

GOUDHURST & KILNDOWN PARISH MAGAZINE



January 2015

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

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WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY

Family Service

On the first Sunday of the month our service at St Mary's is informal and relaxed, with something for the whole family. There's coffee and something tasty to eat from 10:15 and the service starts at 10:45. The next service is on 4 January when the theme will be 'Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh'

Alpha

Starting in January we are running Alpha - the chance to explore the big questions of life over a good meal with lots of other people who are also asking questions. You can do Alpha whatever you do or don't believe, or if you're really not sure if you believe anything at all. Find out more on our website or speak to Ali Williams on 01580 211478.

Sunday Club

Every Sunday at St Mary's we run 5 groups for children and young people aged 0-18 including a crèche for pre schoolers. 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 the service. There's no need to book, just turn up for the 10:45 service.

Graham Kendrick

Graham Kendrick is one of the greatest modern hymn writers - author of, amongst others, Shine, Jesus Shine. He will be leading our main Sunday service in St Mary's at 10:45 on 25 January.

Cafe Toddlers

Every Friday morning St Mary's is thrown open to the community for 2 hours of coffee, cake, chat, newspapers and fun for children. Pre school children and their families are very welcome, as is anyone who wants to meet other local people and enjoy some community spirit. It starts again after the holidays on Friday 10 January and runs from 9:00-11:00 every week.

Lent Groups

Lent start on Ash Wednesday, 18 February. We will be running 2 Lent Groups this year, one in the day time and one in the evening. For more information and if you would like to join one - and everyone is welcome - please go to the website or look at the back of church.

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!

As a child, between the ages of two and nine, I lived in Brussels. Belgium is mainly famous for being boring - apparently even 60% of Belgians wish they'd been born elsewhere. But the Belgians do know about one thing; how to make a waffle. British waffles are pretty nasty things - a thin squared piece of dough, usually used as the foundation for an ice cream or an American style breakfast, and often left on the side of the plate once the nice bits have been eaten. A Belgian waffle however is a wondrous thing; thick, studded with small clusters of sugar and coated in half burnt sugar syrup. Dangerously hot when you buy them at a street stall, they come in grease proof paper, which collects the sugar, and which has to be licked clean when the waffle is all gone.

And for me, as a boy, they were the ultimate treat. So imagine my sadness when we left and returned to the UK and I discovered that there are no Belgian waffles in England. For many years, whenever I saw the word 'waffle' on a menu, I would order it, hoping it might be the real thing. I was always disappointed. What I was served with always seemed like a cardboard imitation of a real Belgian waffle.

Years later, when I went back to Brussels as an adult, the first thing I looked for - at the railway station as I arrived, was a waffle. The real thing. And it was wonderful - just as good as it had been as a child. Hot, sweet and gorgeous. It was worth the wait, and worth all the terrible English waffles, to get the real thing again.

Every year, in the weeks before and over Christmas, I try to look out for the real thing; for a moment when God manages to cut through all the cardboard imitations of Christmas and reveals Himself to me again. Sometimes that moment is a time in prayer, sometimes it's a conversation with someone, or something I read or hear. Sometimes it happens in church, often it doesn't. But it's always a moment when I feel I am tasting the real Christmas again - the reality of God leaving heaven and living amongst us; the reality of a God taking the risk to be born as a fragile baby; the reality that we are not alone because God now walks with us.

Maybe you had a moment when you tasted the real Christmas this year. A moment when God cut through all the tinsel and the wrapping and the busyness. And if that did happen for you then treasure it and nurture it, and don't lose sight of what happened as 2015 starts up and life gets going again.

And if it didn't happen this year, don't give up. Jesus is here amongst us, and you can be sure that he's ready to meet you. He's ready to offer you the real thing; the glorious truth of his love, which is alongside you in every situation and which will never give up.

God bless

Hugh

**Alpha is for
anyone with big
questions about
life - whatever you
do or don't
believe.**



Alpha

Does God exist?

Is there more to
life than this?

What happens
when we die?

Can I
ever have
peace?

Why is there
so much
suffering?

**Tuesday evenings from 13 January
Goudhurst Village Hall**

www.gkchurch.org

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 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.

Thurs	1st	10.00 am	No Holy Communion – St Mary's
Sun	4th		Christmas 2
		8.00 am	Holy Communion – St Mary's
		9.15 am	Holy Communion – Christ Church
		10.45 am	Family Service– St Mary's
Tues	6th	8.30 am	Morning Prayer – St Mary's
Thurs	8th	10.00 am	Holy Communion - St Mary's
Fri	9th	8.00 am	Morning Prayer – Christ Church
		9.00 am	Cafe Toddlers
		5.30 pm	Evening Prayer – Christ Church
Sat	10th	11.00 am	Sidesperson and Welcomers Meeting – St Mary's
Sun	11th		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
Tues	13th	8.30 am	Morning Prayer – St Mary's
		11.00 am	Churches Together meeting
		7.00 pm	Alpha – Goudhurst Village Hall
Thurs	15th	10.00 am	Holy Communion – St Mary's
Fri	16th	8.00 am	Morning Prayer – Christ Church
		9.00 am	Cafe Toddlers
		5.30 pm	Evening Prayer – Christ Church
Sun	18th		Epiphany 2
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - St Mary's
		9.15 am	Holy Communion – Christ Church
		10.45 am	Holy Communion – St Mary's
Tues	20th	8.30 am	Morning Prayer – St Mary's
		7.00 pm	Alpha – Goudhurst Village Hall
Thurs	22nd	10.00 am	Holy Communion – St Mary's
Fri 23rd		8.00 am	Morning Prayer – Christ Church
		9.00 am	Cafe Toddlers
		5.30 pm	Evening Prayer – Christ Church
Sat 24th		am	Children's Chapel Booked

Sun	25th		Epiphany 3
		8.00 am	Holy Communion – St Mary’s
		10.45 am	Holy Communion- St Mary’s
Tues	27th	8.30 am	Morning Prayer – St Mary’s
		7.00 pm	Alpha – Goudhurst Village Hall
Thurs	29th	?10.00 am	?Holy Communion – St Mary’s
		7.30 pm	PCC – Kilndown
Fri	30th	8.00 am	Morning Prayer – Christ Church
		9.00 am	Cafe Toddlers
		5.30 pm	Evening Prayer – Christ Church

READINGS

Sunday 4th January	Christmas 2	
	Isaiah 60:1 - 6	Ephesians 3:1 - 12
	Matthew 2:1 - 12	
Sunday 11th January	Epiphany 1	
	Gen 1:1 - 5	Acts 19:1 - 7
	Mark 1:4 - 11	
Sunday 18th January	Epiphany 2	
	1 Sam 3:1 - 10	Rev 5:1 - 10
	John 1:43 - end	
Sunday 25th January	Epiphany 3	
	Acts 9:1 - 22	Gal 1:11 - 16a
	Matthew 19:27 - end	

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISM - We welcome into the Church

16.11.2004 Phoebe Isabella Cowell – St Mary’s

PASTORAL SERVICES

21.11.2004 Ruby Akehurst – T.Wells Crematorium

A BIG THANK YOU FROM THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY’S.....

..... everyone involved in this year’s Village Night and Craft Fair. To the shops and businesses, choirs and cake-makers, those who helped create the wonderful atmosphere with fairground organs and lights, gave generously of their time and to our stalls and to everyone who came and supported us. Thanks to you we made a tremendous £2,300 to help maintain the property and fabric of our beautiful church. Well done one and all and may you enjoy a very happy Christmas

Friends of St. Mary’s Committee



SRI LANKA LINK QUIZ

7th March 2015

Our annual fundraising quiz for the Sri Lanka Link will be held on Saturday 7th March 2015 (this is a 6 Intl Rugby free weekend!).

Please book tables of 8 at £16 per person for the quiz and a 2 course supper. Raffle and Bar will be operating. Please do not bring your own!

Bookings can be made via Wendy Russell 01622 832778 e.mail wendyrussell@tiscali.co.uk or from Sue Crookall on 01580 211710, e.mail: sue.crookall@hotmail.com **with payment in advance on booking.**



THE POPPY APPEAL 2014

Thanks to the generosity of the people of Goudhurst parish this year's collection has been an outstanding success. The total for Goudhurst, Curtisden Green and Kilndown is £11,543 with an anticipated Gift Aid addition in the region of £1,000. The Goudhurst & Curtisden Green total is up £1,200 on this time last year and Kilndown is up £310 plus £395 donated by Tina Gallagher from the Concert which she organized in Christ Church.

None of this is possible without the support of the loyal band of volunteer collectors who pound the lanes and byways. We aim to call on every household but sometimes there is no reply – it's difficult to guess when people are in during daylight hours. Shops, pubs, clubs, pheasant shoots and garages all played their part and the primary school's contribution was just amazing. The congregations of St. Mary's, Christ Church and Sacred Heart were all generous and we received a bonus with the chapel of Bethany School contributing this year.

In Kilndown Lord Mayhew continues to gather in a remarkable number of donations and his support is vital and very much appreciated.

The Royal British Legion is hoping to have an exceptional year with the heightened awareness of the sacrifices made during World War One. Goudhurst parish has certainly shown that it cares and will always remember them.

Barbara Stafford
Honorary Poppy Appeal Organiser



“TEN MEN BRAVE AND TRUE”

The Victoria Cross Holders from the Borough of Tunbridge Wells

A Talk by Richard Snow

Former Fundraising Director at the Hospice in the Weald

Wednesday, 21st January, 2.30 p.m. Goudhurst Parish Hall



The Victoria Cross is the highest military decoration for gallantry that a British and Commonwealth serviceman can achieve. The Victoria Cross is forever linked with acts of extreme bravery and the original document associated with the medal stated that it could only be awarded for “gallantry of the highest order”.

Richard Snow has researched the family histories, military careers and, if they survived, their civilian lives. The medals were awarded to these local men between 1857 and 1944 and include William Addison from Goudhurst whose parents are buried there and John Brunt who has a pub named after him in Paddock Wood.

Visitors welcome - £2.50

The Interest Groups have been meeting and we plan to add a new one on Circle Dancing. The repeat backstage tour of the Royal Opera House is on 26th January so members are asked to contact to reserve a place.

Future monthly talks will be:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 18th February | “Hypnotherapy” with Richard Bourne |
| 18th March | “Age is No Excuse” with Jonathan Hockey |

New members are always welcome to these friendly and fun U3A activities.

Ian Miller
Chairman, Goudhurst & District U3A

VILLAGE ECHOES

Tattlebury House, situated on the north side of Cranbrook Road where it joins Church Road in Goudhurst, had a long association with the Newington family of medical practitioners and, indeed, with the medical profession in general from the late 18th century until the early part of the 20th century.

A surgeon, Samuel Playsted Newington, occupied Tattlebury House as his home from the late 18th century until his death in the early 1830s. During that time he mainly worked at the private mental institution in Ticehurst (i.e Ticehurst Hospital) which was run by the Newington family until 1917. However, in Goudhurst in April 1840 Samuel Wilmot Newington, his son, who was by then living at Tattlebury House, opened it as the Goudhurst Private Asylum. The 1841 census shows that, apart from his own family and servants, the household included one female patient aged 35.

Ten years later there were five private patients (3 women and 2 men) and their individual attendants living at what the census calls the "Surgery", alongside the Newington family and their own servants.

Records show that by the mid-1880s, Tattlebury House Asylum, which was then in the charge of Robert Samuel Newington, was licensed to house 6 male patients and 2 female patients from the upper and middle classes. A report by the Lunacy Commissioners in 1882 showed that the accommodation was "fair and well maintained" and that there were only three patients in residence. The cost of housing a patient was then £200 per year.

In 1902 the Asylum was purchased as a going concern by retired Surgeon-Colonel James William Evans of the Indian Army. His tenure appears to have been short-lived and it is believed the asylum was then closed and reverted to being a private house. It was purchased by an Australian-born tea merchant, Frank Hobart England, who had retired from business in China and who promptly renamed the property Man Hing. After his sudden death in December 1913, the house was purchased by local retired farmer, Harry Martin and his wife who renamed it Tattlebury. The Martins lived there until their respective deaths in 1935 and 1936 when the house once more changed ownership. Meanwhile, in 1930, Dr Reginald Marshall (who had come to Goudhurst in 1922) moved into part of the house and used the old gun room as his surgery. Subsequent doctors continued to hold their surgeries there until 1976.

The patients known to be resident when the house was run as an asylum stayed for periods ranging from a few months to many years. The sole patient listed in 1841 was still there in 1861, although it is not known what happened to her after that. Recent research has also discovered that William Worth, whose younger brother was Charles Worth, the famous fashion designer based in Paris (but actually English by birth), was a patient from 1873 until his death in 1893. He is buried in the old cemetery in Back Lane.

Local History Society

Email: info@goudhurstlocalhistorysociety.org

Website: www.goudhurstlocalhistorysociety.org

Tel: 01580 211711



FOOTPATH WALK
Saturday 10 January 2014
Cranbrook to Goudhurst
on the
High Weald Landscape Trail

You are invited to join a walk which starts by taking the bus that leaves the stop outside Weekes Bakers on the Goudhurst High Street at 09:18 and which arrives at the first stop beyond Angley School, Cranbrook, about 10 minutes later. It is Renown Coaches Bus 297. The walk will be at an easy pace on footpaths. Please remember to bring coins (about £3.50) for the bus fare or your bus pass.

The route follows the High Weald Landscape Trail which crosses Angley Road next to the bus stop. The walk takes us through Angley Wood, over the B2085, past the high ground of the Glassenbury Estate, gently downhill towards Smugley Farm, and finally uphill again to Goudhurst. The distance is around 3.5 miles and should take less than 2 hours. There are a few easy stiles and, depending on the weather, there could be some muddy stretches. Everyone is welcome to join this walk.

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

David and Pamela Boniface



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>

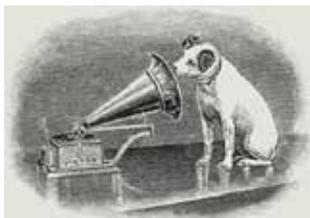
Masses

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	Hawkhurst

Baptisms and Confessions by arrangement

Parish Contacts

Chris Roome 01580 891686 Churches Together



GOUDHURST RECORDED MUSIC SOCIETY

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 8th January at 7.45 in The Church Room, Goudhurst, when Edward Clark, President of the Sibelius Society, will talk about Sibelius - His Life and Music. Sibelius is a towering symphonist

whose work continues to fascinate contemporary composers and audiences alike. He is also the national favourite of his native Finland. His music includes seven symphonies, one of the great violin concertos, numerous tone poems on Finnish themes and many other works. Members come free and guests are welcomed at £5. Enquiries to Quentin Rappoport 01580 211514.



WISHING YOU ALL A HISTORIC CHRISTMAS

Goudhurst & Kildown Local History Society sends best wishes to our members, meeting attendees, speakers, supporters, and to the readers of the Parish Magazine.

There isn't a meeting in January so we look forward to welcoming you to our 3rd February meeting when Alan Stockwell will reveal the barnstorming days of the "Kent theatre in the time of Jane Austen"



Some CLIMATE CHANGE IS HAPPENING
Pat Crawford provides the
HADLOW COLLEGE COMMENT AND ADVICE COLUMN

The debate about GM continues and now it's been joined by another contentious issue - 'fracking' – hydraulic fracturing. In the cases of both GM and fracking, the biggest problem for many people relates to fear that decisions will be made before the pros and cons have been explored sufficiently. And of course, 'money' – the making of – talks and cynics would say it has far too much influence on decisions.

Hydraulic fracturing, -'fracking' - is the process of drilling and injecting fluid into the ground at a high pressure to fracture shale rocks in order to release natural gas or oil. Most people would state they simply do not have sufficient information to make an objective decision 'for' or 'against' and obtaining unbiased advice isn't easy.

The CPRE (Campaign Protection Rural England) has produced the Kent Briefing Note which examines the case for shale gas and oil exploration in the Weald and East Kent.

<http://protectkent.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Shale-Gas-and-Oil-Weald-and-East-Kent-report-Oct-2014.pdf>

The document sets out to examine the subject comprehensively taking account of potential adverse impact and prospective benefits. The geology of the area is obviously the fundamental factor and the Briefing Note provides clear insight. The findings contained in the British Geological Survey (BGS) report published in May this year have also been taken into account.

The Institute of Environmental Health produced a Briefing Note in January 2013; Hydraulic Fracturing impacts on the Environment and Human Health

http://centrallobby.politicshome.com/fileadmin/epolitix/stakeholders/CIEH_Briefing_Note_on_Hydraulic_Fracturing_-_JAN_2013.pdf

and the Institution of Water and Environment Management made a Policy Statement in December 2013

[http://www.ciwem.org/policy-and-international/policy-position-statements/hydraulic-fracturing-\(fracking\)-of-shale-in-the-uk.aspx](http://www.ciwem.org/policy-and-international/policy-position-statements/hydraulic-fracturing-(fracking)-of-shale-in-the-uk.aspx)

21 October 2014 | Shale gas and fracking - Commons Library Standard Note SN06073
Authors: Mike Fell, Louise Smith, Matthew Keep, Edward White

Topic: Energy, Environmental protection, Oil, petrol and natural gas, Planning

The Queen's speech in 2014 confirmed Government plans to streamline the underground access regime and make it easier for companies to drill for shale gas. The Infrastructure Bill has been amended to provide this.

Goudhurst Village Pre-school



Happy New Year! And Happy Anniversary to us! Last January we opened with four children and three staff. Over what has been a fun-filled 2014, with trips to bluebell forests, sensory exploring on the discovery bus and Cheeky Monkey Go Ape shenanigans, we have welcomed lots more children and added new staff. We now have nearly 30 attendees and a tight-knit team of four, who make our setting a friendly, cosy and stimulating pre-school we are all extremely proud of. We are now open all day until 3.30 p.m. all week except Wednesday which is a morning session only. Thank you to everyone directly involved and for the community support that has helped engender such success.

A warm welcome to our new children, Naomi Smolinska, Florence Twyman, Evie Jeffrey, Macie Hudson and Rupert Sheffield. They will join our existing children to enjoy our 'Frozen' theme for the next couple of weeks when they will be making castles, frozen coloured balloons, snowmen and Olaf cupcakes. An ice sculpture will be available for the children to dig out hidden treasures from and we will be making a castle in the hall to play inside.

They will go on to learn about healthy living this month; the importance of exercise by having fun on homemade obstacle courses and some games/role play about dental care. We will also be cooking vegetable soup and making fruit pictures.

Towards the end of the month our Spanish assistant Jorge will be telling the children about his homeland; making the national flag, playing music with castanets and cooking tapas - yum!

We are hosting a Pamper Evening with refreshments in the village hall on Saturday February 28th. There will be masseuses, hair stylists, manicurists, reflexologists and a whole assortment of therapists at your disposal. More information can be found on our website. Come and indulge!

www.goudhurstvillagepreschool.co.uk
www.facebook.com/goudhurstvillagepreschool



GOUDHURST PARISH HALL NOTICES

Changes to Hire Charges.

On the 1st January 2015, some of the charges for hiring the Parish Hall will change. The revised rates will be :-

MAIN HALL :

Weekdays	09.00 - 18.00	£12.50 per hour.	Saturdays	£26 per hour
and Sundays	18.00 - 00.00	£17.50 per hour		£31 per hour
All Day	09.00 - 00.00	£200 per day		£365 per day

Jessel room : This small meeting room, which seats 26, can also be hired at £6 per hour (at all times). Full details of the changes and concessions for residents, clubs and other local organisations, can be found on the web site.

Changes to entrance key code.

Access to the Hall is via a key which is held by the Newsagents (located at the top of the High Street). This must be returned to the same location after hire. However when the Newsagent is closed, a spare key is retained in a key safe located to the right of the Hall's main entrance. The code for this will change on 1st January 2015 and regular hirers will be sent the new code by e-mail.

Hall Floor renovations.

Over the New Year it is hoped to re sand and re varnish the floor in the Main Hall. Access will therefore be limited during this period while the work is completed.

www.goudhurstvillagehll.co.uk

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY

1

5

6
G&K Primary School
Term Starts

7
Moby Dick's Fish & Chips
- Wednesday Evenings
on The Plain
Try Bell Ringing!
St Marys 7.30pm
2 courses for 2 special at
The Globe & Rainbow

8
Goudhurst Recorded Music Society
Sibelius – Life and Music
Church Room 7.45
Around the Globe –
Tapas evening at The
Globe & Rainbow (£7.50)

12

13
Goudhurst Tuesday Club
New Year's Dinner
Alpha Course
Starts in GPH

14
Drawing & Painting Course
Starts 2.30
Kilndown Village Hall
2 courses for 2 Special at
The Globe & Rainbow

15
Pizza Cucina
Thursday Evenings on
The Plain
Around the Globe –
Tapas evening at The
Globe & Rainbow

19

20
G&K Primary School
WOKSSA
Curling Event
Quilting Group
Quarry Centre
Every Tuesday am

21
University of the 3rd Age
"10 Men Brave and True"
VC Holders from Tunbridge
Wells Borough. 2.30pm
GPH
2 courses for 2 Special at
The Globe & Rainbow

22
G&K Primary School
WOKSSA
Swimming Gala
Around the Globe –
Tapas evening at The
Globe & Rainbow

26

27
Kids Tuesday Club
for 8-10's Church
Rooms weekly
Kettle Bell Classes
6pm Tuesdays KVH

28
Knitting Group Star & Eagle
10am weekly
2 courses for 2 Special at
The Globe & Rainbow

29

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

2

DOGKS

First Beers of 2015!

Fish Night at The Globe & Rainbow

3

Cranbrook Organ Day

Mechanical Organ demonstrations at Seymour's Avon Works

Taster Menu at The Globe & Rainbow

4

St Mary's

Family Service
10.45

9

Café Toddler @ St Mary's

Every Friday 9am

Fish Night at The Globe & Rainbow

10

Quarry Centre

Saturday Shop, every Saturday 9-12.

Taster Menu at The Globe & Rainbow

11

16

G&K Primary School

Year 3 Stone Age Day

Fish Night at The Globe & Rainbow

17

Taster Menu at The Globe & Rainbow

18

Café Church @ St Mary's

From 5.30pm

23

Fish Night at The Globe & Rainbow

24

Taster Menu at The Globe & Rainbow

25

St Mary's

Graham Kendrick at St Mary's - 10.45

30

G&K Primary School

Christingle Service

Fish Night at The Globe & Rainbow

31

dates may change!



WASTE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING

The Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Amenity Lorry (Cory) will be at these locations:

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

11 January 25 January 08 February

Kilndown, Beresford Close, 12 noon to 1.45 pm

25 January

Curtisdan Green, Outside Bethany School 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm

25 January

Please note that there will be no Amenity Lorry service on the weekends of 28 December and 04 January 2015.

This service is meant for the disposal of small household rubbish items. No trade waste please.

If you have large items for disposal such as bulky furniture, old cookers, washing machines and fridges, or potentially hazardous items, 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

Finchcocks – glass, cans, paper and cardboard

The Peacock – glass and textiles

Globe & Rainbow, Kilndown – glass and cans

Goudhurst & Kilndown CE Primary School (big yellow container) – clothing including socks and underwear, paired shoes, belts, handbags, soft toys, perfume, cosmetics, net curtains, towels and aprons. This facility is a school fund raiser.

Harpers Farm, Summerhill, Curtisdan Green – textiles and shoes
(a charity facility)

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

GOUDHURST PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

A Happy New Year for 2015.

There will be an election this year in Goudhurst and the rest of the country where many questions will be debated about our community, our country and the uncertain state of the world. Let us hope that when we look back at the end of the year the outcome is on the bright side.

This year, as a result of changes coming from central government, a number of local services previously financed through Tunbridge Wells Borough Council will be withdrawn unless locally funded by parishes. TWBC has decided to dispose of what it calls 'non-performing assets' and to put them up for public auction, unless Parish Councils are willing to take them on. This affects us in Goudhurst.

At the "conversation with the community" during the open meeting held in Goudhurst Parish Hall on 10th November, a number of current and future options and priorities for the village and their funding were discussed. The conversation included the continued availability of the Balcombes Hill Car Park and public toilets (on the TWBC list of non-performing assets), the de-silting of the Goudhurst pond, the acquisition of the Glebe Field from the Diocese, increased provision for the sports field and pavilion for the village, support for the scouts and funding of some highway safety options. As a priority, Goudhurst Parish Council voted on 8th December to take ownership of the Balcombes Hill Car Park and Public Toilets from 1st April 2015. It was a case of "take them or lose them"

Your Parish Council, in agreement with those who attended the open meeting, decided that to lose the car park would create even more congestion than there is at present in the village. And to lose the public toilets, since the Goudhurst conservation area is a popular tourist destination with visiting coaches and groups of walkers, was also considered unwelcome. However, we will take over the car park in a very poor state of repair. As a consequence, like many other parishes we acquire the asset but also the present and future maintenance. As readers will remember the Parish Council had plans to renovate our picturesque pond in Goudhurst in the coming year as it has become silted up, but this project is now postponed until 2017 at the earliest. Accordingly, Goudhurst Parish Council has announced an increase in their Council Tax precept for 2015-2016. The Parish element of the Council Tax bills for a Band D property will rise from £40.70 to £63.63, an increase of 56% (£0.44p per week).

On a more positive basis, as a result of pressure from GPC and neighbouring parishes, the Amenity Refuse Collection vehicle, also under imminent threat of withdrawal, will continue to be made available by TWBC for 2015/16 at the least.

2014 also brought changes, delays and some bizarre decisions in the planning system. GPC planning committee takes great care to review and comment on all planning applications that affect our parish before the official decisions are taken at Borough level or on appeal centrally. The final decisions are not ours. The power lies elsewhere. It is therefore

extremely disappointing when irreversible decisions are taken at Borough level that has real, long term and potentially negative impact on our community. Decisions that affect us but taken by those who do not live here. Your council is vigorous in representing its views to the Borough, its officers and the Borough Planning Committee. Whilst we cannot reverse some of the decisions made, it is extremely important that we continue to press our interest in the future and make sure we marshal our allies in other rural parishes where we can find them !

With all best wishes for 2015.

Alan, Angela, Antony, Barry, Clive, David,
Ed, Guy, John, Phil, Stephen & Tony

GOUDHURST PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Dates for forthcoming Parish Council meetings are:

Parish Council	Monday 12 January	7.30 pm	Jessel Room
Youth Committee	Thursday 22 January	8.00 pm	Goudhurst Scout Hut
Planning Committee	Tuesday 27 January	6.30 pm	Jessel Room
Amenities Committee	Tuesday 27 January	7.30 pm	Jessel Room
Parish Council	Monday 09 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

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The branch is most grateful to all who contributed as donors and collectors to the success of the 2014 Poppy Appeal which raised the magnificent sum of £11,000+. We are grateful, too, to those who have supported our acts of remembrance at the War Memorial to honour those who gave their lives in the Great War. The branch intends to continue these acts of remembrance until November 2018.

During 2015 we shall be commemorating the six soldiers from Goudhurst who fell at the battle of Loos in September 1915. Next year sees the centenary of the Gallipoli campaign, and it is planned to hold a major parade of British, Australian and New Zealand troops at the Cenotaph in Whitehall on 25th April with two Royal Marine bands, two Household Division bands and possibly a Turkish army band in attendance. It may be possible for descendants of those who served in Gallipoli to be accommodated in the main viewing enclosure; please contact me about this.

The next meeting of the branch will be at 2 30 pm on Monday 23rd February 2015 in the Star and Eagle.

Robin Mitchell
01580 212151

OLD PARSONAGE SURGERY

Patient Participation Group Newsletter No. 8

New members for Goudhurst PPG

The Goudhurst Surgery would like to warmly welcome the following new members to the Patient Participation Group:

- Mr Colin Samuel
- Mrs Julie Holliday

Contact details of the new members and those of the other members of the Committee can be located on the Old Parsonage Surgery noticeboard.

Training Days

The Surgery will be closed on Thursday 5th February 2015 for staff training.

Friends and Family Questionnaire

Please note that you may be asked to complete a "Friends and Family" Questionnaire on your next visit to the Old Parsonage Surgery and we would be very grateful if you were able to take a few moments to do this.

Vaccinations

The flu season is now upon us and it would be sensible for those who in high risk categories to come along to the Surgery for a flu vaccination. It would also be prudent for children aged 2,3 and 4 years of age to have a vaccination to protect them from infection.

Does your child require his or her pre-school booster MMR vaccination? Please contact the surgery, if you are a patient who is aware that their child needs an updated vaccination so that the necessary appointment can be made.

Likewise, if you are a parent with University aged children, you should be aware that most Universities require their students to have had both an MMR vaccination and a Meningitis C vaccination. If your child does attend University and requires these vaccinations, they should make an appointment as soon as possible with the Surgery staff.

Shingles

A shingles vaccination is now available to some patients of the surgery who are aged 70, 78 and 79. Please check with the Receptionist on your next visit to the Surgery if you are any of the above ages and feel that you may require the vaccination.

List Cleansing

Kent Primary Care Agency have informed us that they will be writing to a percentage of our patients asking if they are still living at the address that we hold for them. Please note that if you do not reply to the letter you receive you will be removed from our list.

Minor Injuries

Dr Pace and Dr Watson have asked that should any patient require urgent treatment for a minor injury during practice opening hours, they should, in the first instance, come to the Surgery where it will be dealt with by either themselves or the Practice Nurse. This is to lessen the load on the local hospital accident and emergency departments, which are always extremely, busy, especially at this time of the year.

Redecoration of Practice Waiting Area

Over the next year, patients will notice that the Practice Waiting Area is being redecorated. This is being undertaken in accordance with NHS regulations. The redecoration will be mainly taking place at weekends or when a member of staff is on annual leave and will not encroach on patient access to the Surgery or to Practice staff. The improvements will be beneficial to all patients.



THE QUARRY CENTRE

As we go into 2015, and the Quarry Centre building will see its 135th Anniversary in December, thoughts will have to turn to Fund Raising (don't groan) but we cannot put it off any longer - the outside of the building needs attention. Nothing has been put to paper yet, but worry not, it soon will! The Quarry Centre QC Club will not operate in 2015, thank you to all who supported that enterprise, the monthly raffles will be reinstated starting on January 3, so don't forget to buy tickets.

Now the overflow freezer is nearly empty, we can put 'plan b' into action, which is to offer more in the way of frozen goods and add fish to the range. For those of you that have got used to buying Chef Neil's pies and other treats, we are in consultation (as they say) to get supplies when he and Rachel leave the Globe and Rainbow at the end of the month, and this is where we say THANK YOU to them, for all the help they have given over the past ten years, such as taking in our deliveries, donating prizes, selling various bits and bobs – What are we going to do? Hopefully some arrangements can be made regarding deliveries, otherwise we may have a grand problem!

Lynda and Richard

COVER PICTURE

The photograph on the front cover is of one of the decorations made as a demonstration at the Kilndown Gardening Club December meeting. See page 13 for more details.