

Hollingbourne & Hucking

January 2022



Church & Village News

www.hollingbournepc.co.uk



“It’s about time”



Another New Year! Where did 2021 go and did all the hopes for 2021 come to pass? Maybe not, but we all have another go with 2022! For many, the first sound of the year would be the iconic bong of Big Ben. The famous bell known as Big Ben, located at the top of the 320-foot-high Elizabeth Tower, rang out over the Houses of Parliament in Westminster, London, for the first time on May 31, 1859. Why is Big Ben called Big Ben? The first possibility is that it was named after Sir Benjamin Hall, the first commissioner of works, a large man who was known affectionately in the house as 'Big Ben'. The second theory is that it was named after a heavyweight boxing champion at that time, Benjamin Caunt.

Time is the one thing which all of us share. Some of us never seem to have enough of it. Some of us can be obsessed by it. We say things like, 'I haven't got enough time' or 'Where does time go?' We seem to be ruled by time. Time for work, family, recreation, hobbies and ourselves.

There's a well-known passage in the book of Ecclesiastes (chapter 3) in the Old Testament.

'There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

*a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.'*

As we begin another New Year, perhaps it would be a good idea to assess how we spend our time? What difference will 2022 make to our lives? Perhaps it is time to consider God. Have we got time to do that? Time to put God first in our lives. Then it's time to believe. To put our belief and trust in God, who has so much time for us. Then it's time to act. The time was right for God to send His own Son, Jesus, into our world – to die on the cross, to rise from death, and who is alive for us now.

SERVICES 2021/22 (YEAR C)
JANUARY, 2022

2nd January

Epiphany

Service Hollingbourne 11.00 am Eucharist
Readings Isaiah 60: 1-6; Matthew 2: 1-12

9th January

Baptism of Christ

Service Hollingbourne 11.00 am Eucharist
Readings Isaiah 43: 1-7; Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

16th January

Epiphany 2

Services Hollingbourne 11.00 am Eucharist
Readings Isaiah 62: 1-5; John 2: 1-11

23rd January

Epiphany 3 : Christian Unity Week

Services Hollingbourne 11.00 am Eucharist
Readings Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Luke 4: 14-21

30th January

Epiphany 4 : Presentation

Service Hollingbourne 11.00 am Eucharist
Readings Malachi 3 : 1-5; Luke 2: 22-40

LEEDS SERVICES

2nd January	Leeds	09.30 am	Worship/Prayers
9th January	Broomfield	3.30 pm	Communion
16th January	Leeds	09.30 am	Worship/Prayers
23rd January	Kingswood	11.00 am	Family Communion
30th January	Langley	11.00 am	Joint Area Communion



A New Year is about time – Time to Consider, Believe and Act. What a good resolution to take with us into this year.

Happy New Year, everyone!

Captain Graham Bibby
Team Missioner, North Downs Team.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Another New Year rolls by and we all hold our breath to find out what the coming months will bring in the way of freedom or restrictions. As I write, the chances of Christmas happening SEEM to be positive, but never say never! So much has happened (or not happened) over the past twelve months that gazing at a crystal ball trying to discern the future seems like a positive move.

A very quiet month in view – TWO Bank Holidays to allow everyone to gear up for an uncertain future and definitely have recovered from any excess over the Festive Season.

Now is the time to buy your tickets for the Pantomime – 9th to 12th February – Saturday night, in particular, always sells out quickly.

You will find some lengthy articles from our local and national politicians, as well as a very informative article on the proposed increase in local housing. Plenty to read and digest.

May I thank our advertisers for their loyalty. Please do support them. There are diverse services and products on offer, many based in and around the village.

I am still hoping to receive information about village events and meetings. I live in hope.

A Very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our readers. Let us hope that the printed version will make an appearance during the year.

Carole Findlay

01622.583.636

Hollingbourne.parish.magazine.editor@hotmail.com



*"Back in the vestry cupboard"
was easier said than done*



*"The new vicar is really cool, Dad.
Did you know that God emailed the Ten
Commandments to Moses' Tablet PC?"*



Don't cover over your garden

The TV presenter Monty Don has said that having pavement or tarmac on your property is one of the 'worst contributions' that homeowners can make to climate change.

The Gardeners' World presenter points out that hard surfaces prevent water from being absorbed into the ground, which is a growing problem because of increased flooding.

Instead, Don urges people to consider having as many absorbent surfaces in their gardens as possible. Writing in the BBC Gardeners' World Magazine, he explains: "We need for excess water to slowly work down into our underground aquifers and make its way gradually to our rivers and out to the sea."



You are never more than 166 metres from a stray cat

Britain is not short of stray cats. An estimated quarter of a million of them live in our towns and cities, according to recent research by Cats Protection and researchers at the University of Bristol.

In some urban areas of Britain, there are even up to 57 stray cats per square kilometre. It is these cats who are of particular concern to Cats Protection, because "they receive limited or no direct human support." Often these cats are unneutered, and populations can expand rapidly, spreading disease and harming wildlife.

For this reason, Cats Protection continues to urge owners to microchip and neuter their pets.

READING GROUP JANUARY 2022

While writing this it is impossible to foresee what the next few weeks will bring. We may well all be locked down again so that a time of reading will be upon us once more. Hopefully, we will still receive our Christmas books so that we will have something to interest us and occupy us.

It is amazing how many books in the book charts are thrillers. Have we always been this fascinated by crime? One of the top books is **'The Night Thief'** by **Joy Ellis**. This author has written so many crime books, where do the ideas come from? Although another best seller is an audio book read by **Stephen Fry** entitled **'Sherlock Holmes'**, an early example of mystery.

Children's books again feature in the charts, although I never liked trying to say which age group should read which book. **David Walliams** and **JK Rowling** are popular once more with **'Gangsta Granny Strikes Again'** and **'The Christmas Pig'**.

I like the title of a book published by The Daily Telegraph, **"Wake Me Up When It Is All Over"**. This is a collection of unpublished letters. The Telegraph letters are always fascinating to read.

The Booker Prize winner this year is **'The Promise'** by **Damon Galgut**. This is set in South Africa and centres on a homestead where land has been promised to a family, but the promise was not kept. I have not read this, but it is written without punctuation or paragraphs, not something I would like.

Whatever happens in the next few weeks, Happy Reading.

Dawn Perry
880634



First time buyers

The so-called 'bank of mum and dad' hit a new high in lending last year. Parents who helped their offspring to buy a first home gave them an average of £58,000. Nationally, that meant that parents loaned out about £9.8 billion, according to the estate agent Savills.

The level of first-time buyers who rely on family funding is now at its highest since 2013.

BEAVERS, CUBS, SCOUTS & EXPLORERS

All the sections have gone back to normal now and all meet at the Scout Hut in Kingswood.

For Remembrance Day we all met at St Margaret's church in Broomfield for the service and laid a wreath at the church.

In the early part of October, we had a stall at village hall. This was to get all the organisations in Kingswood to promote their clubs. We got four new children to join and also two more people to join our 100 club. Philip Tweddell has now retired from being on the committee after 35 years. We thank him for all the time and effort he has put into the group over the years. He arranged the installation of new heating in the Hut and spent one summer break fitting us a new kitchen.

Beavers.

The Beavers have now started back with 19 beavers. They have been practising for their badge work. I saw one Beaver with badges down his arm from top to cuff. Their mother must be good with a needle and cotton.

Amy Parker has just been invested as a new leader.

If you would like to join Beavers and are between the ages of 6-8 years of age please email Claire (cdrylie@hotmail.com) or 07732056139.

Cubs

All the Cubs have now been invested and are ready for all the challenges ahead. Jane, the Cub Leader, will be leaving us around Christmas time as she will be moving near her son in Basingstoke. But we have got Mark, who will be the new leader coming up with new ideas.

If you would like to join and are between the ages of 8-10 1/2 years old call Jane 862558.

Scouts

Scouts have started to go back now after lockdown, but our numbers have been a bit low. After Christmas we will be having some Cubs moving up to Scouts. If you would like to join Scouts and are aged between 10 1/2 to 14 call Alan 843019.

Explorers

There are 19 Explorers who all meet at the Hut. They have been hiking in the woods and have been on weekend camps. This is for the 14-18 year olds. If you are interested in joining email (markhorlock@me.com)

100 Club

Here are the winners.

July Mrs Davis £20, Mrs Bennett £10, Mrs Odam £10, Mrs Bosman £5
August Mrs Wallis £20, Mrs Thompson 310, Mr Fairman £10, Mrs Gausden £5
September Mrs King £20, Miss Chatman £10, Mrs Leandro, £10, Miss Raffill £5

If you would like to join, we have four prizes a month and it costs £12 for a full year. Call Alan 843019 for more details.



"We're looking for something to help us survive our church's early morning Winter services"

Hope

It's a time of exultation
When hope triumphs over fear
And we're filled with jubilation
At the turning of the year

As the clock begins its striking
When we reach the midnight hour
None can help themselves from liking
Love and hope's stupendous pow'r.

Forget the woes and tears and troubles
Of the year that's just gone by
Hope – just like the champagne bubbles
Puts a gleam back in our eye!

Hold firm that hope although the pages
From the calendar are torn
Hear the counsel of the sages:
Hope is every day reborn!

By Nigel Beeton

HOLLINGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Next Meetings are to be held on

11th January

14th February

14th March

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



Music Notes January 2022



I forecast that, for December, our local musicians would be back with the usual popular seasonal concerts and, indeed, there was plenty of local music. In spite of virus worries, there were wonderful Christmas performances from all the local groups. The consequence of that, however, is that they have all gone back to rehearse for their next concerts, and public performances in January are thin on the ground. There are just three items I have found for your attention, and, of course, their happening will be subject to the virus and other rules applicable at the time.

Thursday, 6th January at 7.30 pm at **Maidstone United Reform Church**, Week Street, ME14 1LU *Maidstone Choral Union* have their 12th night celebrations – Epiphany Carols for choir and audience followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Tickets from mcuconertmansager@gmail.com or choir members or at the door.

Sunday, 9th January, at 5.30pm is the time of the **Canterbury Cathedral** Epiphany Carol Service. This is a service, not a concert, but a significant music event and one which many will want to make the effort to attend. There is no charge to enter the cathedral for a service.

Saturday, 22nd January, Maidstone Singers will hold a “come and sing” concert at **St Martin’s Church**, Maidstone, ME15 7LP. The programme is **Schubert’s G Major Mass** and **Chilcott’s A Little Jazz Mass**. The concert is at **6.30pm**, open to all, but singers who would like to sing in this event should complete the application on the Maidstone Singers’ website and attend the rehearsal at 2.30pm. For tickets, information and details call 01622 737916 or <http://www.themaidsingers.org.uk/>

As the seasonal festivities mean we are going to press a little earlier than usual I can tell you nothing for sure about the radio and TV output for January, but it is certainly planned that the **2022 Vienna Philharmonic New Year’s Concert** will take place on **1st January, 2022**, under the baton of **Daniel Barenboim** in the Golden Hall of the Musikverein in Vienna. The publicity says that it will be broadcast around the world as usual, so you can be pretty sure that, if it goes ahead as intended, you will find it on the TV schedules here. Something to look forward to after Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

BJH



Remember that Triumph is just a little 'umph' added to 'try.' - Anon

Good judgment comes from experience. Unfortunately, the experience usually comes from bad judgment. - Anon

There are decades when nothing happens: and there are weeks when decades happen. - Vladimir Ilyich Lenin

Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed, until it is faced. - James Baldwin

Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering 'it will be happier' - Alfred Lord Tennyson

Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbours, and let every new year find you a better man. - Benjamin Franklin

I was telling my three boys the story of the Nativity and how the Wise Men brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh for the infant Jesus. Clearly giving it a lot of thought, my six-year-old observed, "Mum, a Wise Woman would have brought nappies."



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>



Kent Police & Neighbourhood Watch Christmas Party Reminders

It's December, it's Saturday... Out for the evening or Christmas party?

Whilst we all want to have a good time, especially after the difficult few years, here are a few reminders for keeping yourself safe on an evening out.

- Never leave your drink unattended, even if you are going to dance or to the toilet. If your drink has been left unattended, don't drink any more of it.
- If something tastes or looks odd, don't eat/drink any more if it – some drugs are colourless and tasteless.
- If someone you don't know or trust offers to buy you a drink, either decline or accompany them to the bar and watch that nothing is added.
- If you meet someone new at a party, avoid going home with them or inviting them back to your home/accepting a lift from them.
- Know your own limit!
- Make sure someone knows where you are going and when you'll be home.
- Avoid walking home alone and never with someone you don't know well.
- Check your taxi driver's ID and never get into an unlicensed taxi.
- Book your cab or taxi in advance or call a licensed cab company from the party and arrange for them to pick you up right outside the venue.
- Always sit in the back of a cab/taxi and if you get chatting to the driver, do not give away personal details. If you feel uneasy with the driver, ask him to stop at a busy familiar place and get out.
- Always wait for the bus or train in a well-lit place near other people if possible and try and arrange for someone to meet you at the bus stop or station. If a bus is empty, or it is after dark, you may feel safer on the lower deck as near as possible to the driver. On trains, avoid empty compartments. If you feel threatened on any public transport press the alarm or attract the attention of your fellow passengers or the driver or guard. Take note of where the emergency alarms are and try to sit near them.



A church pewsheet reported that Mr and Mrs Brown had left for a ten-day motor trip, and that their two young daughters were starving with relations during their absence.



Hollingbourne Pantomime is back!

“Goldilocks and the Grannies”

By Jerry Osborn

Hollingbourne Village Hall

February 9th to 12th, 2022

Tickets on sale NOW

<i>Wednesday, 9th</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>	<i>£5</i>
<i>Thursday, 10th</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>	<i>£7</i>
<i>Friday, 11th</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>	<i>£9</i>
<i>Saturday, 12th</i>	<i>2.30pm</i>	<i>£7</i>
<i>Saturday, 12th</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>	<i>£9</i>

Call: Box Office: Jan Berry 07977 497324

Refunds will be available in the event of cancellation

A rather pompous minister asked his confirmation class: "Why do people call me a Christian?"

After some hesitation one lad ventured: "Perhaps because they don't know you?"

How to hug somebody

The perfect hug should last between five to ten seconds, and it should be done with your arms criss-crossed behind the other person's back.

That is the finding of psychologists who experimented using more than 100 pairs of friends. They found that when it comes to hugging someone, "more is definitely more."



It seems that a ten second hug gives great pleasure, a five second hug is adequate, but a brief hug of just one second leaves nobody comforted.

Even worse, since Covid, elbow bumping has become popular. But a bump on the elbow doesn't do much for anyone.

The research was done at the University of London and the University of Bristol.

Winter travel

A government warning said that anyone travelling in icy conditions should take: shovel, blankets, sleeping bag, scarf, hat and gloves, 24 hours supply of food and drink, de-icer, rock salt, torch, spare batteries, road flares, reflective triangles, tow rope, a five gallon petrol jerrycan, first aid kit, and jump leads. So ... I looked a complete pratt on the bus this morning!

Name a heatwave

The Met Office is considering whether to begin naming heatwaves, as they are becoming more dangerous. Naming them will make the public pay more attention to them, and take them more seriously.

The Met Office says that as the climate warms, so heatwaves will become increasingly likely. Since 2015, storms have been named in alphabetical order between September and August of the next year, based on names submitted by the public.

The record high UK temperature is 38.7C, recorded in Cambridge in 2019. 2020 was a record year for heat-related deaths. In future, 40C heat may become the norm. And the record-breaking 50C heatwaves seen in southern Europe in 2021 would have been 'almost impossible' to have happened without climate change caused by humans.

WI NEWS JANUARY 2022

For WI members, the run up to Christmas is usually busier than Christmas Day itself, and 2021 was no exception.

We started the preparations with the joyful Snow Ball, held at the Great Danes in November. Twenty members enjoyed the Christmas Dinner and the entertainment by a super duo from Liverpool, who judged the mood of the audience so well. We danced and sang along until 3pm. Of course, Jane Orgill won the first prize in the Best Dressed competition with her innovative SNOWBALL; we all remember that obligatory Christmas drink – Jane produced a 'silver' tray holding the drink and a big 'bottle' of advocaat. Susan Dicker dazzled with her 'Vogue' full length knitted coat and sparkling lights headdress. She danced everybody off the floor. Sue Woodhouse organised it all again with great patience.

On the last day of November we collected greenery around Hollingbourne and made our own Christmas Wreaths in the Cardwell Pavilion, at our very convivial workshop.

On 2nd December we were invited to Bearsted WI Hall to a delightful 'craft fair', where the members sold their Christmas pieces – such a variety of skills on display.

On 8th December at All Saints Church Maidstone, the West Kent Federation of WIs organised a celebration of 'All things WI'. Each WI had made a decoration to hang on the end of the pews; Janice expertly made ours. Mary Henderson enthralled the large audience with the account of her 80th Birthday celebration – Wing Walking at Headcorn Airport! When the applause died down West Peckham Handbell Ringers played 'Walking in the Air'!

On 9th December Marie Overs and I were guests at Leeds WI's 'bauble making' Christmas meeting. A very jolly evening finishing with a reminder that LADS pantomime this year, Rumpelstiltskin, will be including some 'Hollingbourne' jokes. O yes, they will!

Finally, our lovely Christmas Party had to be cancelled after learning about the latest virus outbreak. It was not a decision taken lightly, but the infection rates in Maidstone were rising so quickly that we could not risk the health of our members.

February 15th is our next open meeting to which any non-members are cordially invited: 'About Alpaccas'- the speaker is Rosemary Thirkell.

Val Williams

Secretary Hollingbourne WI

When I look at chocolate, I hear two voices in my head. The first one says, 'You need to eat the chocolate.' The second one says, 'You heard. Eat the chocolate.'



CHURCH CLEANING HELP!



Once again another year has passed and it will soon be time for me to draw up the new rota for our band of church cleaners. Sadly this year some people have had to drop out through ill health or other reasons.

Is there anyone in the village who would be prepared to give an hour or so three times a year to help us maintain this wonderful building?

Please give me a ring on 880520 or 07941263479 if you are able to help.



Katie Brice



Open your window

When you have friends come to visit you, open the window for ten minutes of every hour that they stay. It will help to reduce the level of any Covid particles that may be in the air.

As one medical officer for England explained: "People with Covid release virus particles into the air whenever they speak, breath, or cough. These can linger in unventilated settings. So, it's vital to open windows, to keep the air moving and help prevent infections."



Moses revisited

Nine-year-old Joseph was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday school. "Well, Mum, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his engineers build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joseph, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his mother asked, somewhat alarmed.

"Well, no, Mum. But if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"



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Inspection

My husband, a US Coast Guard pilot, was on an exchange tour with the Royal Navy in England. Everyone who drove through the base's gates was required to hold an official ID card up to the windscreen for inspection by the guards. As a friendly competition, my husband's squadron started flashing different forms of ID, such as a driving licence, just to see how far they could go to fool the busy guards. The winner? The fellow who breezed past waving a piece of toast.

LEEDS CASTLE

We are well into the Christmas season at the Castle as I write. On 27th November we launched 'Christmas at the Castle', featuring a series of interactive artistic installations for the Twelve Days of Christmas. These range from a tiny home for Three French Hens; to Six Geese-a-Laying, with golden eggs that can be posted down tubes to tinkle a bell when they arrive in the basket; Seven Swans- A-Swimming in the Great Water and an interactive 10 Drummers Drumming installation up at the Maze.

In the Castle, a series of huge, beautifully decorated trees also reflect the Twelve Days of Christmas theme and there are also Wishing Trees, where guests can write their own comments on swan-shaped notes. We hope you will have a chance to come and enjoy this special time of year at the Castle.

We are well underway with planning initiatives for the New Year. An important piece of work we completed early this year, is our 'Spirit of Place' – this summarises why a heritage site is significant and how it is different from others. We took advice from the leading castles expert in the country, and he was clear that Leeds is a very different type of castle to most.

While most castles are about sieges, battles and repelling the enemy, Leeds has, throughout its 900-year history, done quite the opposite. Leeds has always been a glamorous retreat, the place where people go to relax, enjoy sport and great food and often do a little business on the side. So, in future, this will be the story that we tell, that of a female castle, with strong female owners who derived power and position from their castle ownership.

Our new Head Curator, Sue Prichard, is leading this work to 'Bring the Castle to Life'. The interiors have not really been changed for quite some time, so we will be introducing theatrical dressing, with sounds and smells that make it feel like the occupant (above or below stairs) has just left the room. The first stage of the new look will launch in April 2022, with the second stage, featuring an immersive experience about the six medieval queens who owned Leeds, will launch in July.

We will also be re-designing the visitor entrance to the Estate, with a completely new interior to the Visitor Reception and Park Shop, along with a revamp of retail ranges to tell our new story. This will also launch ahead of Easter 2022.

The work to repair the Castle stonework continues and we were pleased to secure an additional grant from Historic England to carry out further repair work on the Ivory Tower, alongside the main programme of works. We hope for not too much freezing weather over the winter, so that we can continue the work with lime mortar to repair the facings.

Wishing you a relaxing and peaceful Christmas holiday and a Happy New Year from everyone at Leeds Castle.

Helen Bonser-Wilton
Chief Executive

Spotted on a church notice board:

When you were born, your mother brought you here.

When you were married, your partner brought you here.

When you die, your family will bring you here.

In the meantime, why not try coming on your own sometimes?



Money and children

A third of parents and carers do not talk to their children about how best to manage money, according to Government research.

Yet talking about finance has been found to help children to form good life-time money habits, according to Money Helper, which conducted the survey.

Parents in London and the Northwest of England are most likely to discuss money, while parents in Northern Ireland and the East of England are the least likely to do so.

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PATRIK GARTEN'S NEWSLETTER

The year draws to an end and with it, in a way, the Conservative's honeymoon period in charge of Maidstone Borough Council. After our election-win in May, we got on with the task of mapping the route to take MBC forward into a member lead direction. While I won't dwell on the national (or even county) Conservative 'activities', the Maidstone Leadership ploughed through 2021 and achieved what we set out to change. 2022 will show whether the pinned route forward will prove as good as it looks on paper.

As reported before, we are on track to change the administration to a more efficient executive model, away from the cumbersome and officer-led current committee system. We also, finally, managed to change the constitution to enable us to have 4 yearly elections. Yes, the opposing parties seem to crumble into various forms of independent groups. So, we chanced a second attempt to call for a vote. This time we managed to get the needed 2/3rd majority on our side to fulfil the will of residents, as expressed by an overwhelmingly clear survey, earlier this year.

While the electoral commission will no longer object to retain single member wards, before the next election in 2024 they will most certainly redraw ward boundaries. A cross-party working group suggested to them to reduce members from the current 55 to 48. Most certainly North Downs will become even larger in area and by population, but I hope that we will retain our rural identity.

Another project for 2022 will be the development of a **Town Centre Strategy Policy**. Maidstone is not unique in seeing its town centre undergoing rapid changes. With a Council-led strategy we are seeking to give a steer to make Maidstone an attractive place to live for the years to come. In order to take the lead, and not being made a hostage to fortune, we suspended permitted development rights for the main shopping district in the town centre by what is called an Article 4 direction.

I see permitted development rights as a property right vested in the owner and, therefore, have never previously supported such measures. With a heavy heart and great enthusiasm for a member-led Town Centre Strategy Policy I supported this Article 4 direction, urging the officers to involve all property owners at an early stage in the discussions and workshops when we approach this important project.

Obviously, a modern town centre needs to be accessible to everyone and that requires affordable parking provisions. So, it comes as a shock that **Park & Ride** once again hit negative headlines. You may already have read in the local press that the current P&R service will come to an end in February. Unfortunately, we had to refuse Arriva's request for an additional £200,000 annual subsidy. Maidstone council taxpayers already subsidise this service at a tune of £160,000 pa. Considering that only 600 cars are using this service, the additional burden on the council taxpayer would be £333 per vehicle or a total subsidy of £600 per vehicle.

I must reiterate that it was Arriva who pulled out of their contract early. While I appreciate the personal inconvenience to those 600 users, I cannot allow the council taxpayer being held to ransom by a multi-national bus operator.

While the P&R service will be finishing, the council is looking urgently at alternative uses for the sites. Although nothing has been decided yet, this may well be the continued use for free or low-cost parking, where users may use local buses for the final leg of their journey. Watch this space.....

A quick update regarding the ongoing problem of **Garden Bins**: I mentioned this in my recent newsletters and won't deliberate much about it this time, only to say that early in the new year the Community and Housing Committee will debate possible solutions to this problem. With North Downs being one of the worst affected areas, I shall attend the committee and make representations on your behalf.

The Local Government Authority has urged **people looking to buy pets** this Christmas to vet sellers properly as the rising demand for dogs, in particular, is attracting irresponsible or criminal sellers. The LGA has urged people to check that their seller has a licence from their local authority, and has genuine paperwork for test results, vaccinations and microchips.

Having acted until now as an unofficial MBC representative at the **Kent Downs Railway Line Group**, I am pleased to report that Cllr Spooner from Bearsted and I have now been appointed as official MBC representatives on this body. I am looking forward to taking the Hollingbourne railway station project another step forward next year. Sooooo exciting :-)

And finally....

Regular readers will be aware that I am fighting a one-man battle to keep **light pollution** at bay in the AONB. I am pleased to note that residents have recently started to report possible planning breaches in this respect and enforcement officers do take these complaints seriously.

.....and on that note, have a Merry Christmas and may 2022 bring us all what we want and deserve.

PATRIK GARTEN

MBC Councillor for North Downs Ward
(Conservative)
Phone: 01622-807907



20/12/21



Councillor Spooner, Bearsted: Article

Please see below for an interesting article by Councillor Spooner from Bearsted, who spent all his professional life in town planning, shared with us by Patrik Garten.

His article will give you some more background -in a nutshell- what the current Local Plan Review is all about.

'For the past weeks my inbox has been swamped with emails from people from all over the Borough lobbying about the Maidstone Borough Local Plan Review (LPR)

I have every sympathy with your heartfelt feelings about the proposed allocation of land at Lidsing and Lenham for 2,000 / 5000 dwellings but, there are far wider planning and development issues involved which I will explain.

1. Planning permission for residential development at Gibraltar Farm was granted on Appeal by the Secretary of State (SoS) several years ago against the wishes of both Medway City Council and Maidstone Borough Council (MBC). The vast majority of the site lies within Medway. A revised application for this development has recently been submitted and is currently being processed. The principle of residential development on Gibraltar Farm has, however, been established by the SoS and cannot be revisited.

2. Planning permission for residential development on land off Gleamingwood Drive, east of Reed Croft Wood and west of Sindals Lane was also granted on Appeal to the SoS against the wishes of MBC. This site is entirely within Maidstone. The East Hill site is entirely within Medway and I think that the Darland View site is as well. I have no knowledge of the current state of play of any development proposals for either of these two sites.

3. Last month's evening MBC did not grant planning permission for 2,000 new houses at Lidsing. It resolved to approve for further public consultation and for onward submission to the SoS, the LPR.

4. The LPR proposes that 17,355 new dwellings be built in Maidstone Borough between 2022 and 2037. This global housing figure includes the 2000 homes at a proposed Lidsing Garden Community as well as 5,000 new dwellings at a proposed Heathlands Garden Settlement at Lenham Heath; 1,300 new dwellings at the Invicta Barracks site in Maidstone (after it has been vacated by The Army in 2027) and new housing development on many other sites throughout the Borough.

5. There is an acknowledged national shortage of housing. For 40 years, the country has not been building enough new homes to keep up with a growing population and a dramatically increasing number of smaller households comprising single people and one-parent families, etc.

6. Successive governments; Labour, Coalition and Conservative have sought to increase housebuilding across the country. The present Government would like to see 300,000 new dwellings built each year to deal with the demand for new homes that has been increasing cumulatively because not enough new

homes have been built for so many years.

7. It is a government requirement that MBC plans for 17,355 new dwellings in its LPR. If it did not do this, the LPR would not satisfy the SoS; he might refuse to accept it or modify it in ways unacceptable to MBC in order to increase its proposals for new housing. The practical implications of this would be that without an up-to-date LPR approved by the SoS, developers would submit planning applications for housing on any site in the Borough and, despite any objections from MBC, would be almost certain to obtain planning permission on Appeal.

8. It is the onerous responsibility of MBC to find the land where the 17,355 new homes required in the Borough should be located. After 4 years of meticulously painstaking work and research by MBC Planning Officers in consultation with KCC (Highways), other KCC Departments, the NHS, environmental bodies and utility providers, etc – and with the constant involvement of Borough Councillors and with previous rounds of public consultation – the LPR was produced and was considered by MBC last Wednesday evening.

9. The LPR is not perfect. No local council has ever produced a 'perfect' local plan and never will do. There will always be winners and losers. I am unhappy with some aspects of the LPR and so are many other Borough Councillors. Lidsing falls within the MBC Ward of Boxley and, at the MBC meeting on Wednesday, the Borough Councillors that represent Boxley Ward, Bob Hinder, Anne Brindle and Heidi Bryant, all spoke passionately against the proposed Lidsing Garden Community.

10. At the end of the day, however, Borough Councillors have to consider the greater good of the greater number and give priority to the wider interests of the 170,000 people who live in Maidstone Borough. For these reasons, other Borough Councillors, including me and my fellow Bearsted Ward Councillors, Val Springett and Mike Cuming, reluctantly voted to take the LPR forward. If the LPR were not to be taken forward, there would be planning chaos throughout the Borough.

11. In summary, the LPR must provide for 17,355 new dwellings whether MBC likes it or not. With an up to date LPR in place, MBC has control over where these houses will be built. Without the LPR, MBC will have little or no control over where the housing goes. Developers will be able to submit planning applications everywhere and anywhere in the Borough with the strong likelihood of being granted planning permission by the SoS on Appeal against the wishes of MBC and of local people.

12. The LPR will now go out to a further round of public consultation. This will last for 6 weeks from 29 October until the 12 December. You will be able to inspect a copy of the LPR on the MBC website and in hard copy at the MBC offices at Maidstone House, at public libraries and at some parish council offices. Do please comment or object to the LPR as you wish.

13. All objections to the LPR will be considered by MBC and some amendments may be made to it before it is submitted to the SoS. Unresolved

objections – of which I am sure there will be many – will be considered at a Public Hearing to be held next summer and conducted by an independent Planning Inspector appointed by the SoS. The Hearing is likely to last several weeks. The Inspector has power to approve or reject the LPR or to make recommendations to MBC on amendments that he considers are necessary to make it acceptable. All proposed new developments set out in the LPR will all need to be the subject of separate, individual planning applications and the public will be able to comment on them when they are submitted.

14. Finally, I need to explain that the Boxley councillors and I are all very concerned about the extreme pressure that government is putting on MBC and other councils in the southeast to allocate more and more land for housing. MBC and individual councillors have, therefore, been putting a great deal of pressure on our local MPs, Helen Whately for Faversham and Mid Kent and Helen Grant for Maidstone and the Weald, to work with other southeast MPs to persuade Ministers to reduce their demands for housebuilding in the southeast and redirect it to less populated areas in the north. I do not know how successful we will be in our endeavours but, it will take months, probably many months, for any significant changes to be made to government policy. In the meantime, I am afraid we have no option but to progress with the LPR.

Denis Spooner

Maidstone Borough Councillor Ward Member for Bearsted
Chairman, MBC Planning Committee
Member, MBC Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Committee
Taken from Hollingbourne Parish Council Website



Help your garden, help your planet

The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) has launched a modern-day 'Dig for Victory' campaign to help tackle climate change.

It is asking the UK's 30 million gardeners to consider digging up their garden paving and instead to plant trees, grass and bee-friendly flora, to help nature survive.

The RHS has calculated that if every gardener in the UK grew at least one medium-sized tree in their garden, then that would be the equivalent of storing the carbon produced from driving 11 million times around the planet.

Further research from a YouGov survey has found that only 19 per cent of gardeners say that they have adopted sustainable gardening practices.

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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 Knighttrider 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 it's 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 upmost in the minds of those struggling to make ends meet, our food bank, Food for Thought, was set up 16 years ago to help. The need for our service is even greater in 2021 and 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.

WHO ARE WE?

A board of 9 trustees, all volunteers, who are responsible for the decisions that keep the funds coming in and the wheels of the organisation turning.

We have a team of staff members, based at 15 Knighttrider Street and a team of brilliant volunteers. **[Click here to find out how to get involved.](#)**

Every member of the team works together to run our projects, helping our men and women clients to turn their lives around.

We started as **Maidstone Christian Care** in 1986 with the objective of supporting homeless and vulnerable people. The charity opened the first Maidstone Day Centre in 1995 in a ground floor flat at Lenworth House and in

2004 moved to 15 Knightrider Street. Knightrider Street was a massive move requiring massive effort, none of it could have been achieved without the support of local churches. Today that strength and determination is even more important as Homeless Care makes the moves for the future it sees, serving the community and helping when things don't go right for so many people. Help, food and shelter are essential for survival for many.

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

HOW YOU CAN HELP



We rely on grants from organisations and donations from people in the community, to continue our work. We are always tremendously grateful for even the smallest amount you can give. See our **Support Us** page for more information.

Regular donations are particularly useful as they allow us to plan our work. Both one off and regular donations can be set up by clicking on the Virgin Money Giving **donate button**. You will be asked if you wish to add Gift Aid.

Adding **Gift Aid** means that your donation will be increased by 12.5% at no extra cost to you.

If you are posting us a cheque **you can include a Gift Aid form and we will do the rest.**



Cry Pharaoh!



A visiting minister was very long-winded. Every time he felt he'd made a good point in his sermon, he would repeat it all over again. Finally, the host pastor started responding to every few sentences with 'Amen, Pharaoh!' The guest minister wasn't sure what that meant, but after several more 'Amen, Pharaohs' he concluded his very lengthy sermon.

After the service was over and the congregation had left, the visiting minister turned to his host and asked, "What exactly did you mean when you said 'Amen, Pharaoh?'"

His host minister replied, "I was begging you to let my people go!"

HELEN WHATLEY — Parrish Update – Christmas 2021

Countdown to Christmas

Earlier this month I called into Faversham to mark Small Business Saturday.

The Christmas tree and lights were up in the Market Place and the whole town was wonderfully festive.

It's that time of year when the clock starts to speed up and we begin to wonder how we can get everything done in time.

While this Christmas can only be better than last year, the spread of the new Omicron variant is a reminder that we are not yet out of the pandemic. The measures announced by the Prime Minister recently are a reflection of that reality.

And while I know that a return to face coverings and working from home will be frustrating for many, these are crucial steps to slow the spread of this new variant and get booster jabs into arms.

December saw the launch of our 10-year plan for social care - giving carers and the people they look after a clear plan for the future. It was a huge privilege to lead this work when I was Care Minister and I'm delighted to see the plan published.

We're also giving greater protection to nature through our Environment Act, which will see new duties on water companies to clean up their act. And we're delivering on our commitment to level up communities across the country, including more money for communities in Kent.

These next few weeks will be challenging. Everyone can help to keep our recovery on track by taking up the offer of getting a booster jab and following the latest guidance.

I wish everyone in Faversham and Mid Kent a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Get your booster jab

As our battle with the virus enters a new phase, it's vital everyone takes up the offer of getting a booster jab.

I got my booster in early December – joining over 600,000 people across Kent in getting a third jab. If you have not yet had your booster, you can book an appointment or find details for walk-in clinics on the Kent and Medway CCG website.

Since our vaccination programme started in December last year, over 3 million jabs have been given out across Kent. Huge thank you to everyone involved in this colossal task.

Supporting our High Streets

While the pandemic has been tough for many businesses, the shop owners and traders I've spoken to recently are optimistic about the future.

Across the country, we're helping high streets back on their feet after the pandemic with business rates halved for 90 per cent of retail, hospitality, and leisure businesses; training and professional advice through our Help to Grow scheme; and support for employers with our Plan for Jobs.

In Kent alone nearly 3,000 young people have been given work placements through the Kickstart Scheme and the number of people on job seekers support across the county continues to fall.

Cleaning up local water quality

Like many people, I've been shocked by stories of sewage ending up in our local rivers and coastline, and flooding caused by our creaking wastewater network. I put these concerns directly to the CEO of Southern Water, Ian McAulay, in a meeting I arranged at Faversham's Wastewater Treatment Works in November.

Having secured a £2 million investment in the treatment works, I was keen to see how this money will be used to clean up our water locally - including plans to increase capacity at the site. I've called for similar investment at the Harrietsham Wastewater Treatment Works.

Southern Water also committed to working with Kent County Council and local councillors to tackle the repeat local flooding incidents. I'll be keeping a close eye to make sure these commitments turn into action.

Crunch time for Maidstone Local Plan

While I support the main objectives of Maidstone Borough Council's Local Plan, I remain concerned about the proposed developments at Lidsing and Heathlands - which are strongly opposed by local residents.

I've had several recent conversations with Housing Secretary, Michael Gove, about the need to look again at overall housing numbers. We do need new homes, but Kent mustn't be expected to take more than our fair share.

Meanwhile... Covid cases meant that the Meadows Inquiry in Headcorn, which I was due to speak at earlier this month, was postponed until March next year. I share residents' concerns about the delay, and I've written to Housing Minister Chris Pincher to ask how we can make sure the Inquiry goes ahead.

Making our streets safer

There are now record numbers of police in Kent, and the new Maidstone Task Force is making fantastic progress in tackling drugs and violence in Shepway - with 50 vehicles seized and 175 arrests made in the last 12 months.

We're also giving police new powers to tackle drug gangs, and our new 10-year drugs plan will prevent more people from falling into addiction in the first place.

In the New Year, I'll be chairing another meeting in Headcorn for an update on work to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in the village.

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150 years ago, on **14th January, 1872**, that **Greyfriars Bobby**, a Scottish Skye terrier dog died. He was famous for having guarded his master's grave in Edinburgh for 14 years.

100 years ago, on **5th January, 1922**, that *Sir Ernest Shackleton*, the Irish-born British Antarctic explorer, died of a heart attack in South Georgia. He had led three British expeditions to the Antarctic.

Also **100 years ago**, **16th January, 1922**, that **Ralph Vaughan Williams' A Pastoral Symphony** was performed for the first time, in London.

80 years ago, on **8th January, 1942**, that **Stephen Hawking**, theoretical physicist and cosmologist was born. Author of *A Brief History of Time*, he suffered from motor neurone disease for more than 50 years and communicated from his wheelchair via a speech synthesizer. (Died 2018.)

Also **80 years ago**, on **17th January, 1942**, that **Muhammad Ali** (previously Cassius Clay), American heavyweight boxing champion, was born. One of the most significant sports figures of the 20th century.

Also **80 years ago**, on **26th January, 1942**, that the first **US troops** arrived in Europe. 4,508 soldiers from the 34th Infantry Regiment docked in Belfast.

Also **80 years ago**, on **29th January, 1942**, that the BBC Radio Show **Desert Island Discs** was first broadcast. It is Britain's longest running radio show, and the world's longest running weekly factual radio programme.

75 years ago, on **1st January, 1947**, that the UK's coal industry was nationalised when the **Coal Industry Nationalisation Act 1946** came into effect. The industry was run by the National Coal Board. † was renamed the British Coal Corporation in 1987 and was subsequently privatised.

Also **75 years ago**, on **8th January, 1947**, that **David Bowie**, pop/glam rock singer, songwriter, and actor, was born. He became one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century. (Died 2016.)

70 years ago, on **1st January, 1952**, that the nuclear reactors at **Windscale** (now Sellafield) in Cumbria began producing enriched plutonium for use in Britain's first atomic bomb.

50 years ago, from **9th January to 28th February, 1972**, that **British miners** staged a major strike over pay. This led to rolling power shortages and a three-day week, and a state of emergency was declared on 9th February. The miners returned to work when the National Union of Mineworkers accepted an improved pay offer.

Also **50 years ago**, on **20th January, 1972**, that the number of **unemployed** people in the UK passed one million for the first time.

Also **50 years ago**, on **30th January, 1972**, that **Bloody Sunday** occurred in Northern Ireland. British paratroopers opened fire on civil rights demonstrators in Londonderry, killing 13 people (plus another who died later) and injuring many others.

40 years ago, on **14th January, 1982**, that **Mark Thatcher**, son of the British Prime Minister, was found safe and well after going missing in the Sahara Desert for six days while competing in the Paris-Dakar rally.

25 years ago, on **15th January, 1997**, that **Princess Diana** walked through a minefield in Angola, visited victims, and called for an international ban on landmines.

20 years ago, on **11th January, 2002**, that the first prisoners arrived at the USA's military detention camp in **Guantanamo Bay**, Cuba. They were members of al-Qaeda who were captured in Afghanistan during the War on Terror.

Also **20 years ago**, on **31st January, 2002**, that the **Larsen B Ice Shelf** in Antarctica began to collapse. The whole 3,265 sq. km structure disintegrated over the next 35 days.



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The music you love best – and when you love

it

If you enjoy listening to music, ever notice how the kind of music that you like changes throughout the day? According to research published in the



journal *Royal Society Open Science*, our tastes over just one day will vary in preference to a perceived tempo, loudness, bounciness, and danceability.

In late morning, we tend to go for loudness and energy in our music. By afternoon, the tempo begins to increase, and the beat and danceability also increase.

The highest tempo is preferred in the evening, between 8pm and 11pm. After that, we tend to prefer softer, slower music. But by 4am, the picture is muddled, as “the handful of people awake at this hour are often up to very different activities.”

According to a scientist at Aarhus University in Denmark, it all seems to point “to there being a circadian rhythm, even in our preference for music.”



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The Rectory
St James the Least of All



My dear Nephew Darren

Your annual accounts – all 146 pages, bound in their plastic covers and laid out in faultless detail – really are most impressive. I was rather envious to note you have a clergy 'discretionary fund'; if I were to be given such a thing, my cellar of claret would improve immeasurably – although that is perhaps the reason why I am not given one.

The size of your office expenses makes me wonder if you have a staff rivalling that of the European Community. I suppose that at least you are doing your bit for job creation. Our dear Miss Marigold, who spends two hours a week randomly filing pieces of paper, mistyping rotas and failing to re-order stationery, is only rewarded by being the first to find out who are booking marriages and having their babies baptised – and if they do not happen in that order, that will be another piece of information remembered for future use. All this is information beyond the price of jewels in village communities.

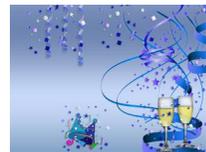
Our accounts have more by way of charm than they do of accuracy, generally consisting of one sheet of handwritten paper. There are only ever three copies for circulation, as that is the limit of Colonel Denster's carbon paper. It seems to be an unalterable tradition that they never balance, until we find the following year that the missing £20 was found months later under the teapot on the mantelpiece. One footnote to this was the occasion when the Colonel suspected an unaccountable £5 had been eaten by his Labrador. Our greatest expenses by far are categorised as 'miscellaneous', which is a catch-all for everything that our treasurer is unable to recall where it really went.

The thousands paid on church maintenance and diocesan fees are nodded through without comment – but if the money spent on Easter lilies or packets of tea for the Summer Fete increases by anything more than 50 pence, there will be much agonised debate and speculation about whether this is an indication of money laundering.

I see that your accounts were professionally audited. Fortunately, it does not matter too much about the accuracy of our own, as I have an arrangement with our auditor who lives in the village: if he refuses to sign them off, then I refuse to baptise his grandchildren.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



VILLAGE DIARY

December

24 th	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	
4 th		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	
17 th		Easter Sunday	
18 th		Easter Monday	
		Bank Holiday	
23 rd		St. George's Day	

May

2 nd		Bank Holiday	
9 th	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Cardwell Pavilion
26 th		Ascension Day	

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**
Kingswood Scout Hut

Beavers

Tuesdays

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:

Mondays 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**

Pre-School:

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

Reading Group :

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

School Terms 2022 **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

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FESTIVE PARTY PLANNING BEGINS!

It's time to be working off the extra chocolate and liquid calories from our festivities. Many of us are doing **Veganuary**, **Dry January**, or just a **fresh cleanse** of our bodies.

At **Elite Pubs**, you can indulge in **mouth-watering goodness**, whilst still keeping to your new years resolution. You'll find flavoursome **mocktails**, as well as **(not only for) vegans dishes**, and a range of **plant based lattes**, for some quirky vegan coffees to follow the crisp winter walks.

To view our menus and explore seasonal offers, head to **elitepubs.com**

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	SUNDAY	8 AM - 1 PM

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- Fresh meat from Doughty Butchers
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