

GOUDHURST & KILNDOWN PARISH MAGAZINE



January 2017



80p (£9 per year)

**UNITED BENEFICE OF ST. MARY, GOUDHURST
WITH CHRIST CHURCH, KILNDOWN**

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www.gkchurch.org.uk

WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY 2017

Café Toddlers, St. Mary's, 9:00 – 11:00, every Friday during term time

The doors of Café Toddler will open again on Friday, 6 January. The whole community is invited to come along for coffee, cake, chat and a chance to read the newspapers while the children enjoy crafts, toys and fun with their friends. No need to sign up, just come along.

Alpha

We're introducing a different way of running Alpha in 2017 with small Alpha groups meeting in different places and at different times of day. We have a course starting in January on a Thursday evening which will be led by Kat Ogden and held in her home. If you are interested in joining this group please contact Ali Williams at aliwilliams1967@hotmail.co.uk. There will also be at least one more daytime course starting in January so please do get in touch with Ali if you're interested in finding out more details about this.

Sunday Club

Sunday Clubs start again at St. Mary's at the 10:45 service on 8 January. We run 5 different groups for children and young people aged 0-18. Our aim is to help them have a brilliant time playing games, making friends and learning about God while their parents and carers enjoy the service. No need to book, just turn up for the 10:45 service.

There's lots more going on and you can find out about it all on our website

www.gkchurch.org.uk

FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends

Happy New Year.

After a tumultuous 2016, the papers are full of predictions and forecasts about what lies ahead for the world and for our own country. Much of what is expected is difficult and negative; ongoing economic difficulties for many, a new American President with a largely unknown and often worrying agenda, the ongoing horrors of the wars in Syria, Iraq and the Yemen, anxiety about the impact we are having on the environment and on the climate; the list is long and troubling.

And it's easy for us to emerge from the bubble of Christmas, when we've switched off from all the difficult stuff out there, back into the reality of the real world with all its troubles, and to feel overwhelmed. The holidays are finished and the email inbox is overflowing, the to-do list can't be ignored any longer, and all those carols about hope and new life are long gone, leaving the harsh reality of a broken and suffering world.

If Christmas is just about shopping, decorations and turkey, then it easily ends up as little more than an excuse to switch the world off for a week or two, while we get a break from all those problems.

But if the Christmas story is actually true; if it's really about a little baby, born in the middle of the mess of a barn, far from home, to teenage parents in the middle of an occupied country, whose people were kept in their place by an oppressive regime; and if it's really about God's decision to come and live amongst us, as one of us; and if all the carols and readings about light being stronger than darkness really are right, then there's hope.

Because then Christmas isn't about us having to avoid the messy world for a couple of weeks while we turn off the news and ignore the front pages; it's about the arrival of love, mercy and forgiveness in the midst of the messy world to walk with those who are suffering and to offer hope to those with nowhere to turn.

Christmas is God's promise to us that He will never leave us alone and that we don't have to wait for everything to be sorted before he joins us. He is here now, in the midst of it all, holding out his hand and inviting us to take hold.

So don't let Christmas finish yet. Don't just pack it all away with a sigh before facing up the mess of the world again. Remember instead that Jesus was born precisely for this. To join us in the middle of the mess, and to offer hope and love to a suffering world. Remember that he is 'Immanuel' - which means God with us - remember that the promise of Christmas isn't just for a couple of weeks, it's forever.

God bless

Revd Hugh



Season's greetings

Wishing you all a historic Christmas

Best wishes to our members, attendees and speakers and to the very kind people who give us support. These include Anthony Farnfield, David Denton, St Mary's Church, the Village Hall, Goudhurst Newsagents, Goudhurst Book Shop & Daily Grind and Burgess Stores.

There isn't a meeting in January so we look forward to welcoming you to our meeting on 7th February.



CALENDAR

Please note - re: 8.00 am Communion Service in St Mary's – order two from the Book of Common Worship, Traditional Language is used.

Weekday parish prayers: Morning prayer is at 8.30 am on Tuesday at St Mary's and on Friday 8.00 am at Christ Church. Evening prayer is at 5.30 pm on Friday at Christ Church when the prayers for Compline will be used. See weekly sheet for Bible readings.

Sun	1		Christmas 2
		8.00 am	Holy Communion, St. Mary's
		9.15 am	Holy Communion, Christ Church
Fri	6	9.00 am	Café Toddler, St. Mary's
Sat	7	10.00 am	Choir Practice, St. Mary's
Sun	8		Epiphany 1
		8.00 am	Holy Communion, St. Mary's
		9.15 am	Holy Communion, Christ Church
		10.45 am	Holy Communion, St. Mary's with choir and Sunday Clubs starting
		5.00 pm	The 5 o'clock service, St. Mary's, informal service with band
Thurs	12	10.00 am	Holy Communion, St. Mary's
Fri	13	9.00 am	Café Toddler, St. Mary's
Sat	14	10.00 am	Choir Practice, St. Mary's
Sun	15		Epiphany 2
		8.00 am	Holy Communion, St. Mary's
		9.15 am	Holy Communion, Christ Church with choir
		10.45 am	Holy Communion, St. Mary's with band and Sunday Clubs
Wed	18	7.30 pm	Filling Station, Kilndown Village Hall
Thurs	19	10.00 am	Holy Communion, St. Mary's
		7.30 pm	PCC meeting, St. Mary's
Fri	20	9.00 am	Café Toddler, St. Mary's
Sat	21	10.00 am	Choir Practice, St. Mary's
Sun	22		Epiphany 3
		8.00 am	Holy Communion, St. Mary's
		9.15 am	Holy Communion, Christ Church
		10.45 am	Holy Communion, St. Mary's with choir and Sunday Clubs
Thurs	26	10.00 am	Holy Communion, St. Mary's
		7.30 pm	Christ Church PCC meeting
Fri	27	9.00 am	Café Toddler, St. Mary's
Sat	28	10.00 am	Choir Practice, St. Mary's

Sun 29

Epiphany 4

8.00 am Holy Communion, St. Mary's
9.15 am Holy Communion, Christ Church
10.45 am Holy Communion, St. Mary's with choir and Sunday Clubs

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISM: We welcome into the Church:

Maverick John Walter Martin (3 December)
Juliet Henderson (3 December)

FUNERAL / BURIAL: We commend into God's loving care:

Amy Atherton
Richard Mills

**COMMEMORATING THE FALLEN OF THE GREAT WAR
JANUARY 1917**



All parishioners are invited to attend brief formal ceremonies commemorating local soldiers on the centenary of their death. A ceremony for George Chestney will be held at Goudhurst war memorial at 4pm on Thursday 5th January.

5th January 1917: George Chestney, aged 33. Private G/12748, 10th Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment. Born and brought up at Stanhoe in Norfolk, he moved to Goudhurst in the early 1900's and worked as a gardener at Brandfold. He married Annie Davey in St. Mary's Church in 1914 and they had one daughter, Vivienne, in August 1915. George Chestney joined the army in June 1916 and had probably been abroad for less than three months, entirely in the Ypres salient, when he was killed during a German artillery bombardment. He is buried in La Clytte Military Cemetery, 5 miles south-west of Ypres. Two of his brothers were also killed in the war.

THE FRIENDS SAY 'THANK YOU'

The Friends of St. Mary's Church wish to say a great big 'thank you' to all those who so generously supported their Village Night and Christmas Fair. We were blessed with a mild, dry evening which encouraged a bigger number than ever to come and enjoy the happy, festive atmosphere that we have come to expect from this event. We thank you for all the many donations of goods and time so freely given and are pleased to announce that we raised in excess of £2,800, a record amount. The committee wish you all a Happy New Year and hope to see you again in 2017.

A date for your diary, March 18th 2017 the Friends Spring Quiz

WEALD DEANERY EVENTS

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH, MARDEN FRIENDS OF MARDEN'S HERITAGE

SATURDAY 21st JANUARY, 2017 – 7.30pm – MARDEN MEMORIAL HALL

'FAMOUS' QUIZ

Come along and test your knowledge of all things famous.

Ploughman's supper, Bar, Raffle.

Tickets:- £9.00 per person OR £50.00 per table of six persons
available from: Heritage Centre, Village Stores, West End Stores,
or Steve McArragher 01622 831007

email:- steve.mcarragher@btinternet.com

The Friends' current support for the church is directed towards the restoration of the stained glass windows and their guards.

ST. DUNSTAN'S CHURCH, CRANBROOK FRIENDS OF ST. DUNSTAN'S

FRIDAY 27th JANUARY, 2017 – 12.30pm for 1.00pm – CHURCH

BENENDEN CHAPEL CHOIR

Refreshments before the concert

Retiring collection to support the work of the Friends of St Dunstan's.

CALLING ALL RESIDENTS

Goudhurst is blessed with a diverse range of shops, our every need is catered for.

This year has seen the re-opening of the corner shop, packed to the rafters with goodies.

A friendly local nestling right in the middle of the village... The Vine, offering local beers and superb food.

A glorious shop to buy a huge range of coffee beans, whole, or ground to your requirements, together with a wide range of teas.

The only way we will keep them is if we use them. If we don't want our village to die on its feet let's make a determined effort to patronise them; show we care, and most of all let them see that their efforts haven't been in vain.

Linda Fullelove

OLD PARSONAGE SURGERY

Patient Participation Group Newsletter No 16

Surgery Closures/Holidays

The Surgery will be closed for the standard Bank Holiday dates of Dec 24-27th and Dec 31st – Jan 2nd inclusive.

Note also that there will only be one doctor in attendance (and thus waiting times may be a little longer) on 28th – 30th December and on Jan 6th.

CQC (Care Quality Commission) Inspection

The official report from the inspection of July 7th was finally received in November. The overall rating for the practice was in the 'Good' category and the Surgery team are to be congratulated on achieving this as the outcome of a very demanding process. There are a small number of non-clinical aspects and facilities requiring improvement, many of which have already been addressed. As noted in the previous Newsletter the monthly cryoscopic surgery clinic (Dr J Watson) remains suspended pending resolution of the procedure for transport of liquid nitrogen to CQC satisfaction.

Patients can view the summary report from the CQC on the Surgery noticeboard and on the website.

Vaccinations

Influenza: free vaccination remains available for eligible patients who are encouraged to contact the Surgery for an appointment. Schoolchildren in Years 1-3 will be offered nasal spray vaccine via the school immunisation teams. Parents of children aged 2-4 years can contact the Surgery if they wish their child to receive the nasal spray vaccine. Note that the nasal spray vaccine is not licensed for children under the age of two years. Pneumococcal Pneumonia: all patients will be offered this protection (a one-off vaccination) as they reach 65 years.

Donations and Equipment

As noted previously the kind donations received are facilitating the purchase of more nebulisers for patient use. Future purchases under consideration are automatic blood pressure monitors and portable 24hr ECG equipment.

Defibrillator Unit in Kilndown

This facility is now fully functional and further training sessions are taking place. All concerned with this project are to be congratulated on its successful completion.

PPG Group Membership

At the time of writing the Group are hopeful that the long-standing vacancy for a member in the 18-30 years category will be filled in the New Year.

Urgent Treatment

The usual reminder to attend the Surgery during practice hours if urgent treatment for a minor injury is required, when you will be seen by a doctor or the practice nurse. This will help to lessen the workload on local A&E departments.

On behalf of all at the Surgery the PPG wishes all patients and their families a healthy and peaceful 2017

Colin Samuell

VILLAGE ECHOES

Many interesting reports concerning parishioners of days gone by are often tucked away in the local press under the reports of criminal cases and inquests heard at Cranbrook Petty Sessions and the West Kent Quarter Sessions.

For instance, in 1852 Joseph Reed and William Golding appeared before Cranbrook Bench accused of housebreaking and stealing £5 10s 6d, five pairs of boots, a bag and other articles belonging to Thomas Stiles. Details of the trial weren't reported, only the sentence – 12 months' hard labour for Reed and 10 years' transportation for Golding. The same day, a Mary Stiles was found guilty of stealing an apron from Martha Blunt and was given 6 months' hard labour.

In August of the same year, labourer Joseph Watchhouse was sentenced to three months for stealing two gallons of potatoes and one gallon of onions from the garden of Goudhurst's Vicar, the Reverend George Irving. The vegetables were valued at £2 1s 9d and although Watchhouse denied the theft, he was convicted because the potatoes grown by the Vicar were described as a "peculiar sort" and thus easily identified.

In July 1870 members of the Philips family were before the Bench. Jane Philips, along with Martha Maitland, pleaded guilty to stealing three faggots (of wood) from Jane Hayward. Since Maitland had previously been of good character her sentence was very lenient – one day – whereas Jane Philips, whose character was deemed otherwise, was sentenced to 14 days' hard labour. Meanwhile, Stephen Philips, the husband of Jane, was charged with stealing a glass bottle of "cyder-wine" from John Blinkhorn of Horsmonden. Philips, who had been thatching Blinkhorn's roof, had taken the opportunity when left alone in the house to steal the bottle. Worse still, he had then given it to his ten year old son to hide under his smock. For his sins Philips received a severe reprimand and was sentenced to 2 months' hard labour. Nothing was said about his son. It then transpired that in February of the same year, the Philips' daughter (name not given) had also received 2 months' hard labour for stealing flour and butter.

Not every appearance before the magistrate involved theft – the evil influence of alcohol underlay a variety of cases. In July 1855 a labourer named Waghorn was fined £100 (a huge amount in those days) for illegally distilling 18 quarts of illicit spirits; his case was not helped by the fact that he and his daughter were also accused of assaulting the constable investigating the allegation. In 1834, a wagoner, Edward Blackman, paid the ultimate price for being drunk in charge of a wagon when he fell off and it ran over him. He died several days later, leaving a wife and six children and a verdict of accidental death.

Local History Society

Email: info@goudhurstlocalhistorysociety.org

Website: www.goudhurstlocalhistorysociety.org

Tel: 01580 211711

A Service of Thanksgiving for Patrick Mayhew's life and work
will be held at Noon on Thursday, 2nd March 2017

in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey

To apply for tickets please go to eventbrite.co.uk and search for Patrick Mayhew

or write, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, to
Mr M Arnoldi, Room 2, 20 Dean's Yard, London SW1P 3PA.
Tickets will be posted by 21st February. All are very welcome.

KILNDOWN QUILTERS

We would like to thank everyone who has supported us and shown an interest in our work in 2016.

We have been able to donate almost £600 to various local projects and shall be giving The Air Ambulance a quilt for their fundraising.

We have already started work on quilts for a spring craft fair in Kilndown.

Special commissions can be discussed and ordered anytime.

With warm wishes,

Kilndown Quilters

Contact Ann Olley on 01892390376

KILNDOWN TASK FORCE

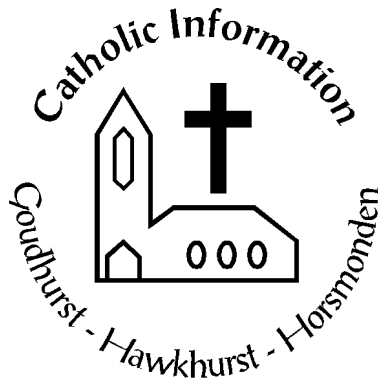
SATURDAY 14TH JANUARY - 10 TILL 12 AM

Want to lose a few post Xmas pounds, have fun outdoors, and make a valuable contribution to our community?...

The next 'Kilndown Task Force' event, to keep our Millenium Green and Village Hall area well maintained, will be taking place on Saturday 14th January. Meet at the Village Hall at 10am. Tasks will vary, but may include stump digging, weeding, pruning, etc.

Volunteers of all ages welcome. Please bring garden tools if you have them. No previous experience necessary!

TEA AND CAKE 'ELEVENSES' IN THE VILLAGE HALL



Parish Priest

Fr. Victor McClean - The Presbytery, Beresford Road Goudhurst TN17 1DN

Phone: 01580 211268

Email: vic.mcclean@btconnect.com

Website <http://www.rcgoudhurst.org.uk>

Masses

Saturday:	5.30pm	Sacred Heart Church, Goudhurst
Sunday:	8.30am	St Barnabas, Hawkhurst
	10.30am	Goudhurst
Monday to Thursday:	9.30am	Goudhurst
Friday:	10.00am	Goudhurst

Baptisms and Confessions by arrangement

Parish Contacts

Chris Roome

01580 891686

Churches Together

LAMBERHURST MUSIC FESTIVAL

We begin this year's programme with a very special concert featuring the famous violinist Tamsin Little who will be playing and also talking to us about her music. This concert takes place on Saturday 21st January at 7.30 pm in St. Mary's Church Lamberhurst. This will be a hugely popular concert so you are advised to book early.

Tickets cost £20 (children under 15 free)

Web. www.lamberhurstmusic.co.uk

Post: 1, Down Farm Oasts, Lamberhurst Down, Kent TN38HF

Phone: 07497 488412



POPPY APPEAL RESULT 2016

The collecting and counting have stopped to reveal a total so far of £13,640 – a staggering £2,000 more than this time last year. Gift Aid should bring in well over £1,000. This shows the generosity and support of you all for this vital Royal British Legion work and the efforts of the many volunteers who make this happen.

St. Mary's, Christ Church, Sacred Heart and Bethany School congregations made considerable contributions as did the Primary School.

We will never forget the sacrifices of all our armed forces, last century and this, and that of their families.

“We Will Remember Them”

Barbara Stafford
Honorary RBL Poppy Appeal Organiser

FOOTPATH WALK, Saturday 2pm 14 January 2016 Rectory Park, Horsmonden Church and the River Teise

The walk will start by Horsmonden Church (TN12 8EJ) at 2pm and returns there by 4pm. The walk will be mostly on footpaths with short stretches on quiet lanes.

The route follows the High Weald Landscape Trail towards Goudhurst, initially on a lane via Smallbridge, crossing the River Teise, and then on footpath WC24 from Trottenden over meadows. The walk turns left on to WC23 to re-cross the Teise by a footbridge. We follow footpaths WT348 and WT347, past Nevergood Farm to re-join the High Weald Landscape Trail which takes us through Rectory Park and back to Horsmonden Church.

There will be a few stiles and, depending on the weather, there could be some muddy stretches. Everyone is welcome to join this walk. The new Goudhurst Walker's Map has the key to all footpaths in the area and is available from the walk leader and Goudhurst Newsagent.

If you have questions about this walk or suggestions for a walk route or are interested in leading a walk in the future please contact us at: d.boniface@hotmail.co.uk or by telephone at 01580 211430 or mobile on the day: 07518 894 915.

David and Pamela Boniface

SOUTH KENT COAST: TRANSFORMING HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE IN KENT AND MEDWAY – PUBLICATION OF PLAN

The NHS, social care and public health in Kent and Medway today publish their draft plan for transforming services to meet the changing needs of local people.

Jointly developed by the NHS, Kent County Council and Medway Council, the Health and Social Care Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) sets out a vision for better health, wellbeing and standards of care for people in Kent and Medway, and achieving more with the staff and funding available.

Benefits local people can expect to see from the changes set out in the draft Sustainability and Transformation Plan are:

- joined up services to treat and care for you at home and support you to leave hospital as soon as you are medically fit to leave: “your own bed is the best bed”
- health and social care professionals coming together to work as a single team for your local area, able to access your records 24 hours a day (with your consent)
- a modern approach to health and social care services using the best technology, from booking your appointment online to virtual (but secure) consultations, online assessment and diagnostic systems, and advice on apps to monitor your health
- timely appointments with the right professional at the right time
- care for you as a whole, for both your physical and mental health
- regular monitoring if you have complex health conditions affecting your physical or mental health, or both
- more support from voluntary and charitable organisations which already play such an important part in our communities
- better access to health improvement advice and services to help you improve and manage your own health and so reduce your risk of serious illness
- “social prescribing” - information to help you access relevant support from voluntary, charitable and local community groups or services
- quality hospital care when you need it – and more care, treatment and support out of hospital when you don’t.

As work in progress, the draft plan contains initial ideas rather than concrete proposals. The main priorities are improving:

- prevention of ill-health
- local care - better access to care and support in people’s own communities
- mental health – just as important as physical health
- hospital care – in a community, mental health or acute (main) hospital.

Currently, in Kent and Medway:

- 4,000 people a year die early as the result of diseases which are mostly preventable*
- 240,000 people over 50 are living with long-term disability which could potentially be avoided or delayed**
- around one in four people in our hospital beds at any given time could be at home or cared for elsewhere. (This varies depending on area.). For older people this impacts on their recovery - 10 days in hospital (acute or community) leads to the equivalent of 10 years' ageing in the muscles of people over 80.***

Glenn Douglas, Senior Responsible Officer for the Kent and Medway Health and Social Care Sustainability and Transformation Plan, and Chief Executive of Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust, said: "People's needs are changing, and health and social care services need to change too, to help people get the best care and treatment so they can make the most of their lives.

"At the moment, around 25 per cent of the beds in our main hospitals are occupied by people who could be better treated in their homes or local communities.

"That is not good for those patients. And it is not a good use of NHS resources. Our first priority is improving local care so that people can get the care they need closer to home rather than in a main hospital unless they really need that. We will be investing millions to make local services much more joined-up, with better IT, and so clinical teams can access shared information. We expect local care to be delivered by teams of health and social care professionals, with GP leadership, who will look after people's physical and mental health needs, seven days a week, and help people to improve their health and wellbeing.

"The evidence is this way of working will reduce preventable illness, allow us to help people with treatment and advice earlier, and significantly reduce unnecessary stays in hospital. Your own bed is the best bed – so long as they have the right support, people, particularly frail older people, do better at home."

Roger Gough, chair of the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board, said: "The vision for local care is building on innovative work already underway: GPs, nurses, therapists, social care workers, mental health staff and urgent care staff in Kent and Medway are combining their expertise to improve outcomes in local areas and deliver more joined-up care, both day-to-day and, when it's urgent, round the clock."

David Brake, chairman of the Medway Health and Wellbeing Board added: "We urgently need to combat preventable ill-health and disability linked to obesity, lack of exercise, smoking and excess alcohol. The plan focuses on this and on working with employers to improve the health of their staff."

Mental health and hospital care are other key elements of the draft plan.

Mental health services are expected to be an integral part of local health and social care teams. Other schemes to improve mental health care include:

- a single phone number for people in Kent and Medway to ring in a mental health crisis
- bringing back to Kent and Medway as many people as possible placed out-of-area for specialist care
- improving treatment and support for people experiencing psychosis for the first time.

On hospital care, the draft plan focuses on providing the highest quality services and making the best use of scarce specialist staff and resources. Reviews of stroke care and emergency vascular surgery are already underway. In addition, the plan puts forward the idea of creating specialist centres for planned surgery such as hip and knee replacements to separate these services from emergency care. Experience from other parts of the country shows this can significantly improve care for patients, including speeding up how quickly they get the operation they need, and reducing the risk of cancellations because of surgeons being called away to operate on emergency patients.

In the New Year, along with more detailed information underpinning the draft Sustainability and Transformation Plan, a timetable will be published for engaging with the public in Kent and Medway in 2017. In the meantime, people are asked to help shape the ideas and plans by filling in the Kent and Medway Sustainability and Transformation Plan survey, which closes on 23 December 2016. Visit NHS South Kent Coast CCG's website for more information.

YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

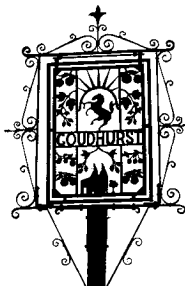
Many of you will have been contacted either individually or as members of local organisations to tap into your knowledge of Goudhurst, its pros and cons, and what you wish for the future. This is vital information for the Neighbourhood Development Plan as we prepare the major Questionnaire where we hope you will pave the path for the future. Our task is to establish what we value, what we don't like, and what we think can be changed for the better.

For all you camera enthusiasts, please take photos of your favourite scenes , especially during the present season so that you can enter our Competition/Exhibition to reflect a visual interpretation of life all-year-round.

Please visit our web site, <http://ndp.goudhurst.co.uk>, to get a wider picture of what we are doing and if you have questions – or want to join us – please email our enquiry line.

enquiries@ndp.goudhurst.co.uk

Colin Willis Chairman



GOUDHURST PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

2016 has been a somewhat curious year. Outside our parish the winds of change have blown away many of our certainties be they local (housing numbers), national (referenda, and new government) or international (war and presidents). In Goudhurst we too have had a strange year; rain and more rain in the first half and in much of the parish no rain at all for months thereafter; actually a potentially serious matter. At the time of writing some normality seems to be returning, we have had some frosts and some rain but not enough, though Goudhurst has just had a lot of water, of the wrong sort, bubbling up from the road by the Plain and flowing down North Road. Ahead we have the Nativity Services and all other festivities leading up to Christmas and the New Year.

So we look forward to the New Year 2017. It promises to be an interesting year in both Parish and Borough. For the Parish Council we have many on-going projects which we hope to complete during the year: finally dredging the pond (weather and permits permitting), completing the lease arrangements for the Glebe fields (currently still awaiting the draft lease from the Diocese), completing the upgrading of our public toilets, and many other matters well discussed with the good number of parishioners who attended the parish open meeting on November 14th. Subsequently GPC at its December meeting finalised the budgets and precept for 2017-18 in accordance with those needs.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) teams are busy at work and making great progress on a number of fronts, as reported by their chairman elsewhere. So far GPC and NDP are coordinating well and it is good to have so many people becoming familiar with the issues facing our community and our aspirations for the future. The main clouds on the horizon are our vulnerability to the Borough's 13,000 house target and resulting lack of a 5 year supply, which the Borough seem ill minded to challenge, perverse inspector decisions and the constantly changing government rules and edicts that seem at serious odds with the stated intentions of The Localism Act (the locality decides). But we do not give up!

Your Parish Councillors ...

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alan, Angela, Antony, Barry, Carol, David,
Guy, Phil, Sean, Stephen, Susan, Tom

THE SUNDAY AMENITY LORRY SCHEDULE

The TWBC Amenity Lorry (Cory) will be at these locations:

Goudhurst, Balcombes Hill Car Park, 8.00 am to 11.00 am

01 January	No Service
15 January	Domestic Waste
29 January	Garden Waste (Compostable)
12 February	Domestic Waste

Kildown, Beresford Close, 12 noon to 1.45 pm and

Curtisden Green, Outside Bethany School 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm

01 January	No Service
15 January	Domestic Waste
12 February	Garden Waste (Compostable)

The following items CAN NOT BE ACCEPTED IN THE VEHICLE and must not be put into your Wheelie Bin:

Waste from outside Tunbridge Wells Borough, Doors & large pieces of wood, Waste from Businesses, White electrical products, Waste transported in a commercial vehicle, Fridges, Freezers, Computer equip etc, Waste on trailers, Televisions, Kettles, Microwaves, Car Batteries, Mirrors, Asbestos, Sheet(s) of glass/Toughened glass, Rubble/bricks/plasterboard, Tyres, Chemicals/Hazardous waste/Paint, Soil, Tree trunks and branches more than 3 ins diameter, Oil of any type.

If you have large items for disposal please phone Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (01892 526121) for advice and to arrange a special collection (for which there is a small charge).

Everybody is invited to use the Recycling Facilities at:

Balcombes Hill Car Park – glass

Bethany School – glass, cans, paper and cardboard

The Peacock – glass and textiles

Globe & Rainbow, Kildown – glass and cans

Goudhurst & Kildown CE Primary School (big yellow container) – clothing including socks and underwear, paired shoes, belts, handbags, soft toys, perfume, cosmetics, net curtains, towels and aprons.

Harpers Farm, Summerhill, Curtisden Green – textiles and shoes. This is a charity facility.

Please phone Tunbridge Wells Borough Council 01892 526121 if you have any queries about waste collection and recycling.

GOUDHURST PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Dates for forthcoming Parish Council meetings are:

Parish Council	Monday 09 January	7.30 pm	Jessel Room
Planning Committee	Tuesday 10 January	6.30 pm	Jessel Room
Youth Committee	Thursday 19 January	8.00 pm	Goudhurst Scout Hut
Planning Committee	Tuesday 24 January	6.30 pm	Jessel Room
Amenities Committee	Tuesday 24 January	7.30 pm	Jessel Room
Parish Council	Monday 13 February	7.30 pm	Jessel Room

All are welcome to attend these meetings at which time is set aside for questions from the public.

Anthony Farnfield, Clerk 01580 212552
clerk@goudhurst.co.uk www.goudhurst.co.uk



NOTES FROM GOUDHURST PARISH HALL

Following a suspected break in at the Hall, the Management Committee took the decision to replace the locks and key safe codes and this was successfully completed on the 25th October. Our grateful thanks to all our users who made the exercise possible. As far as we know, no hirer had to change dates or timings. The primary source for the main door key remains the newsagents at the top of the High street. Hall bookings are very healthy, with the Hall welcoming several new organisations this year, and a number of the new Neighbourhood Development Plan Committees are likely to be using the Jessel meeting room shortly.

Our hire charges will increase by an average of 4% from the 1st January 2017. As an example, weekday hourly rates rise by 50p to £13.50 a rise of 3.8% while weekday evening rates also move up 50p to £18.50 or + 2.7%. Full details can be found on the Hall notice board and on our website.

Finally the Goudhurst Parish Hall Trust held it's AGM on the 14th November and the meeting re-elected Richard Bushrod, James Cooke, Dennis Knight and Tony Richards to serve as Trustees for the next 12 months.

Tony Richards



QUARRY CENTRE

Thank you to all who supported the centre during 2016. At long last we became a registered charity and that makes applying for funds in certain areas a lot easier, and we finally got round to having the exterior refurbished. We now move on to 2017 and what are we going to do? Estimates are being sought for decorating the interior, this was last done several years ago by the 'Boys from Blantyre' and for a tidy up of the porch, how we are to raise money for these works is yet to be decided.

The Saturday Shop goes from strength to strength, with the tables laden at 9am and somewhat depleted by midday, sometimes we feel we need a bigger shop!

Our now annual Craft Fair last October was again a success and the village hall has been provisionally booked for a Spring Fair at the end of March, the Quilting group are already busy stitching. Bookings now being taken.

Another thank you to those who donated odds and ends to sell and to use, including Finchcocks from where we had a good selection of crockery, (the village hall took our motley selection of cups and saucers for general use) Pearl Bateup for a selection of dressmaking materials, there's several ladies now sporting snazzy new hand-made skirts and tops, John Veysey who made some garden trellis' from old roofing battens and to all who keep us well supplied with paperback books.

And another thank you, to all who sent condolences to Richard on his two bereavements in November, donations have been sent to Cancer Research and to the Kent Cancer Trust

For anyone up and about on New Year's Day, we will be at the centre selling home-made soup and toasted sandwiches from 11am to 3pm.

Lynda and Richard

COVER PHOTOGRAPH

I am grateful to Lynette Edwards for supplying the cover photograph. This was taken from her bedroom window one morning a few weeks ago. It shows a Muntjac deer with a rather toothy smile. I had several visits during May 2015, but always in late evening when the light was very poor for taking photographs. Muntjacs are the smallest of the deer we find in this country, although they are not native.

David Denton

GOUDHURST OUR BEAUTIFUL VILLAGE

Our village is under a constant attack
From the litter brigade who stop for a snack.
There's cans and bottles and crisp packets too
And no doubt the culprits are more than a few.
They sit on the benches and gabble and spout
Over things which they sometimes know little about.
High energy drinks which come in a tin,
But fail to provide energy for a walk to the bin!

So, locals and visitors please heed this appeal,
Please clear up your rubbish, its not a big deal.
There are plenty of bins if you just look around.
Much better than dropping your stuff on the ground.
We just want you all to enjoy your day out,
So there's no need to leave all this rubbish about.
Dog lovers also please heed this advice
Don't leave your dog's mess, its not very nice.

Perhaps this reminder will help you to see
That the village is here for us all, not just me.
How much better to feel that in this one small way
You have made people happy and likely to stay.
Or return with their friends, to this beautiful place,
Not leave with the feeling of utter disgrace.
Let's wage war on litter, wherever we roam
If you can't make the bin, then please just take it home.

Thank you.

By C.P. (a Resident.)



**Wednesday 18th January 2017 at 2.30 p.m.
Goudhurst Parish Hall, Goudhurst.**

**THE CINQUE PORTS
By Len Howell**



**What are the origins of this historic institution?
What did these ports do for the country and why did they do it?
Do they still have a role in the modern world?**

Non U3A Members welcome - entry fee is £2.50 payable on the door

Future Talks:

15th February 2017 - "Lewis Carroll" by Dr Linda Hastie

15th March 2017 - "The Social and Political Satire of Gilbert and Sullivan" by Bernard Lockett

19th April 2017 – "George Cruikshank: the man who drew Oliver Twist" by Ian Keable

Enquiries

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