorities at the centre of your Christmas celebration this year?

For me, as I have already said, so much of Christmas is absolutely fantastic. I have enjoyed many memorable Christmas celebrations in my life. But for me keeping Jesus at the centre of my Christmas helps everything else remain in its rightful place. The heart of my celebration is remembering the unconditional love that God has for me and for you. With that at the centre I believe Christmas gets its 'proper' shape and the other fantastic parts of the celebration are relieved of the pressure around them. And so, as I go through December, I make the most of remembering the journey towards the birth of Jesus. It is a story that will never disappoint.

So, this December, can I encourage you again to stop and reflect? Take a breath. Go for a walk. What do you want from your Christmas this year? How can you hold fast to these priorities? What will you resist, or aim to hold

SERVICES 2021/22 (YEAR C)

DECEMBER, 2021

5th December

Advent 2

Service Hollingbourne 11.00 am Eucharist

Readings Malachi 3: 1-4; Luke 3: 1-6

12th December

Advent 3

Service Hollingbourne 11.00 am Eucharist

Readings Zephaniah 3: 14-20; Luke 3: 7-18

19th December

Advent 4

Services Hollingbourne 11.00 am Carol Service

Hucking 3.30 pm Carol Service

24th December

Christmas Eve

Services Hollingbourne 4.00 pm Christingle

Hollingbourne 11.00 pm Midnight Mass

25th December

Christmas Day

Service Hollingbourne 10.30 am Christmas Communion

26th December

The First Sunday of Christmas

Service Boxley 9.00 am Joint Communion



LBK
churches

Christmas Services

www.lbkchurches.co.uk

St Nicholas Day - 5th December
9.30am at St Nicholas Church, Leeds

Carol Service - 12th December
3.30pm at St Margaret's Church, Broomfield

Christingle - 19th December
6.00pm at Kingswood Church, Kingswood

Christingle - 24th December
2.30pm at St Nicholas Church, Leeds

Midnight Service - 24th December
11pm at St Nicholas Church, Leeds

Christmas Morning - 25th December
10am at St Margaret's Church, Broomfield
&
10.30am at Kingswood Church, Kingswood

loosely? And, finally, could exploring the story of the baby born in a stable open the doors to the most incredible Christmas ever? Give it a try - you have nothing to lose!

ROB TUGWELL

EDITOR'S NOTES

A very Happy Christmas to all our readers. Let us hope that 'normality' will still be holding at the end of the month so that we can all participate in the numerous events and services.

First, news from the village. A 20 mph speed zone has been created from Godfrey Meadow, by the Station, to Greenaway Court Road. Details are in the magazine. The Parish Assembly was held on 17th November and a report is expected next month. The first Men's Breakfast in nearly two years was held at The Dirty Habit – greatly appreciated by all the attendees! A report from the Parish Clerk bodes well for the No. 13 bus – see inside. New trees have been planted near Culpeper Close as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative – see picture.

With Christmas (presents bought, cards done???) fast approaching, there are numerous themed events and we are delighted to welcome back a number of the traditional church services.

The W.I. will be holding their members only Christmas meeting on the 14th; there will be Carol Services (with accompanying Mince Pies and Mulled Wine) at Hollingbourne (11.00 am) and Hucking (3.30 pm) on Sunday, 19th; Carol Singing at Tanyard Green (with refreshments afterwards at The Sugar Loaves) on Wednesday, 22nd at 6.00 pm.

Christmas Eve sees the return of a Christingle Service at All Saints at 4.00 pm – we hope many of the children of the village (and parents and grandparents, aunts, uncles and friends) will come. Midnight Mass will be celebrated at All Saints at 11.00 pm. Always a good turnout.

After the mayhem of the celebration of the birth of Jesus, we have not one, but two Bank Holidays on the Monday and Tuesday, by which time I suspect we will be ready to return to the fray. Only to gather enough strength to celebrate New Year's Eve.

The magazine has appeared only on the Parish Council website since the first 'lockdown' meant that printed distribution became impossible. Many of the distributors were in the 'vulnerable' category and numbers have further diminished. While it is highly desirable for a printed version to appear there are no plans, as yet, for a return. If you are able to access the magazine on the website, why not print out one or two copies for people you know are not able to access it? Certainly, for many older residents this could be a boon. The jokes are worth reading!

Carole Findlay

Keep me informed of any news at

Email: hollingbourne.parish.magazine.editor@hotmail.com

01622.583636





MIDNIGHT MASS

11.00 Pm

FRIDAY, 24TH DECEMBER

ALL SAINTS : HOLLINGBOURNE



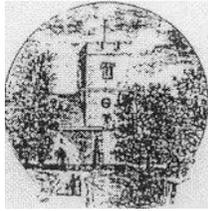
Spending at Christmas

Are you going to go into debt for Christmas? Under the relentless pressure of advertising, those of us with money troubles may find that the demand for elaborate decorations, Christmas cards, presents, food and drink, can be overwhelming.

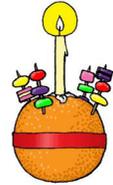
It may be time to take a reality check.

Make a note of any debts you already have. Then rough out what you are likely to spend over Christmas. Then consider your income. If the figures don't add up, then take a deep breath. This is where you either surrender to Christmas commercialism for another year, and take on additional debt, or you stick with a sensible budget for Christmas.

Remember what Christmas is really about: welcoming the birth of the Son of God in a stable in Bethlehem, not about how much more you can put on your credit card this month. It is true that the very best thing in life is free!



Christingle Service



Christmas Eve



Friday, 24th December



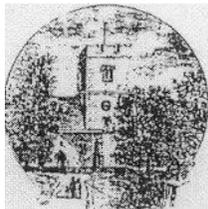
4.00 pm



ALL SAINTS CHURCH



HOLLINGBOURNE



Hollingbourne Reading Group

Christmas is always a special time for books, giving & receiving for the whole family. We always have some hard cover books when throughout the rest of the year we may have paperbacks and kindle books. It is also a time for coffee table books, will our grandchildren know what these are in years to come?

In our family we usually have a new cookbook but how to know what to choose when there are so many? Will it be Mary Berry, Love to Cook having watched this on television, or Nadia Hussain also on television. Nigel Slater is always thoughtful and his Cook's Book looks interesting, or Ed Balls Appetite?

Other books linked to television include Diddly Squat by Jeremy Clarkson or Celebrating the seasons with The Yorkshire Shepherdess Amanda Owen.

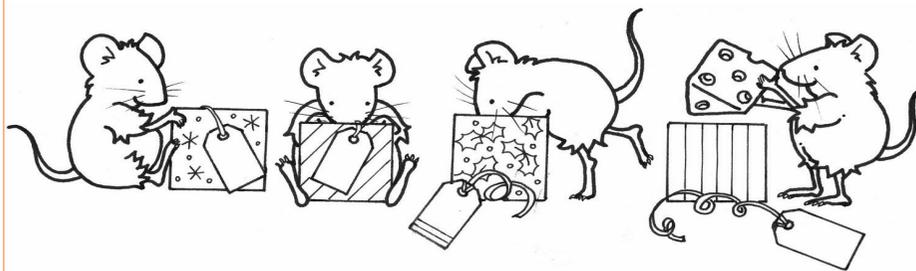
I am hoping to receive The Lincoln Highway, a hardback book by Amor Towles which says on the cover "As soon as I finished it I wanted to read it again" What praise.

However, at this time leading up to Christmas, I am re reading Pickwick Papers, Dickens first book. Christmas is always a time for Dickens and this book set mainly in Kent is a joy, what language.

Enjoy books at Christmas and hope to meet up next year.

Dawn Perry

880634



Those unwanted gifts

What will you do with the Christmas gifts you don't want? Depends on your sex. It seems that women are 60% more likely than men to return or give away Christmas presents they don't want.

What are considered unwanted presents? One list includes potato peelers, a carpet cleaner, a sleeve ironing board, a mop and bucket, and out-of-date Bailey Irish Cream liqueur.

Some of us will sell our unwanted gifts on EBay, while others of us will give them away, or to the nearest charity shop. The survey was done by *Which?*



Let's celebrate together!

REJOICE AND BE GLAD

Christmas Service at All Saint's, Hollingbourne

19th December, 11am, Carol service
(followed by seasonal refreshments)

19th December, 3:30pm, Carols at St Margaret's, Hucking

24th December, 4pm, Christingle service

24th December, 11pm, Midnight Mass

25th December, 10:30am, Christmas Communion

26th December, 9am, Joint Communion
at Boxley church

All Welcome!





19th December, 2021

CAROL SERVICE



At



ALL SAINTS
HOLLINGBOURNE

11.00 am



Mulled Wine



&

Mince Pies





Music Notes December 2021



For December our local musicians all plan to be back with the usual popular seasonal concerts. Performances took place as planned in November, so let us hope that the dreaded virus doesn't cause problems this month. As we go to press some concerts do not have all details available – if anything interests you do follow up the sources indicated because by the time you read this the information will be available. And don't forget your local church carol services as advertised – always the opportunity for a good sing. Then here is my December selection:

Saturday, 4th December, at 4.00pm at All Saints' Church, Mill Street, Maidstone ME15 6YE. **Maidstone Choral Union** will hold an afternoon Christmas concert which will include *Wassail* by **Alexander L'Estrange** and **carols for choir and audience**. Tickets from mcuconertmanager@gmail.com or choir members or at the door.

Tuesday 7th & Wednesday, 8th December, Maidstone Singers hold their annual Christmas Celebrations at **St Martin's Church**, Maidstone. For latest information and details see <http://www.themaidsingers.org.uk/>

Saturday, 11th December, at 7.30pm at All Saints' Church, Mill Street, Maidstone ME15 6YE, **Maidstone Wind Symphony** return with a concert entitled '**Ring in the new**' which includes works by **Fergus Carol, James David** and **Prokofiev arr. Wallace**. Tickets from <https://www.maidstonewindsymphony.org> or at the door.

Saturday, 18th December, at 7.30pm at St. Peter's Church, Button Lane, Bearsted, Maidstone, ME15 8NJ. The Christmas concert of **Bearsted Choral Society** will feature carols, festive songs and readings, with audience participation. Tickets from <https://www.bearstedchoral.org.uk>.

Also on 18th December, at 6.00pm at Sutton Valence School Chapel, Sutton Valence Choral Society present a carol concert. For details call 01622 861313. For those looking for stop-at-home music - two items on TV to look out for when timings become available:

Gareth Malone's Christmas Concert – the choirmaster visits two hospitals to recruit for a special **Christmas concert** – BBC 2 TV in December, time tbc

Christmas with the Kanneh-Masons – as well as performing in their local studio the 7 siblings practise at home together. – BBC 2 TV in December, time tbc

BJH

WI NEWS DECEMBER 2021

We marked Remembrance Sunday at All Saints Church with the laying of wreaths. It was good to see familiar faces again after the long period of isolation. Mary refurbished our handknitted wreath with the technique used in The Repair Shop; it really shone.

We enjoyed taking part in the Parish Assembly this month, which was a very convivial evening with all the different interest groups in the village reporting back on their year. So good to see that the events calendar is gradually filling up and realising that all the different groups really work together over the year. Maria Domican talked of 'engagement' and I think Hollingbourne is well on the way to achieving that. An outside speaker, Malcom Luxton, commented that he had never been to such a vibrant Parish Assembly and how lucky we are to live here!

Katherine Hook talked to our members and visitors about her small award-winning business - 'Sloe Seduction'. The growth of this kitchen-based enterprise was slow and steady, avoiding the pitfalls of large advertising budgets and contracts with well known retail outlets. The base of her Sloe Gin is Gordons Gin which she buys in quantity from retail outlets, causing many a raised eyebrow from her fellow shoppers. She also makes chocolate balls which are filled with a delicious creamy sloe concoction. Katherine works flat out from September, when the sloes are gathered in, to make the gin and the chocolates. In June, she changes jobs to work in a motorbike outlet in Tunbridge Wells! Then she can enjoy her hobby of riding a vintage British motor bike. Many of our member are also Sloe Gin makers and can't wait until Christmas.

Our December meeting is a members only event – the Christmas Party.

January starts with another members only event 'Move it or lose it' – let's guess what that is about.

February 15th is an open meeting 'About Alpaccas' – the speaker Rosemary Thirkell.

Val Williams

Secretary Hollingbourne WI



HOLLINGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

The vacancy on the Parish Council can now be filled by Co-Option, following confirmation by the Maidstone BC. Anyone who would like to join should attend the next Parish Council meeting on the 13th December, 2021, 7.30 pm, Cardwell Pavilion, or feel free to contact the Clerk on on pchollingbourne@gmail.com beforehand.

HOLLINGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Next Meetings are to be held on

13th December

2022

11th January

14th February

At 7.30 pm

At The Cardwell Pavilion

Residents and representatives of the media interested in joining the meeting should contact the Clerk via pchollingbourne@gmail.com.

*The Parish Council's aim is to include them within the meeting.**

There will be a 10 minute interval before the meeting to allow members of the public to speak



NU-VENTURE BUS NO 13



The Parish Clerk attended the East of Maidstone Transport Group meeting on Monday, 22nd November 2021 (not a public meeting) and is glad to share that the KCC said that the pilot bus scheme for Hollingbourne Number 13 bus, run by Nu-Venture, is guaranteed to run until April, 2023. It is more than likely that the system will then be the permanent arrangement for the residents. Norman Kemp, Director and Company Secretary of Nu-Venture Coaches, is really glad that he can provide a regular driver for the number 13 bus, who has a good rapport with his regular bus travellers. The pilot bus scheme offers a very important lifeline to residents who need to visit the supermarket and the Maidstone town and surrounding areas. Norman wants to continue offering the bus travellers the best service possible, and, with this in mind, a survey is going to be carried out asking travellers where they normally travel to on the bus. Do they travel to the supermarket only? Do they travel into Maidstone? Or do they use both services? It is hoped that a survey can be placed upon the Parish website pretty soon, but, if bus travellers want to email the Clerk (Vikki Smith) on pchollingbourne@gmail.com, with their comments, they are welcome to do so.

A new timetable is soon to be produced by Nu-Venture, but travellers are always recommended to keep up to date with changes on the website <http://www.nu-venture.co.uk/index.html>.

1/11/21

PATRIK GARTEN'S NEWSLETTER

People surely get the politicians who they deserve. Your local councillor was recently given an award. I read on Facebook: "*Maidstone's Biggest Hypocrite of the Year award goes to Cllr Patrik Garten.*"

Last month, amidst a storm of public protest, we had an extraordinary Full Council meeting. Members decided to put forward our Local Plan Review for the final Regulation 19 public consultation. This Local Plan Review was jointly conjured up between all political groups over the past two years, while the Liberals were leading the Council.

Oh ! what a surprise when the Liberal group voted unanimously against the Review on this occasion.

There was no need to take this step, the plan did not change since it was last supported by them. I can only guess that political electioneering was the sole motivation. In the weeks leading up to this vote, all councillors were lobbied by a barrage of Anti-Lidsing campaign emails. The sitting Conservative Boxley councillors, in whose ward Lidsing falls, were too much of a temptation to be targeted by a blunt political Liberal ambush.

A week in politics is a long time and I read interesting news about this political party in the local press: <https://www.kentonline.co.uk/maidstone/news/lib-dems-suffer-blow-in-group-exit-at-council-255865/> It's not for me to comment here.

Coming back to the Local Plan Review, the Conservatives have now acquired it as their own, by default. Not doing so would have thrown us back by 18 months and eventually left us without a Local Plan and no defence against unsuitable planning applications. A risk which our group was not willing to take.

The plan will now go forward to its final public consultation and I encourage you, as always, to have your say. It will take place between 29 October and 12 December 2021 and can be accessed via the MBC website:

<https://localplan.maidstone.gov.uk/home/local-plan-review>

As human society we need houses, we need to home the current generation and provide an affordable living place for the **future generation**. A lack of housing supply will do nothing but push housing costs to even higher unaffordable levels.

I explained in previous newsletters that locally elected councillors have, in law, no choice to agree or disagree national housing formulas. This is beyond our remit. The democratically elected Government of the Nation, rightly so, developed a housing strategy. It is our task, as democratically elected local councillors, to find the **least harmful** local solution.

The sad consequence of previous local plans was that while disbursing thousands of homes across the Borough we destroyed the soul of many small villages, grew separate villages into one and, most of all, we drained exiting infrastructure to its limits.

I feel that if we do have to build at this scale to meet our housing need, then by concentrating development in a few places it may allow us to build fresh infrastructure into the settlement from the outset. I'm sure the term economy-of scale was bandied around a few times over the past years.

This Local Plan Review incorporates for the first time the opportunity of so called garden-villages. The Plan determines merely which part of the Borough may or may not be suitable to take the brunt of the needed development. We have no choice over the numbers.

In the end, the choice was whittled down to two areas of land next to motorways in Lidsing as well as Lenham Heath.

Approving two garden settlements here will protect the rest of the Borough for decades to come.

Maybe I should have controlled my tongue. I was publicly crucified when I said this month: *It'll be hard to find a less attractive place to concrete over.* who wants to live next to a motorway anyway?

Coming back to my 'Hypocrite of the Year' award: the Facebook message talks about your most outspoken Councillor: "*some may remember him from 2015 when he ran (but failed) to be councillor for Lenham and Harrietsham.*" It goes on to show an excerpt of an old video where I promote Lenham village and the AONB for tourism.

Six years on, I continue to promote tourism. The protection of the AONB is at the forefront of all my campaigning. If I had my way, my very personal desire would be to breed squirrels, crows, rabbits and bees and not build any houses at all, anywhere.

However, I've been elected by humans to represent humans. I represent North Downs Ward since 2016, because the people of North Downs trust me to represent them adequately.

My whole ward, the largest ward by area, North Downs Ward, will receive no more than NINE(!) new houses as a result of this Local Plan Review.

Call me a hypocrite, but my loyalties lie first and foremost with the people who voted me into power.

... Thank You for putting your trust in me

Secondly I take a strategic responsibility for ALL citizens of Maidstone across the whole Borough, but I cannot have special loyalties towards the people who didn't want me ...

People surely get the politicians who they deserve.

And finally..... Another valuable point was added to this latest edition of the Local Plan. A corridor in Otham Valley will now be safeguarded from new development until the fate of a much needed Leeds-Langley relief road can be decided. This is a crucial addition. While Maidstone is not the Highways Authority and has neither powers nor means to build this road, we will safeguard sufficient land for it to be built so that if on-going studies eventually

prove that this road is needed and will benefit Maidstone, possible lines for it will not be blocked or compromised by any new development. In fairness to the Liberals, they never supported a Leeds Langley relief road nor this new safeguard.

PATRIK GARTEN

MBC Councillor for North Downs Ward (Conservative)

Phone: 01622-807907



Beware junk food driving

If you are out on the roads this month, beware: drivers who eat fast food may increase their risk of crashing cars.

That is the finding of a recent study into the effects of what happens to drivers when they eat snacks high in sugar and fats. Such foods were found to cause drivers to drive at higher speeds, and to also reduce their concentration at the wheel.

The recent research at Tartu University in Estonia found that people with poorer diets have higher accident and driving convictions. Yet an estimated £1.25 billion is spent on food at service stations each year, with sweets the most popular choice for hungry, tired motorists.

Some people use one half their ingenuity to get into debt, and the other half to avoid paying it. - George D Prentice



CAROLS ON TANYARD GREEN

Wednesday, 22nd December, 2021

6.00 pm



*Followed by Mince
Pies and Mulled
Wine
At
The Sugar Loaves
(Carol Sheets Provided)*



Silent Night, Holy Night

GOLDILOCKS

— NOT TOO HOT, NOT TOO COLD —

The *Hollingbourne Pantomime* is alive and kicking and ready and prepared to go forward to a new production in 2022!

This time we have a new writer, **Jerry Osborn**, who has trodden the boards in past shows and has come up with an entirely new and original version of the classic *'Goldilocks'*.

We'll be looking for back-stage crew who like making scenery, painting or generally doing stuff.

The shows will go on from the **9th to 12th February, 2022**, in the Hall, so make a note in your diary for the best, all home produced local panto there is!

Looking forward to seeing you all!





St. Margaret's, Huckling

Carol Service

Sunday

19th December

2021

3 - 30pm

Followed by Refreshments



Mulled Wine
& Mince Pies





Hollingbourne Meadows Trust

The Trust relies totally on regular donations from members and specific funds from other organisations. It does not receive funding from the Government or the Local Authority.



If you are not currently a Member or Friend of the Meadows, then why not a make New Year's Resolution to change this in 2022?

If you would like further details of the Meadows Trust or be a 'Friend of the Meadows' and would like to support this asset which is for the whole community or if anyone is interested in sponsoring a tree, which would make a great present for a loved one, then please visit www.hollingbournemeadowstrust.co.uk or any member of the Trust.



There is more information on the HMT website along with the details of other projects and this can be found on www.hollingbournemeadowstrust.co.uk, on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Project100HMT/> and there is also a website where donations can be made at <https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/hollingbournemeadowstrust>



His father had a weak heart and habitually threatened to drop dead if anybody hurt his feelings. You may have noticed that people with weak hearts are the tyrants of English married life. - George Bernard Shaw

You talk about your pleasures to your acquaintances; you talk about your troubles to your friends. - Fr Andrew SDC



"Nice idea, Amelia, but I don't think that the Angel of the Lord Zooming with the shepherds would have the same dramatic effect."

Be kind to your mother-in-law, and if necessary, pay for her board at some good hotel. - Josh Billings

There are some people who want to throw their arms round you simply because it is Christmas; there are other people who want to strangle you simply because it is Christmas. - Robert Lynd

The greatest pleasure I know is to do a good action by stealth, and to have it found out by accident. - Charles Lamb

Never the time and the place and the loved one, all together! - Robert Browning

LEEDS CASTLE

Well, we are truly into autumn now and heading fast for the winter season. The colours of the trees are looking spectacular across the estate, and we are seeing a lot of walkers enjoying its beauty.

It has been tidying-up season in the garden and on the estate, clearing away summer plant growth and mulching to lock in moisture and protect shrubs over the winter. Our garden volunteers have done an exceptional job this season to ensure that all the gardens look at their best.

October half-term was exceptionally busy at the Castle, and we saw thousands of happy, excited children dressed up in their best Hallowe'en costumes and enjoying the spooky themed activities.

We held a staff competition for carving the best pumpkin and had a lot of fantastic entries, with all pumpkins being displayed in the Culpeper Garden for visitors to enjoy. Entries ranged from a carving of the outline of the Castle to a TripAdvisor owl, a bandaged-up pumpkin 'patient' to an 'angry' pumpkin baring its teeth – astonishingly creative. We shall see what bright ideas arrive for next year's pumpkin-fest.

Hallowe'en was swiftly followed by a weekend of Fireworks Spectacular – the biggest and best pyrotechnic display in the South-East. Completely sold out on both nights, thousands flocked to enjoy the funfair and the stunning fireworks display. This year we also put on a special Birds of Prey display to encourage arrivals to be spread over the afternoon. This was hugely well-attended and the birds thoroughly enjoyed all the attention.

Work is now under way to deliver Christmas at the Castle, which will be live from 27th November until 2nd January. The Christmas trees have been selected for the Castle and the stunning decorative scheme finalised. Work is also under way to install the Twelve Days of Christmas artistic installations, each of which represents one of the days, some with interactive elements for family fun. Come on down and get into the festive spirit from 27th November.

The Castle is now partially wrapped in scaffolding and plastic wrap as we continue the works to conserve the stonework. We had a birds' eye view of the works at our Trustee Board at the end of October, with close inspection of the stonework repairs and stunning views over the Moat and Maidens' Tower. This project will be completed over the autumn and winter, with replacement of

lime mortar and repairs to the original stonework.

This massive and hugely expensive programme of work – which will take another 7–10 years to complete (depending on finances) – is essential to safeguard the Castle for future generations. Due to the eye watering cost, we will need to seek funding from other sources to complete the following phases over the next few years.

Hoping your run up to Christmas is festive and enjoyable.

Helen Bonser-Wilton

Chief Executive



Christmas Rush

That time again, my trolley's full
Buying all the Christmas fare,
A turkey crown, a rib of beef,
Crisps and nibbles, lots to spare.



Christmas crackers and serviettes,
Paper for wrapping and cards to send,
Nuts and oranges, figs and dates
The list goes on, there seems no end.



In all this rush it's good to pause
And think about that special Day,
When shepherds watched and an-
gels sang
As a Baby lay in a bed of hay.



By Megan Carter





The new trees along the verge in this area were also very kindly planted there by the KCC for the Parish Council. The planting of the trees is in support of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative <https://queensgreencanopy.org/> .

Dwindling wildlife in Britain

Be kind to the wildlife in your garden – what little of it remains. The UK is one of the world's most nature-depleted countries, and it may not even have enough biodiversity - variety of plant and animal life - to prevent an ecological meltdown.

That is the finding of new data by the Natural History Museum. It says that the UK has an average of only 53 per cent of its natural biodiversity left, well below the global average of 75 per cent.

Worldwide, scientists warn that the variety of plant and animal life of earth is dwindling fast. It will have a serious impact on human life: "those systems have lost enough to mean that we have to be careful about relying on them functioning in the way that we need them to."

Do you know the symptoms of pancreatic cancer?

Tummy
pain or
back pain



Unexplained
weight loss
or loss of
appetite



Jaundice
(yellow skin
or eyes and
itchy skin)



Change
in bowel
habits



Indigestion



If you have jaundice, go to your GP or A&E without delay. If you have any of the other symptoms for four weeks or more, and you don't know why you have them, go to your GP. Remember that these symptoms could have more common causes.

Every year, there are around 10,500 new cases of pancreatic cancer in the UK and nearly eight out of 10 are diagnosed at a late stage.

Symptoms can be vague and hard to spot, come and go and may also be caused by more common problems.

November was Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month, a campaign by [Pancreatic Cancer UK](#) to encourage people to recognise the signs and symptoms of this disease, so they can receive treatment sooner.

Knowing the risk factors can also help. Kent and Medway Cancer Alliance Clinical Lead Dr Henry Taylor said: “Pancreatic cancer is one of the hardest cancers to spot in the early stages.

“The more everyone can be aware of the risk factors, as well as the signs and symptoms signs, the better chance we have of catching pancreatic cancer early. If you have any concerns, please contact your GP.”

Plastic spending

We spent more than £4 in every £5 by using plastic last year, according to the British Retail Consortium. Debit and credit card transactions accounted for 81 per cent of all our spending, up from 78 per cent in 2019.

For the first time, we used our debit cards for more than half (54 per cent) of all our transactions. Cash accounted for 15 per cent of our total spending in retail, down from 20 per cent in 2019.

Building Back Better – Helen Whatley

This Autumn seems to have flown by. My Faversham and Mid Kent inbox is fuller than ever, in Westminster I've been part of the Treasury team delivering the Budget, and in Glasgow I played a small part in our historic UK COP26.

However, the mood at Westminster has been subdued. The murder of our colleague, Sir David Amess, at one of his constituency surgeries has been an enormous shock and sadness to us all. Sir David was an outstanding public servant whose work in his constituency made so many people's lives better. He will be greatly missed.

While his death necessitated a review of security measures for MPs, all the tributes to David were an inspiring reminder of what an MP can do for their community.

Locally I've been on the warpath about the discharge of sewage by Southern Water, securing investment and a face-to-face meeting with the Chief Executive. I've also been working with councillors and campaigners to scrutinise proposals for Lidsing and Heathlands Garden Villages. And a recent highlight of last month was visiting Maidstone Jobcentre Plus to hear how the Kickstart Scheme is benefitting young people locally.



In Parliament, the Chancellor delivered the Budget, and we are getting on with our plan to rebuild from the pandemic with a stronger economy, which works for people right across the UK. Reforms to alcohol duty and introduction of draught relief to support pubs and hospitality were a highlight of the Budget for me as Exchequer Secretary, but also important for jobs and livelihoods here in Faversham and Mid Kent.

While I truly believe the worst of the pandemic is behind us thanks to the vaccination programme, Covid hasn't gone away. My thoughts are with people who have lost loved ones, and I wish those who have been hit recently by this horrible virus a full recovery. If you are eligible, please do be sure to have your booster vaccine. Looking back to where we were a year ago, the progress we've made gives me a great deal of optimism.

A stronger, fairer economy

As Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, I've been working with the Chancellor and Treasury team on our Budget and Spending Review.

Thanks to the vaccine rollout, the Government's support for businesses, and our Plan for Jobs, our economy is recovering faster than predicted, and we want to make sure that this recovery benefits everyone.

Our levelling up agenda will see families and business across Faversham and Mid Kent benefit, including our pubs and high streets.

Standing up for local residents on local development

I'm continuing to fight to make residents' voices heard on Maidstone Borough Council's Local Plan.

I'm bitterly disappointed that Maidstone Borough Council has decided to go ahead with the Heathlands and Lidsing Garden Villages. I've made my concerns clear to the Council many times including in my submission last year.

While decisions about what is built locally are made by locally elected Borough Councillors, I'll continue to stand up for my constituents to make sure their voices are heard in these important decisions.

Getting GP services back on track

Like other parts of the NHS, GP practices have seen an increase in demand for services while having reduced capacity on account of Covid.

I recently visited Len Valley Practice to hear first-hand about the pressures faced by staff in general practice, and the steps being taken to increase face-to-face appointments.

Our Budget and Spending Review confirmed that the NHS budget is set to be £40 billion higher by the end of this Parliament, with £250 million of funding announced to improve access to GP appointments over the winter.

Don't derail train improvements, I tell Rail Minister

A lot of people have contacted me recently about the decision to end the Southeastern franchise. Southeastern's contract came to an end on 17th October and the franchise is now being run by the Operator of Last Resort.

I've called on the Rail Minister to make sure rail users in Faversham and Mid Kent have a reliable service and affordable fares under the new arrangements.

I've also called for vital upgrades to local stations – including renovation work at Faversham station and lifts at Headcorn station – finally to get the green light.

(Further information, videos and photos can be found in Helen Whatley's newsletter on www.helenwhatley.org.uk)



Make it 7,000

Walking 7,000 steps a day, or the equivalent of a three-mile stroll, is enough to reduce the likelihood of death in middle age by 72 per cent.

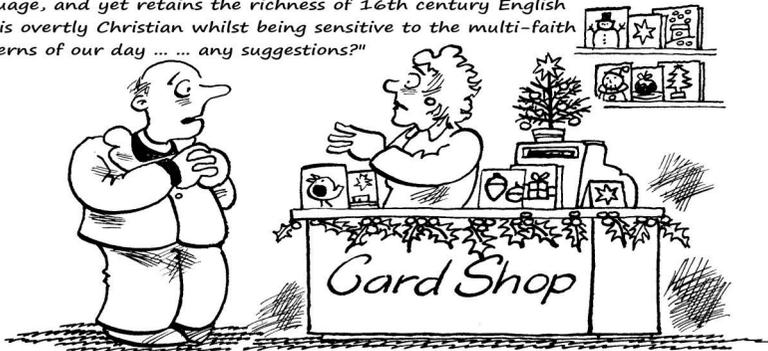
The study was done by researchers at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Their findings also suggest that there is negligible, if any, benefit to walking 10,000 steps a day, as compared to 7,000 steps.

Battle of the thermostat

If you and your partner have rows about how hot the house should be this Christmas, bear this in mind: women really do need the heat turned up more than men do. Recent research has found that the difference in the sexes also applies to other species, from mammals to birds.

As one scientist at Tel Aviv's University's College of Zoology said, "among many species of birds and mammals, females prefer a warmer environment, and at times these preferences cause segregation between the sexes. In the human realm, this difference in thermal sensation did not come about so that we could argue with our partners over the heating, but rather the opposite: it is meant to make the couple take distance from each other so that each individual can enjoy some peace and quiet."

"I am looking for a Christmas Card that contains inclusive language, and yet retains the richness of 16th century English and is overtly Christian whilst being sensitive to the multi-faith patterns of our day ... any suggestions?"



Buy them books

Buy your children some books for Christmas. It seems that more books in your home in childhood can help stave off dementia in later life, according to a recent study.

It found that children who are exposed to the written word from a young age, form more resilience against degenerative processes which can lead to Alzheimer's.

Nurturing our brain in our early years boosts our 'cognitive reserves', as intellectually stimulating activities like reading create extra connections in the brain. That acts as a long-term buffer against cognitive decline in later life.

The study was done at the School of Public Health at the University of Haifa in Israel.

BRAEMAR

MORTGAGE SERVICES LIMITED

Local professional mortgage advice and recommendations to include...

Purchases/Re-mortgages/First-Time-Buyers
Buy-To-Let/Let-To-Buy/Right-To-Buy
Commercial Mortgages/Equity Release
Building & Contents/Life Protection
Critical Illness Protection/Income Protection

**Please contact GREG on 07956 549488 or
Email: greg@braemarms.co.uk
CeMAP & CeRER qualified**

Braemar Mortgage Services Limited is an independent mortgage adviser and registered with the Financial Conduct Authority – FCA No. 495806



Sheds and Shelters Ltd

Hollingbourne Maidstone Kent

Manufacturer of all types of
garden buildings
All buildings made to order
Prices inc VAT, Delivery &
Erection
We only use tanlised timber

Tel. 01622 880031
www.shedsandshelters.co.uk



All in the month of DECEMBER

It was:

1500 years ago, on **7th December, 521**, that ***Sf Columba***, Irish missionary who spread Christianity in Scotland, was born. He was one of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland.

250 years ago, on **25th December, 1771**, that ***Dorothy Wordsworth***, writer, poet, and diarist, was born. She was sister to the poet William Wordsworth.

175 years ago, on **21st December, 1846**, that the first surgical operation in Europe using anaesthesia took place. ***Robert Liston*** amputated a servant's leg at University College Hospital in London.

150 years ago, on **24th December, 1871**, that the world premiere of ***Giuseppe Verdi's*** opera ***Aida***, was held in Cairo, Egypt.

100 years ago, on **6th December, 1921**, that the ***Anglo-Irish Treaty*** was signed in London. It ended the Irish War of Independence and established the Irish Free State (with effect from December 1922.)

80 years ago, on **7th December, 1941**, that the Japanese made their surprise bomb attack on ***Pearl Harbour***, Hawaii. The USA, UK, Netherlands, New Zealand, and other countries declared war on Japan the following day. The War in Europe had now become a World War.

75 years ago, on **18th December, 1946**, that ***Steve Biko***, South Africa anti-apartheid activist, was born. Founder of the Black Consciousness Movement, he was beaten to death by state security officers in 1977, aged 30.

60 years ago, on **4th December, 1961**, that ***birth control pills*** became available on the NHS.

50 years ago, from **3rd to 16th December, 1971**, that the ***Indo-Pakistani War*** took place. It was one of the shortest wars in history, but still between one and three million Bangladeshis were killed. Indian victory led to the founding of Bangladesh.

40 years ago, on **14th December, 1981**, that Israel annexed the ***Golan Heights***, formerly part of Syria, which it had occupied since 1967.

30 years ago, on **25th and 26th December, 1991**, that ***Mikhail Gorbachev*** resigned as President of the Soviet Union, and the next day the Soviet Union was officially dissolved. The 12 remaining Soviet republics became independent states.

25 years ago, on **10th December, 1996**, that South African President, ***Nelson Mandela***, signed a new constitution, completing the transition from white minority rule to full democracy.

Also 25 years ago, on **27th December, 1996**, that the first genocide trial began in ***Rwanda***, following the 1994 civil war in which 800,000 people were killed.

20 years ago, on **2nd December, 2001**, that ***Enron***, the world's largest energy

trading corporation, collapsed, sparking one of the biggest corporate accounting scandals in US history.

Also 20 years ago, on **13th December, 2001**, that the Pentagon released a videotape of al-Qaeda leader, **Osama bin Laden**, in which he stated that the deaths and destruction achieved by the 9/11 attacks had exceeded his most optimistic expectations.

15 years ago, on **30th December, 2006**, that **Saddam Hussein**, President/dictator of Iraq (1979 to 2003) was executed for war crimes.

What she wants for Christmas

A little girl was in the kitchen watching her mother busily preparing for the following day's Christmas dinner. She asked, 'Mum, can I please have a cat for Christmas?'

Her mother replied, 'No, you'll have turkey like the rest of us.'

How many trees are enough?

How many Christmas trees will you have this year? Last year many bored families, stuck at home during the festive season, decided to branch out and set up two or more Christmas trees – often one in a pot for the front of the house, and a bigger one inside.

It seems that two trees helped people to feel more festive. According to John Lewis and Waitrose, more than 268,000 feet of Christmas trees were purchased last Christmas – equivalent to nine times the height of Mount Everest. That takes a lot of fairy lights and baubles!



Beware raw sewage

If you are thinking of doing any wild swimming dips over the Christmas break, bear this in mind: more than half of England's major rivers are polluted with raw or partially treated sewage.

This is partly because water companies have been allowed to release raw sewage into rivers and seas as part of a 'combined sewer overflow' – a legacy of Britain's Victorian drainage systems. It has allowed for rainwater and liquid waste to be combined in the same tanks.

This overflow into waterways has acted as an escape valve, stopping floods in homes and streets. The overflow option is meant only for an emergency, but in fact, it took place more than 400,000 times last year.



Gill Turner Tucker

Solicitors

Incorporating Dundas & Duce

01622 759051

www.gillturnertucker.com

Colman House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1JE



For you and your business,
a name you can trust.

Family

Wills, Trusts & Probate

Residential Conveyancing

Employment

Commercial Property

Company & Commercial

Claims & Disputes

EDIFY

Counselling & Training

Jay Ford

MACC Accredited - Dip Couns
Cert Dip Supv

07788 972623

edify.ct@btinternet.com

www.edifyct.com

Play therapy available for under
16 year olds with consent.
Corporate Training.



Sarah Willsey MCFHP MAFHP
Foot Health Professional



Mobile Foot Health Professional
service in the comfort of your own home

TREATMENTS

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| • Corns & calluses | PRICES |
| • Hard skin | £38 first appointment |
| • Verrucas | £35 follow up |
| • Ingrown toe nails | |
| • Thickened fungal nails | £33 over 65 first appt |
| • Cracked heels | £30 over 65 follow up |
| • Toe nail cutting and care | |
| • Diabetic and High Risk Foot Care and Advice | |
| • | |

Clinic: 01622 438550

Mobile: 07500 041535

Email: sarah@yourhealthyfeet.co.uk

Web: www.yourhealthyfeet.co.uk

The laws about Christmas

And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. Luke 2:7

Bethlehem was busy that first Christmas. This year Christmas Day is on a Saturday, and we get two Bank Holidays on the Monday and Tuesday. There are some peculiar legal rules about Christmas that are more significant when Christmas Day falls on a normal working day.

The courts are closed, so you could not go to court if you wanted to. No writ, warrant to enforce a judgment or order is allowed on a Christmas Day. So, while you may pretend you are not at home to unwelcome relatives, you do not have to hide from a court officer wanting to evict you or take your goods.

Curiously, there is no law to say you cannot work on the big day. The only law that protects shop workers is the Christmas Day (Trading) Act 2004, which imposes a ban on Christmas Day trading for large shops, over 280 square metres in size, in England and Wales.

If you get bored on Christmas, you can eat as much as you like, but you cannot go outside and shoot pheasants or any other game. The Game Act 1831 makes it illegal.

Christmas has other particular laws around it. It is against the law to sell Christmas crackers to anyone under 12, because of the Pyrotechnic Articles (Safety) Regulations 2015, s.31. Also, and this is frustrating for many, it is against the law to make or use a slide from snow or ice in the metropolitan area, under the Metropolitan Police Act 1839.

This, as always is a light-hearted comment and you should always take proper advice. Spare a thought and a prayer for those who are homeless or fear the knock on the door from a bailiff or debt collector. If you need advice or help, don't hang about, contact someone, one of the debt charities like Christians Against Poverty.



This Christmas...

You can learn many things from children. How much patience you have, for instance.

There are only two things a child will share willingly around Christmas - communicable diseases and his mother's age.

Just been let down by the people who work at the fancy dress shop after I tried to order a shepherd's outfit for the nativity play. You just can't get the staff these days.

Kingswood
Christmas Trees

For the freshest and most beautiful trees, come and buy directly from us the growers.

£5 off a tree with this advert

Wreaths - Stands - Lights - Decorations

Choose and cut your tree (weekends only)

Santa's Grotto open weekends from 20th November
(book through our website)

Shop, café and seasonal food market open
7 days a week from 13th November

Email: info@kingswoodchristmastrees.co.uk
Tel: 01622 843780 Fax: 01622 843410
www.kingswoodchristmastrees.co.uk

Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood, ME17 3NU

IT'S CHRISTMAS - KEEP IT REAL

Little Pyne Trees
For All your gardening needs

Regular weekly / fortnightly
One off jobs

Friendly Lady Gardeners

07816.539696
pynetrees@googlemail.com

CHIMNEY SWEEP
Peter Walsh

Hollingbourne based

01622 880958 or 07895 645318
peterchimneysweep@gmail.com

Power Sweeping ICS Member Fully Insured

Compassionate and caring service
For the bereaved day or night

Michael Lawrence
Funeral Director

Rik Moore
6 Marlborough Parade, Beverley Road, **Barming**,
Maidstone, ME16 9JN.
Tel: 01622 920300
barming@familyfuneralservice.net

Karan LeQuelenec
4 Cavendish Way, **Bearsted**, Maidstone, ME15 8PW.
Tel: 01622 920305
bearsted@familyfuneralservice.net



Gary Tickle

Conservation bricklayer/
builder
All building works
undertaken

**Specialising in :-
Alterations, chimneys
Brickwork, lime mortar
& flint work**

**Mobile: 07710 096506
Home: 01795 881784**

**Email: Gary-
tickle@outlook.com**



Fire Wood
Logs
Kindling

Seasoned firewood
suitable for all fires from
local coppiced woods.

Please call Norman
07733.328715



**CARPETS, VINYL & NATURAL FLOORING
ALL LEADING BRANDS SUPPLIED & INSTALLED**

QUALITY, RELIABILITY & VALUE AS STANDARD

A FAMILY RUN BUSINESS FOR OVER 25 YEARS

SAMPLES BROUGHT TO YOUR HOME

Call: JILL OR MARK for a free no obligation quote

**FLOORING
(SOUTH EAST) LTD**

**CHOOSING CARPETS
MADE EASY**

01622 880596

mpflooringltd@btconnect.com

Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

FULLY INSURED



**Pest Purge Ltd
For all your
pest problems**



Rats, Mice, Squirrels, Bedbugs, Fleas
Wasps, Rabbits, Fox and Birds
No job too small, same day support
Talk to your local, friendly Pest Control Business



call **01622 842481**
or **07758 615101**
www.pestpurge.co.uk



Domestic Cleaning

**We Clean So You Don't
Have To!**



Competitive Pricing, Fully Insured, Reliable, Professional, Trustworthy
Available to do:
Household Cleans, End of Tenancy Cleans, Holiday Lets
Call us today!

01622 880031

Office: Heddloware, Malton, East
www.phynixcleaning.co.uk

HOLLINGBOURNE PROPERTY SERVICES LIMITED

Building and Property
Maintenance Specialists

Electrical * Plumbing
*Decoration *
Heating and Boiler servicing

01622 880000

Email : hollingbourne@hotmail.co.uk

www.hpsltd.co.uk



PROUD TO BE SERVING THE
COMMUNITY SINCE 1965

A.W. COURT
FUNERAL DIRECTORS



Your fully independent, family owned,
Funeral Directors, serving the local
community with compassion and the highest
standards of service and professionalism.

With our 24-hour emergency service,
we are only a telephone call away.

At the earliest stage possible, you will
speak directly with one of our experienced
Funeral Directors, who will be there to help,
support and guide you through the whole
of the funeral process.

Golden Charter
Funeral Plans

Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, Maidstone,
Kent ME17 2AP.

01622 850840

Email – enquiries@awcourt.com

Website – www.awcourt.com



A.W. Court is a Trading Division of
West & Coe Ltd, 602 Rainham Road South,
Dagenham, Essex RM10 8YP.



Maria went to the Post Office to buy stamps for her Christmas cards.' What denomination?' asked the clerk. 'Oh! Good heavens! Have we come to this?' said Maria, 'Well give me 50 Methodist and 50 Church of England ones please.'

With New Year's Eve (Hogmanay) in mind

What's the difference between a piper and a mother-in-law? Not everyone loathes their mother-in-law.

Bagpipes and the Loch Ness Monster have two things in common – they attract tourists and terrify little children.

My New Year's Resolution is to get better at pretending to know the words to Auld Lang Syne.

How do you get two pipers to play a perfect harmony? Shoot one!



INTRUDER
ALARMS



CCTV



FIRE
ALARMS



ACCESS
CONTROL

Unit 1B, Little Caring Farm, Caring Lane, Maidstone ME17 1TH
01622 880751 | www.prismalarms.co.uk | info@prismalarms.co.uk



There are few wild beasts more to be dreaded than a talking man having nothing to say. - Jonathan Swift

There are some people who want to throw their arms round you simply because it is Christmas; there are other people who want to strangle you simply because it is Christmas. - Robert Lynd

The family is the place where the most ridiculous and least respectable things in the world go on. - Ugo Betti

Parents are people who bear children, bore teenagers, and board newlyweds. - Anon

Loneliness is to endure the presence of one who does not understand. - Elbert Hubbard



Brian had found a Nice Little Earner

Be kind to your neighbour

This Christmas, why not make an extra effort to be kind to your neighbours? It seems that neighbourly distrust has grown more than fivefold since the summer of 2020, with one in five of us now saying that relations in our community have soured.

On the plus side, there are still 25 per cent of us who report greater trust in our neighbourhoods. But on the debit side, now 22 per cent of us, up from just four per cent, have reported a deterioration.

The research was carried out at University College London (UCL), who found that one in five of us now feel less cohesive with our neighbours, feeling that we have fewer shared values with them.

As one researcher put it, "Much has changed over the last 18 months, with limits to our freedom, how we interact with other, and changes to how we shop and travel. Perhaps these restrictions have caused some to feel less satisfied with life in their community."

Proverbs 11:12 advises: 'Whoever derides their neighbour has no sense, but the one who has understanding holds their tongue.' Proverbs 27:10 advises: 'Do not go to your relative's house when disaster strikes you— better a neighbour nearby than a relative far away.'



PUBLIC NOTICE



DOCUMENTS on DEPOSIT

These documents should remain available for public inspection until Monday 10 January 2022

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE)
(SPEED LIMITS) (CONSOLIDATION)
ORDER 2020
(AMENDMENT NO.5) ORDER 2021**

Please return to:

Schemes Planning and Delivery Manager
Kent County Council Highways, Transportation & Waste
Ashford Highway Depot
Javelin Way
Ashford
TN24 8AD

In the Borough of Maidstone

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE)
(SPEED LIMITS) (CONSOLIDATION) ORDER2020
(AMENDMENT NO.5) ORDER 2021**

NOTICE is given that the Kent County Council hereby make an Order under Sections 84 and 124 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to reduce the 30MPH speed limit to 20MPH speed limit in Hollingbourne, Maidstone on the following length of roads:-

CULPEPER CLOSE and TROYS MEAD – For their entire length. **EYHORNE STREET** - From a point 36 metres north east of the junction with Godfrey Gardens to a point 9 metres east of the eastern property boundary of 126 Eythorne Street.

The Order was made on 25 November 2021 and its provisions will come into effect on 26 November 2021.

A full statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order, a plan indicating the location and the effect and a copy of any other Orders which will be amended by the made Order may be examined at Kent Highways, Transportation & Waste, Ashford Highway Depot, Henwood Industrial Estate, Unit 4 Javelin Way, Ashford, Kent TN24 8AD by appointment booked through tro@kent.gov.uk or viewed online from 26 November 2021 at www.kent.gov.uk/highwaysconsultations

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or any instrument made thereunder, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement to the Orders.

Simon Jones
Corporate Director Growth, Environment & Transport

STATEMENT of REASON



In the Borough of Maidstone

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE)
(SPEED LIMITS) (CONSOLIDATION) ORDER 2020
(AMENDMENT No.5) ORDER 2021**

The Kent County Council acting as the Local Traffic Authority hereby make the Order referred to above due to a new housing development as shown on the drawings accompanying this document.

From 1 April 2013 Kent County Council become responsible for a number of Public Health functions. One of those was the health improvement for the population of Kent. In recent years, the demand for the implementation of 20mph schemes had been increasing in response to both local and national campaigns, therefore Kent County Council are intending to implement 20mph Public Health Schemes in the following location in Hollingbourne in the Borough of Maidstone.

In addition, the restrictions are to:-

- Avoid the danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.

Nikola Floodgate
Schemes Planning and Delivery Manager
Highways, Transportation & Waste

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE)
(SPEED LIMITS) (CONSOLIDATION) ORDER 2020
(AMENDMENT No.5) ORDER 2021**

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL, acting as Local Traffic Authority and in exercise of its powers under Sections 84 and 124 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act') as amended, and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act, intend to make the following Order.

1. This Order shall come into operation on 26th day November 2021 and may be cited as 'The Kent County Council (Various Roads, Maidstone) (Speed Limits) (Consolidation) Order 2020 (Amendment No.5) Order 2021' ('this Order').
2. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply to this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.
3. Without prejudice to the validity of anything done or to any liability incurred in respect of any act or omission before the coming into operation of this Order, 'The Kent County Council (Various Roads, Maidstone) (Speed Limits) (Consolidation) Order 2020' ('the Order of 2020') shall have effect as though:
 - (a) Schedule 2 to the Order of 2020 is amended by the replacement or issue of the following Map Schedules:

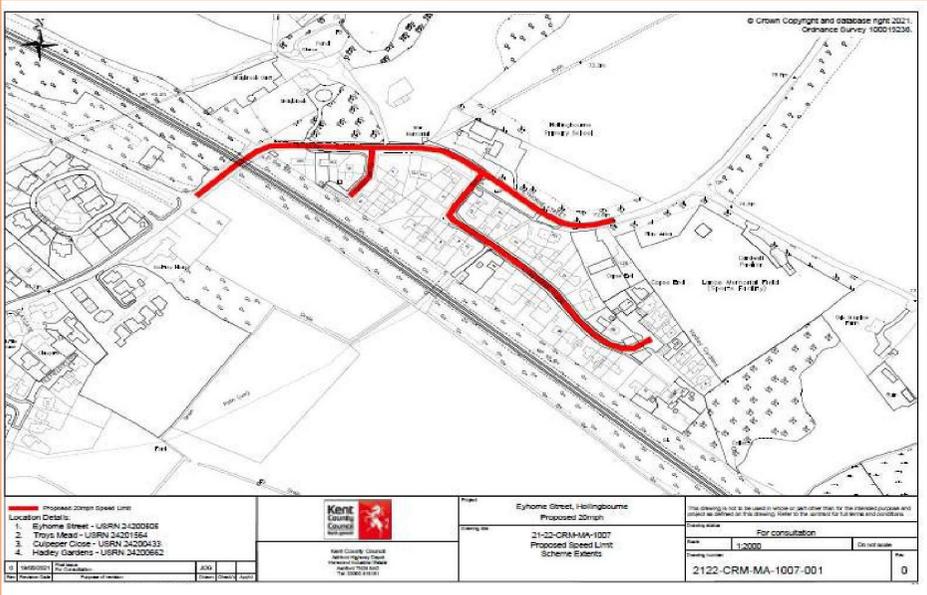
CW88	issue 0
CW89	issue 0
CX89	issue 0

GIVEN under the Common Seal of The Kent County Council

This day of 2021

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE
KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
was hereunto affixed
in the presence of: -

Authorised Signatory



Extract of letter from Kent County council

Please find attached the Has Made documents for Amendment 5 a Speed Limit Order on Various Roads Hollingbourne in the Borough of Maidstone. This order will be on public deposit from 26 November until 10 January 2022 and can be viewed on line from 26 November at www.kent.gov.uk/highwaysconsultations and will be advertised in the Kent Messenger on Friday 26 November and this order comes into effect on 26 November 2021.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or of any of its provisions on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that a requirement of any such enabling Act or of any relevant regulations made thereunder has not been complied with may, within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made, make application for the purpose to the High Court.





Homeless Care has been working in Maidstone for over 33 years, to support homeless and vulnerable people.

We are a registered charity and our main activity is running a comprehensive service for homeless men and women at **Maidstone Day Centre** in Knightrider Street. Over that time, much has changed but our focus remains on helping people going through a difficult time in their lives and we do that through several projects.

Food for Thought, is now going into its 17th year and in 2021 the need continues, for people who would otherwise go hungry.

Goodsell House is a shared house for homeless men, that was gifted to us by a local philanthropist.

Being able to put food on the table has to be uppermost in the minds of those struggling to make ends meet. Our food bank, Food for Thought, was set up 16 years ago to help and the need for our service is even greater in 2021. We continue to rely on all the supermarkets, churches, schools, businesses and individuals who make it possible.

Maidstone Christian Care, the name we started with in 1986, remains our link with the local churches who have supported our work from the beginning.

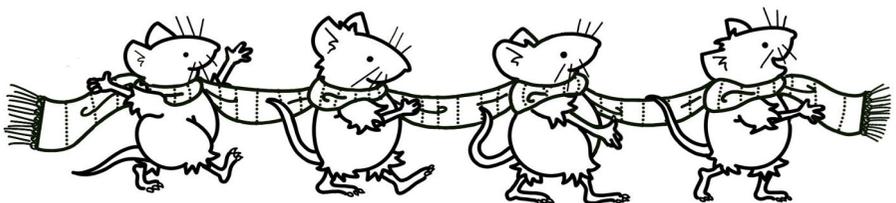
ARE YOU IN NEED OF HELP?

If you find yourself suddenly homeless, please call the Day Centre on 01622 674064. We know this is not a 9-5 issue, so if you are in need in the evening or over a weekend, please ring Maidstone Borough Council Emergency number for help on 0808 196 3710 or Porchlight on 0800 567 7699.

If you are in need of a food parcel please contact our manager, Matt Lamb on 01622 674064 or email: manager@homelesscare.org.uk.

Thank you to everyone who has provided support throughout the Covid-19 crisis, and please keep safe and positive.

Each of the four projects comes under the umbrella of **Homeless Care**.



Harrietsham Computers

Computer Problems?

Need an upgrade or a new machine?

Just want some extra tuition?

For local, friendly, experienced help, call

Mike Cuerden on 01622-859442 or

07963 020092

No call out fee

Reasonable rates

Private and commercial work

No job too small

Harrietsham Computers

Architecture
PORTICO
Interior

Architectural & Interior Design

Residential

Commercial

Extensions

Alterations

New Builds

Bldg Regs

LA Planning & Listed Buildings

Tel: 01622 880006 / 07785 544255

PORTICO ARCHITECTURE & INTERIORS

**6 Tilefields, Hollingbourne,
ME17 1TZ**

E-mail: info@portico-uk.com

CW HANDY MAN

Chris wp collier

Property maintenanc & repairs

All your handy man needs

do not hesitate to call for a free estimate

07943575082

chriscollier108@yahoo.com



All roofing and lead work undertaken

Fascia soffit and guttering

Fencing

Patios

Driveways

Painting interior and exterior

All gardening work

All general property maintenance

For a friendly free estimate call Chris on

07943575082



THE HOOK & HATCHET INN



PUB, RESTAURANT,
CAMPSITE & EVENT VENUE



A BEAUTIFUL, ELEGANT & TRADITIONAL
FAMILY PUB AND RESTAURANT IN THE HEART
OF THE MAGNIFICENT HUCKING ESTATE.
SURROUNDED BY WOODLAND AND NATURE
YOU CAN BE SURE TO FEEL RELAXED AND AT
EASE WITHIN OUR COSY INTERIOR AND
GROUNDS.



**Now taking Christmas bookings for the
festive period!**

**Check out our website for our MANY
Christmas Events!**

MONDAYS - BINGO/QUIZ

TUESDAYS - TWO WHEELED TUESDAYS & DARTS & CURRY TUESDAY

THURSDAYS - OPEN MIC NIGHT

FRIDAYS - FISH FRIDAYS & TAKEAWAY FISH&CHIPS.

WWW.HOOKANDHATCHETPUB.CO.UK

INFO@HOOKANDHATCHETPUB.CO.UK

CHURCH ROAD, HUCKING, ME17 1QT // 01622 880272



CASTLE VIEW RESTAURANT

— LEEDS CASTLE —



"The Loveliest Castle in the World"

The oak-beamed setting of Castle View Restaurant at Leeds Castle offers delicious meals served in a relaxed atmosphere, enjoyed with spectacular views across the terrace to the magnificent Castle. Parking is free and an entrance ticket to Leeds Castle is not required to dine in the evening.

To book a table online visit
leeds-castle.com/restaurant or call 01622 767819

@CastleViewRestaurant @CV_Restaurant @CV_Restaurant



To advertise in this magazine, please contact Phil Smith on 01622.880.680 philip.smithsmith@btinternet.com

when replying to an advertisement, please mention this publication

Town & Country WINDOW CLEANING

Family business
Est since 1982

- Domestic
- Office
- Light Industrial
- Contractual

CALL STEVE ON 07747 334422

Enaid DESIGN

CURTAINS, BLINDS & INTERIOR DESIGN

Designer Fabrics • Little Greene Paint
Made-to-measure Curtains & Blinds
Re-makes & Alterations • Installation Service
Tracks & Poles • Re-upholstery & Loose Covers
Original Artwork • Hand-crafted Gifts
Haberdashery • Homemade Preserves • Local Honey
Local Fruit Juice • Kent & Sussex Teas & Coffee

SEWING LESSONS with *Can't Sew*



For a **FREE** consultation & measure call Diane Sergeant on 07814.536173 or visit her at the Tin Shed, Hilltop Farm, (next to Tea at Hilltop Tearoom) The Heath, East Malling ME19 6JL www.enaid-design.co.uk



Retirement living at its best, in Leeds, Kent.



A range of one and two-bedroom properties with wellness spa, café, bistro restaurant, cinema and more.

Sales office now open Monday - Friday, 10am-5pm.

Speak to our friendly village advisers for more information.

To visit safely, please call **01622 809 633** to make an appointment or visit **lediangardens.co.uk**

Upper Street, Leeds, near Maidstone, Kent, ME17 1RZ

The Rectory
St James the Least of All



My dear Nephew Darren

After all these years, I now understand why the non-conformist denominations sit down, rather than kneel, to say their prayers. That way, no decisions have to be taken over the number, size, shape, colour, material and design of kneelers in church.

Our present set was donated by a retired Major-General in 1899 to celebrate the Relief of Mafeking, and after more than a century of use by the pious and not-so-devout time has taken its toll. Like certain members of our congregation, they now look a little worse for wear. Many have sprung leaks, so that, when used, a jet of flocking is emitted all over the clothes of their neighbour, who then leaves Mattins looking like a Yeti.

Other kneelers have been occupied by grateful mice, who find them most congenial for nesting and who leave in high umbrage, creating chaos as Miss Mapp chases them down the aisle with her umbrella; that this provides her with the perfect excuse to leave before the sermon is, I am sure, entirely coincidental. The final straw came when my own, by some quirk in its design, now sounds like a whoopee cushion every time I kneel. It may cause the choirboys much amusement but it lends nothing to the dignity of our worship.

So, we have decided to have a completely new set – and therein lies the problem. Who makes them? What will be the designs? Who co-ordinates the whole project? There is enough here to occupy the combined minds of our Church Council for the next Millennium and there will be enough scheming, manoeuvring, signing of non-aggression pacts and formation of tactical truces to make the United Nations look like amateurs. Unfortunately, we do not have the ecclesiastical equivalents of the blue berets to enforce peace.

The more patriotic members of the congregation have suggested they all show the Union Jack – presumably so they can be waved at appropriate moments in our services; one belligerent individual wants to see depictions of St Michael slaughtering the dragon, John the Baptist's head on a platter and other such tasteful scenes; on the other hand, dear Miss Timmins wants them all to depict doves or small fluffy creatures, which would make the church look more like pets corner.

Cutting through these vital issues, I have suggested that the entire congregation converts to Roman Catholicism.... and then we could stand for our prayers and do without kneelers entirely.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

Advertising space is sold in good faith. No responsibility can be taken for the quality of goods or services offered.

VILLAGE DIARY

December

1 st	12.10-12.40 pm	Mobile Library	Village Hall
13 th	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Cardwell Pavilion
14 th	7.45 pm	W.I. Christmas Party (Members Only)	Village Hall
21 st		Shortest Day	
22 nd	6.00 pm	Village Carol Singing	Tanyard Green/Sugar Loaves
24 th		Christmas Eve	
	4.00 pm	Christingle Service	All Saints Church
	11.00 pm	Midnight Mass	All Saints Church
25 th		Christmas Day	
26 th		Boxing Day	
27 th		Bank Holiday	
28 th		Bank Holiday	
31 st		New Year's Eve	

January

1 st		New Year's Day	
3 rd		Bank Holiday	
6 th		Epiphany	
10 th	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Cardwell Pavilion
12 th	12.10-12.40 pm	Mobile Library	Village Hall
		WI Meeting (Members Only)	Village Hall

February

9 th	12.10-12.40 pm	Mobile Library	Village Hall
9 th – 12 th		Pantomime – Goldilocks	Village Hall
14 th		St. Valentine's Day	
	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Cardwell Pavilion
15 th	7.30 pm	W.I. Meeting	Village Hall

March

1 st		Shrove Tuesday	
2 nd		Ash Wednesday	
6 th		First Sunday of Lent	
9 th	12.10-12.40 pm	Mobile Library	Village Hall
14 th	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Cardwell Pavilion
17 th		St. Patrick's Day	
20 th		1 st Day of Spring	
27 th		Mothering Sunday	
		BST - Clocks go Forward	

April

11 th	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Cardwell Pavilion
14 th		Maundy Thursday	
15 th		Good Friday	

New additions in red.

Please send information for Village Diary and Regular Meetings to

Carole Findlay 01622.583636

hollingbourne.parish.magazine.editor@hotmail.com

REGULAR MEETINGS

After school Club:

Schooldays to 6 pm **Cardwell Pavilion**

Bellringing Practice

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

Bourne Musicians (3 months - 5 years):

Fridays 9.30 - 11 am **Village Hall**

Brownies:

Wednesdays 6.00—7.15 pm **Cardwell Pavilion**

Cubs:

Fridays 6.30 - 7.45 pm **Kingswood Scout Hut**

Explorers:

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

Hucking WI

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

Mobile Library

Wednesdays 11.55 am – 12.25 pm **Village Hall**

Parish Council:

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

Pilates Classes

Thursday mornings **Village Hall**

Pre-School:

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

Reading Group :

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

School Terms

2021

2022

Term 2: 1st November—17th December

Term 3: 4th January—11th February

Term 4: 21st February—11th April

Term 5: 19th April—27th May

Term 6: 6th June—22nd July

Scouts:

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

Short Mat Bowls:

Mondays (not 2nd) 7.30 – 9.30 pm **Village Hall**

Thursdays 7.30 – 9.30 pm **Village Hall**

WI Meetings:

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

Other Tuesday (July-September)

Boules 6.30 pm **Cardwell Pavilion**

Carole Findlay at hollingbourne.parish.magazine.editor@hotmail.com

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.

CARDWELL PAVILION

FOR THAT SPECIAL PARTY OR MEETING. WE CAN CATER FOR YOUR NEEDS

Please call
07932.164839

Pest Control Services

All Pest Problems Dealt With Including:

**Rats Mice Moles Rabbits Insects
Wasps Squirrels
Bee Swarms Removed**

Discreet And Prompt Service
Fully Insured

Andy Pink

01622.884774 or 07761.559744

A D Pink Electrical

Local Family Business
All types of electrical installations
Full rewires to single sockets
Garden and security lighting
Fully insured

NICEIC Part P Domestic Installer
Tel **01622 884774/07761559744**

Email: andypink1@aol.com



Lenham Ballet School

R.A.D. Ballet

I.S.T.D. Tap & Modern

3 years to senior level

Adult Tap & Street Dance

01622 850329

More than a ballet school

www.lenhamballetschool.co.uk



FESTIVE PARTY PLANNING BEGINS!

Across our Elite Pubs venues, we boast a range of **private function rooms** accommodating up to 80 guests, as well as our **exclusive dining & drinking spaces**, the **Adventure Shacks**.

So, whether you're looking for an intimate meal or an all-out festive extravaganza, **we've got you covered.**

You can **now** dine on our indulgent festive menu, three courses for just £32 per person.

To plan your party or explore our menus, head to **elitepubs.com**

Upper St, Hollingbourne, ME17 IUW
01622 880880



WOODS OF HOLLINGBOURNE

52 EYHORNE STREET, HOLLINGBOURNE, ME17 1TS

Tel : 01622.880.338

WE are SERVING:

- FRESH, LOCAL PRODUCE AND CONVENIENCE ITEMS
- FINE WINES, SPIRITS AND CRAFT BEERS

TO FIND OUT MORE VISIT:

WWW.WOODSOFHOLLINGBOURNE.CO.UK

OPEN	MONDAY / TUESDAY	8 AM - 2 PM
	WEDNESDAY- SATURDAY	8 AM - 6 PM
	SUNDAY	8 AM - 1 PM

As a result of the unfolding Covid-19 crisis, we currently prioritising the supply of fresh, local products to members of Hollingbourne and the surrounding community. We are currently receiving deliveries of

- Fresh baked bread and cakes
- Milk and dairy products
- Fresh meat from Doughty Butchers
- Local free-range eggs
- A range of Fruit and Vegetables has been significantly increased

We are also offering a FREE local delivery service (3 mile radius) for those who are self-isolating or those who are unable to leave their property.

CAR PARKING AVAILABLE BEHIND THE
WINDMILL PUB