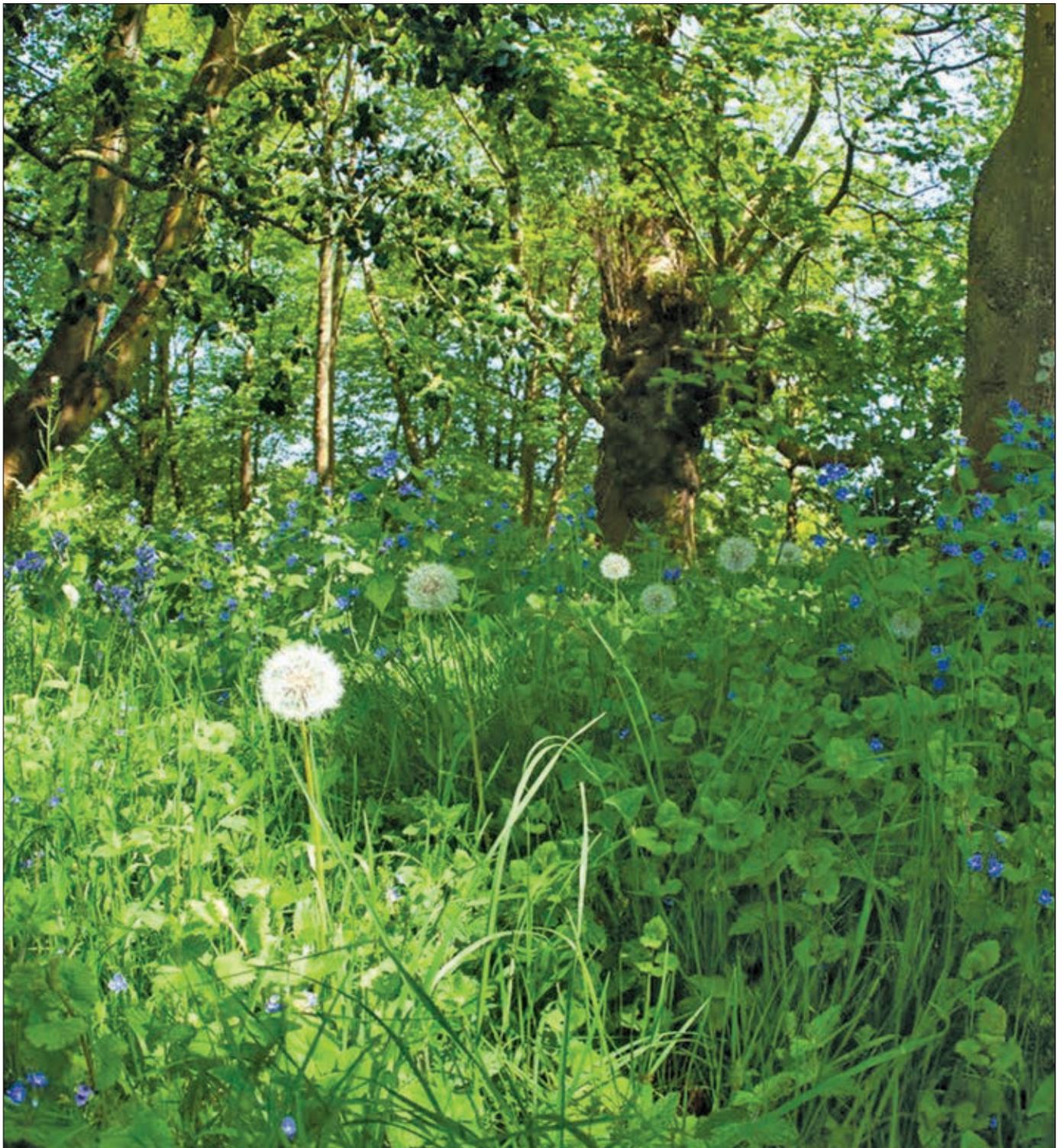


Rolvenden & Newenden *Parish Magazine*

2024
MAY
ONLINE





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Minister's Letter for May

Hello Everyone!

You've heard the Christmas story and the Easter story, but there is a third story that does not get as much attention these days, no cards, no presents and it's even lost its Bank Holiday. That was called Whitsun. But let me tell you about Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended like tongues of fire on the disciples and drove them out into the Jerusalem street, into the morning throng of foreign visitors, praising God in many different languages.



I wonder what it feels like to be called drunk at nine o'clock in the morning? It's probably not something that we've been accused of since those heady far-off days of student excess. But that was how some people described Jesus' disciples at the first Pentecost, according to Luke. Those days, running from the Crucifixion to the Ascension and then on to Pentecost itself, were quite simply extraordinary. And now along came the Holy Spirit, leaving the disciples reeling.

What the disciples didn't understand is that the coming of the Holy Spirit would close one door – the earthly life and ministry of Jesus – but, more importantly, open another – the empowering of a new and unsteady little gathering of believers in Jesus who will give birth to a church which will spread throughout the world. As T.S. Eliot would later put it, 'In my end is my beginning.' The end of one era would give rise to the beginning of another. The Spirit is everywhere. In every act of worship, in every baptism, wedding and funeral, in every blessing. In every act of kindness towards the dispossessed and homeless. In the doggedness of church ministers, who continue, through thick and thin, to proclaim the gospel. In the lives of Christians in secular employment, who remain true to Christian values, sometimes against the odds. In the darkest places of the world, where all hope appears to be lost, caught so poignantly in the inscription on the walls of a Nazi concentration camp in the 1940s:

I believe in the sun even when it is not shining.

I believe in love even when I cannot feel it.

believe in God, even when he is silent.

The Spirit is, as Jesus promised, the one who helps us, fortifies us, and empowers us to continue our Christian journey. The Spirit is our Advocate, our





Counsellor, our Comforter, our teacher, the one who sets us apart to act as witnesses to God's unending love and care for the world he has created. The Spirit is perhaps the greatest gift of God to his Church, indeed a foundation stone of that church to which it gave birth. So we should embrace it! Give thanks for it! Allow it to fill our lives with optimism and hope, even when the going gets tough.

With every good wish

Lindsay



St Peter and St Mary Flower Rotas April 2024

Sunday	St Mary	St Peter
May 05	B/Blessing Flowers	Caroline Anderson Jones
May 05	Sylvia K	Caroline Anderson Jones
May 05	Elizabeth M	Rosie Edmonds
May 05	Elizabeth M	Rosie Edmonds
Contact:	Sylvia Kellett 01580 240463 Sylviakellett@eplusmail.com	Rosie Edmonds 01797 252196 rosie.edmonds@hotmail.com
Brass Cleaning at St Mary: Peggy Speed		

St. Peter's Church: normally open between 10.00 and 5.00pm. If you need access outside of these times, please contact Frances Jones or Rosie Edmonds. Should arrangers be unable to do any slots please swap with someone else and let Rosie know.

Thank you to all arrangers in St Peter's and St Mary's for the lovely Easter Flowers in church.

❖ From the Registers ❖

Funeral

12th March – Christine Linley Roberts at Hastings Crematorium





Parkinson's Cafe in Tenterden Kent

Parkinson's cafes are venues for people with Parkinson's Disease (PD), and their carers / families, to get together and provide support for each other. The support can be provided in different ways:

- Create opportunities to chat, share worries and experiences
- Discuss specific topics with an invited guest speaker, such as a specialist health professional or complementary therapist
- Share literature from Parkinson's UK charity for updates on research
- Organise social and fund-raising events

There are over 365 local groups in the UK, supported by Parkinson's UK charity. The main aim is to promote health and well-being; provide emotional and practical support to those affected by PD.

Our Tenterden support group meet every third Monday of each month, from 10:30-12 noon at the EC30 Cafe in Recreation Road in Tenterden. The group is supported by the following volunteers:



Christine and Carol, two of our volunteers

1. Christine Endersby started the Tenterden support group 6 years ago. She also volunteers for the Ashford group. Her husband has had PD for over 19 years and he is now at a stage when he requires full-time care. She is examining the options and has to decide whether to continue nursing him at home or to find a suitable residential care facility

2. Carol Parsons has been a volunteer for the past 2 years at Tenterden. Her husband passed away from PD in 2021 at the age of 79. He had

Parkinson's for 17 years and enjoyed coming to the Tenterden cafe, as well as the music group in Ashford. Carol is fully retired from her job in education. She is now a secondary school governor and enjoys travelling and keeping fit on the tennis court, Pilates and gardening

3. Sue Cox has known Christine and her husband David for quite a few years and has been happy and willing in her own small way to help out at a variety of Parkinson's activities ranging from sponsored walks, assisting at tea parties and Christmas lunches, distributing leaflets and even cream teas during Covid. She enjoys the coffee morning sessions at EC30 very much, listening and chatting to all those who attend

4. Carroll Siu has recently joined the Tenterden group. She also helps with the support group in Battle. She was diagnosed with PD in 2015 and volunteers for Parkinson's UK charity on various committees. She is chair of the Southeast England Parkinson's Research Interest Group. Her interest in research stems from her teaching role as a lecturer in research methodology before she took early retirement in 2009. She recently discovered Chinese brush painting and sings in a local choir

Christine produces a monthly newsletter, which gives us update of news from both the Tenterden and Ashford Parkinson's support groups. This is emailed to all members.

If you are interested in joining us, please do not hesitate to drop in at our monthly meetings. Further information about both support groups is available by emailing Christine at mim.londonbeach@gmail.com

Carroll Siu



The Church of England

IN TENTERDEN, ROTHER AND OXNEY SERVICES
IN CHURCH AND ONLINE DURING MAY

Sunday 5th May: Sixth Sunday of Easter

9.30am St Peter's Newenden
The Eucharist

6pm Choral Evensong Tenterden Live streamed and online thereafter

Thursday 9th May: Ascension Day

7pm The Eucharist of Ascension Day (Tenterden): LS

Sunday 12th May: Seventh Sunday of Easter and Bell Sunday

9:30am St Peter's Newenden
The Eucharist

6pm Sung Evensong (Tenterden): Live streamed and online thereafter

Sunday 19th May: Pentecost

9.30am St Peter's Newenden
The Eucharist

2pm Forest Church in St Mary's churchyard

6pm Choral Evensong (Tenterden): Live streamed and online thereafter

Sunday 26th May: Trinity Sunday

9.30am St Peter's Newenden
Celtic Morning Prayer

6pm Ecumenical Evening Service (Venue TBA)

8am St Mary's Rolvenden

Holy Communion

11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden

Celtic Morning Prayer

11am St Mary's Rolvenden

The Eucharist

11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden

Matins

11am St Mary's Rolvenden

The Eucharist

And services during the week

Morning Prayer will be said Monday to Friday at 9am except on Wednesday, when it is said at 8am, all in Tenterden Church.

This service will not appear online.

Beginning the Day with God

A ten-minute reflective service, ***online only*** from Monday to Saturday.

Ending the Day with God

A ten-minute reflective service, ***online only*** from Monday to Saturday.

Holy Communion

Will be celebrated at St Michael's every Wednesday, and at Tenterden every Thursday. Both celebrations will begin at 10am, and last about twenty-five minutes

These services will not appear online.

To access our daily online worship, visit: **YouTube** St Mildred's, Tenterden
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBAbfTcsSiiq4HALM0GRdWg>

Online services, can also be accessed through the daily bulletin, **Connect Up!**

To receive Connect Up!

please visit our website: www.tentroxchurches.co.uk

Forthcoming Date to Note: Archdeacon's Visitation

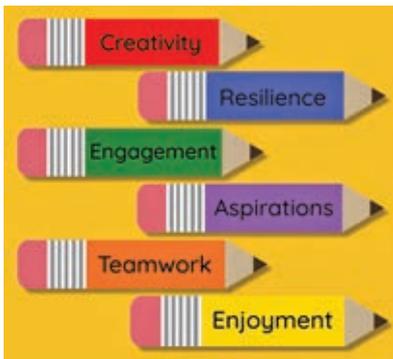
Monday 3rd June 2024 – 7:30pm – St Mildreds

This is the service at which Churchwardens are admitted to their office following the APCM at which they have been elected or re-elected.

PCC members are also recognised during this service. Good for them to also attend.



Rolvenden Primary School - Our Values



In our village school, we live by a set of values that shape the children's educational journey. These six values are threaded through everything that we do at Rolvenden Primary School and are prominently displayed on our website and all external signage. The values which form the acronym CREATE and are the guiding principles that we intend all children to develop during their time at our school. In order of the acronym, they are Creativity, Resilience, Engagement, Aspirations,

Teamwork and Enjoyment.

Creativity sparks imagination and innovation, encouraging students to think outside the box and express themselves uniquely. Resilience instils the strength to overcome challenges and persevere in the face of adversity, preparing students for life's ups and downs. Engagement promotes active participation and curiosity, igniting a passion for learning that extends beyond the classroom. Aspirations fuel dreams and ambitions, motivating students to set goals and strive for excellence. Teamwork cultivates collaboration and cooperation, nurturing strong interpersonal skills essential for success in an increasingly connected world. Finally, enjoyment celebrates the joy of learning, making each day at school an enriching experience.

Every Friday, during our assembly, we celebrate these values by awarding tokens for 'Books of Brilliance'. The staff nominate one child in each class who has exemplified our values throughout the week. With these tokens, students can choose a book from our vending machine and also receive a delicious hot chocolate from our vending machine. This tradition not only reinforces our values but also fosters a sense of achievement as well as promoting a 'Love of Reading', encouraging them to continue embodying the spirit of CREATE in all that they do.

Ben Vincer, Head Teacher



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Bell Sunday

Church Bells

Every year a Sunday is dedicated to a celebration of the contribution made by bell ringers to the life of the church, and to acknowledge the part that bells play in worship and community life all the year round.

This year Bell Sunday falls on 12th May 2024. Bell Sunday is always kept on a Sunday close to the feast of St Dunstan, known as the patron saint of bell ringers because of his experimentation in the early forging of bells in the 900s and his encouragement of the use of bells in parish churches.



Some of our ringers at a Flower Festival

The church bell ringers at St. Mary's, Rolvenden, are hoping to ring for the Morning Service as we try to do every week. There are only five of us at present and we would be delighted to welcome anyone who can ring to join us. Ringing will start at 10.15am for forty-five minutes. The service will have a bell ringing theme and starts at 11.00am. Anyone who would like to learn to ring or is just curious to know what the ringers do in the ringing chamber can climb up the spiral staircase to the first floor and a demonstration will

be given along with the chance to 'chime' a bell under supervision. It takes several months to be able to actually ring a bell in the English Method but if anyone is keen to learn then our practice night on Monday evenings from 7.30 until 9.00pm is the time to achieve that. It would be lovely to hear the bells of St. Mary's, Rolvenden, ring out once more with all eight bells being rung by mainly those living in or around Rolvenden. Come and see what it is all about.

Hand Bells

If ringing church bells is not for you then why not have a go at ringing hand bells. After the Service, the Rolvenden Hand bell Ringers will be playing some well-known tunes in the body of the church. We are an amateur group of six of us when all present, and we are still very much at the learning stage! After a few words of guidance you will have the opportunity to have a ring if you wish and join in with a tune or two. Our practice afternoon is Thursday from 1.30 to 3.00pm. As a group we have fun, laugh at our mistakes but promise to try better next time, and generally enjoy ourselves. What could be better?

We are planning to give a short demonstration of the handbells after the service on 12th May. If you want to know more we will be very happy to chat over coffee. *Mrs. Linda Smith, Tower Captain*



Rolvenden Gardening Society



Spring Show 2024



Rolvenden Gardening Society held their Spring Show in Rolvenden village hall on Saturday, 16th. March. Everyone agreed that climate change had taken a hand this year with many blooms out much earlier and, because the winter had been so mild, the flowers were glorious and made for a truly spectacular sight.

As you entered the hall, you were greeted by the beautiful displays of pot after pot of wonderful daffodils and, as you walked around the hall, you were made aware of the variety of blooms which could be seen on display. In total at this show, there were 178 entries from 26 members, our highest number since Spring 2017, and an average of 6 entries per class.

Apart from the daffodils, there were several entries of hellebores, grape hyacinths, hyacinths, greenery and shrubs. The judge had been so impressed by the 9 beautiful camellia entries, that he had taken a photo of them and remarked that they were the best camellia display he had ever seen!

The preschool had entered the 2 classes:- a Spring arrangement in a milk bottle, which were all very original, and the potato prints. It was encouraging to see such good support from the preschool and we thank them for entering. 3 older children also entered in their age group.

There were several entries in the cookery section, with all classes being entered. Congratulations to Luigi Serra who won the men's cookery with his almond macarons.



Good support was given to the vegetable classes too. Congratulations to Ashley Bradshaw for the 3 amazing leeks he had grown and which won him a first place. Maureen Brooks won the floral display and Hazel Beaney won the arrangement of Spring flowers and foliage judged by popular vote.

Tony Abrahams, our new chairman, announced the winners from each section and called out the raffle numbers and then thanked everyone for attending. It was pleasing to see so many people looking at the exhibits and then enjoying a cup of tea and a chat with friends. We value your support.

Thank you to Jean and Ian Clifton who ran the raffle. It made £160 for the funds. Thank you to Sue Clout for her hard work as Show Secretary, all the committee members for their help and to the ladies who made the tea. It had been an amazing day.



Prize winners for the children’s section:-

Floral arrangement- 1st. Harriet; 2nd. Bert; 3rd. Hunter.
 Potato prints- 1st. Arthur R. 2nd. Charlotte; 3rd. Bert.

Older children:-

Floral arrangement :- 1st. Daisy Tompsett; 2nd. Zara Tompsett.
 Potato prints:- 1st. Zara Tompsett; 2nd. Paddy Tompsett.

Adult prize winners of a certificate were:-

1st. Michael Clout with 6 Firsts, 4 Seconds, 1 third.
 2nd. Tina Tompsett with 5 Firsts, 4 Seconds, 4 Thirds.
 3rd. Jean Clifton with 4 Firsts, 5 Seconds, 2 Thirds.

Future events:-

15th. June is our Summer Show.
 19th. June is a visit to Godinton House to see the Delphinium Festival.
 Keep a lookout for information about this outing.

Maralyn Button

R	I	N
D	A	B
E	R	F

Get those little grey cells working
 See how many words you can make out of these 9 letters.
Two rules: Only use each letter once in a word and you must use the middle one.



Rolvenden Clock 200 - Project Start!

Since we last reported to you in the February issue of the magazine, we have been through the process of applying for our faculty for the clock restoration project from the Church of England. A faculty is a legal permission from the C of E to go ahead with all types of work on a church building. This control measure is in place to ensure that all contractor procedures are carefully assessed in advance of and during the church project, to protect the ancient history of the building and in most cases its Grade 1 listed status.

The Diocesan Advisory Committee were very supportive of our clock restoration project and we are pleased to announce that our faculty has now been approved!

Cumbria Clock Company are the contractors that we selected for the job and they confirm the work will start soon. The date will be widely publicised! The first stage of the job will be to remove the clock hands and then lower the clock face to the ground. This will be done by a rope access abseiling team, so no scaffolding will be required.

The cage clock mechanism and dial motion mechanism will be dismantled in the tower clock chamber and the parts removed from the church for transport. Everything will then be moved to the Cumbria Clock Company workshop in Penrith where the clock mechanisms will be fully repaired, serviced and re-built. The clock face and hands will be fully prepared and re-painted to the correct colours and the numbers will be freshly re-gilded in gold leaf.

So, we are in exciting times! I will be travelling up to the Cumbria Clock Company to observe the work being carried out so I can report back to you with how it's all going. We are looking at about an eight-week turnaround. Thank you again to all of you in the village who so generously supported our fundraising campaign. The village will soon have the clock chimes back as part of our daily lives.

*With Love in Christ,
Tim Cole - Church Warden*



Rolvenden Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday 23 May

19:00

St Mary's, Rolvenden

by kind permission of Rev Lindsay Hammond

Your opportunity to hear reports from The Parish Council and many village bodies, associations and clubs.

If you represent a club or village body that has not already been approached, and would like to speak for max 3 minutes to report on activities, please register with the clerk.

All enquiries to Rolvenden Parish Council: rolvendenclerk@gmail.com

The Role of the Parish Clerk explored

The clerk is the council's chief officer, working for a local council serving a local community. The health and wellbeing of the local community is at the heart of everything a clerk does and the clerk is a vital asset to the council.

The clerk:

- Advises the council on legal matters
- Administers the council's finances
- Organises the council's procedures
- Gathers information to help the council make decisions
- Raises the profile of the council in the local community
- Guides the council as it engages with its residents
- Negotiates with other organisations
- Implements the council's decisions
- Manages the council's projects

It is a professional role requiring specialist knowledge and a range of skills. The clerk is employed by the council to manage its activities and provide administrative assistance and sound advice.

The Society of Local Council Clerks, as the professional body for local council clerks and senior council employees, ensures that their members are equipped with the necessary knowledge, training and skills to thrive within their role and best support their council and community.

Many councils understand the benefit of having a clerk who is trained, qualified and fully briefed on current issues within the sector and able to access accurate advice quickly.



Weather and Nature Notes

March went out as it came in, showery. I recorded 100mm (4") of rain. The Easter weekend started rather windy and chilly, but Easter Sunday was very nice for most of the day. April is continuing the showery theme, wind has often featured in the weather this year. As I write in mid-April, we are already on the letter K of named storms. During any drier spell the sound of lawn mowers are everywhere as the grass is growing at quite a pace. This is good news for farmers with animals to put out to graze, however some fields are just lying too wet for animals to go on to yet. The first weekend in April saw the warmest temperatures of the year which brought out some more insect life: the first holly blue and speckled wood butterflies of the year in my garden, along with the odd peacock and small tortoiseshell that have been appearing on milder days for a while, also the first emerging large red damselflies from my little pond. Various species of hoverflies, solitary bees, ladybirds and spiders to name a few are all to be found sunning on my insect magnet patch of stinging nettles. We have since had some other warm days when I saw my first returning swallows of the year.

With this fickle weather the warmest sheltered spot in the garden is inside my composter, where slow worms are staying in a tangled ball together, impossible to count. Recently woken from their hibernation this is a warm safe place from predators, with a good supply of food. The other warm spot is in the greenhouse, where seedlings pricked out recently are growing well and will soon out-grow the pots they are in and shelf space I have. It is amazing how a tiny often dust-like seed can grow into a large plant in a matter of weeks



producing crops like courgettes for example or beautiful flowers.

Here we are in mid Spring, all the tree leaves unfurling, plenty of blossom adorns the hedgerows, orchards and cherry trees. Herbaceous plants in the garden are burgeoning. Early bulbs like daffodils are past their best and tulips are becoming the stars. With so many fabulous varieties, whether you prefer pastels or vivid colours, how could you choose a favourite? If you want them to flower every year with some reliability, you need to choose the wild species types or closely related ones. They like a dry "Summer bake" and do not like soggy ground. The huge red or yellow goblet flowers of the Apeldoorn types are lovely and flower every Spring, but generally it is recommended to treat them as an annual and buy new bulbs each year if a guaranteed flamboyant display is important to you. Rather than throw healthy bulbs away, try planting them in a wild grass meadow amongst other wildflowers. If they flower it looks good and if they don't, other plants will disguise it.

It is nice to see the verges coming to life with a few flowers, garlic mustard, primroses and milk maids etc. Travelling up Maytham Road from the Layne on either side of the road carpets of glowing golden celandines dominate, shining in the sunshine rather like a landing strip illuminating the way. A cheery early verge-side plant, but it can quickly become a nuisance in a border. Many years ago, when I was little, my Father would take me for walks and point out plants and wildlife to me. I always look every year in the same places in hope that some periwinkles still grow "here" and some violets still grow "there" and by some miracle, some still do after all this time, albeit in small numbers. I expect he knew them growing there when he was a child which would mean they have survived for over a century. The further back you go the more likely there would have been plenty more of them too. It is in the post war years we have lost the most wildflowers. Unfortunately, they don't seem to spread but at least they hang on in there for another year probably going un-noticed by 99% of passersby. Verges are valuable for wildlife, unfortunately these days they are littered with more death trap rubbish for small creatures than varieties of plants and mostly mown too early with the cuttings left, the withering thatch of plant material fertilizes the soil which encourages fast growing grass mostly to dominate, reducing the variety of wildflowers and the more delicate plants disappear.

I have three small ponds, but frogs prefer the one which is the smallest, about 3ft by 2ft with plenty of pond weed. Over the last week as the temperatures have risen each day my frog count rises, at its peak there were thirteen common frogs of varying sizes basking in the sunshine in this tiny pool. They appear each year at this time, then as quickly as they appeared they have dispersed, hopefully into the wider garden to eat slugs etc. I don't seem to get breeding size frogs that spawn, but smaller visitors now, and also during hot dry spells when food is probably harder to find.

Hazel Beaney



Rolvenden History Group

Friday, 3 May 2024

The Lavell Collection of Old Postcards of Rolvenden

A tour of the village and through time



The late Eric Lavell was an ardent collector of postcards of Rolvenden. The collection now belongs to the village and provides a fascinating record of Rolvenden as it was, and mostly still is. This will provide an overview of the collection.

The AGM will be held immediately beforehand at 7pm.

Venue: St Mary's Church, Rolvenden

Coffee and biscuits

7.15pm for 7.30pm start for lecture

Everyone welcome - Non-members: £4

<https://therolvendenhistorygroup.wordpress.com/>



Mystery solved!

RB 261 declared an imposter by the Keeper of the Flock!

There was one fact that couldn't be checked until the clocks changed and it was time to let the light into the dark place so that the Flock could start to come out of the winter sleep and commence its preparation for the Big Event of 2024. The Keeper has done that check. He saw immediately that the RB 261 was from a different flock, in fact probably a different species, although both are of the genus *anas ductilis*, from the breeding grounds of the great motherland of China. A careful search through our band of 600 sleepy ducks soon revealed our own 261, all yellow and proudly numbered on his nether regions.

From the start of this saga, I have had a niggly thought that this chap comes from a flock that drifts further upstream. I could not accept that one of ours would have made it unaided through the bridge against the natural flow of the river. And numbering was not necessarily going to be the clincher. We humans, with typical lack of imagination, are likely to use the same style and technique when applying the unique identifiers. Numbering is rather institutional, but finding 600 different names short enough to write on the available space ...well you can see why flocks get numbered.

The final challenge is to return RB261 to his own flock. Given the amount of water in the river over the last months, he could have come from Bodiam or even well beyond. For fear of cultural contamination, the visitor is being kept separate and to avoid any confusion, or even the need for a steward's enquiry, he will never enter the river with our flock. But we really want to get him home. A social media search has been launched from the Newenden Community Facebook page in the hopes that RB261's photo will be circulated amongst the up-stream villages and someone will claim him.

Now, I am back to the familiar function of a Duck Correspondent, publicising the Annual Big Event, The Newenden Duck Race. This year it will be held during the August Bank Holiday weekend and the first chance people will have to buy a duck or two will be the Newenden Fair coming up on 22nd June. (Rolvenden Readers will be pleased to know that Judy V will be offering Ducks in Rolvenden – there is no escape!) *Special Duck Correspondent*



NEWENDEN

NOTES



This month Jane and Anthony sit down with Lauren Dodson



Lauren was appointed Clerk to Newenden Parish Council in November 2023. She lives in Beckley with her husband and their two children, aged 10 and 12. Lauren was born in Croydon. It was a planned home delivery, but the midwife was late and so Lauren's father had to stand in. The family moved to Blindley Heath, Surrey when Lauren was 2 years old. Unfortunately, her parents split up a few years later. Lauren, her elder sister, Alison, and their mother moved to Hurst Green, Surrey. Both sisters attended Oxted County School where Lauren discovered her interest in Natural Sciences. She did her first degree in Biological Sciences at the University of Plymouth, then on to Bristol University to obtain a M.Sc., specialising in Crop Protection. She was accepted to do a PhD at the Natural Resources Institute, now part of Greenwich University, to develop a biological control for crown rot in bananas. She carried out three years of research, including conducting trials in Honduras, but failed to complete her thesis before the funding ran out.

She took a job as a Horticultural Marketing Inspector with the then Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. This led to various policy development roles in the civil service, initially at Defra (the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) and latterly the Department for Education where Lauren enjoyed working closely with local authorities to improve Children's Social Care. It was around this time that Lauren met Tim, who had recently been widowed. They married in 2010 and lived for a while in Brixton with Tim's young son, Leon. Although they enjoyed London life, they wanted a different, safer environment for Leon as he grew up. In 2011, when he was 11, they moved to Beckley and Leon started at Battle Abbey School. Leon is now an adult and has left home. Lauren and Tim have had two children together. Arthur has recently



started at Rye College, where he is very happy, and Florence loves Beckley Primary School. They have two dogs, a cat, three chickens and Florence keeps tropical fish.

Lauren became a member of Beckley Parish Council in 2015 and was chair in 2018-19. She enjoyed working with her fellow Councillors to raise the funds needed to revamp Beckley play park. She believes passionately that in small rural communities people need to get involved in local affairs, otherwise nothing gets done. She enjoys cooking and gardening and is a keen member of the Beckley Horticultural Society. Tim grows fruit and vegetables and they both like to enter the seasonal shows. In Jubilee year, Lauren was delighted to win "best in show" for her Platinum Pudding! Lauren is also a Trustee of the Beckley Village Hall committee and an active member of Beckley school's PTA.

In late 2021, Lauren was diagnosed with breast cancer. Tim had recently retired so was to be able to help with the children while Lauren was going through active treatment. She feels very fortunate to have had such a supportive partner to help her through this life-changing illness. Treatment involved a lumpectomy at Eastbourne Hospital, chemotherapy at the Conquest and radiotherapy back at Eastbourne. She still has to take hormone therapy which will continue for another 8 years. Losing all her hair was particularly tough for Lauren but she quickly got used to wearing head scarves, which she felt suited her much better than the wigs she was offered. Lauren cannot speak highly enough of the treatment and care offered by the NHS and is now on a trial, run by the Royal Marsden Hospital, to monitor her blood every three months in the hope of helping to advance cancer research but also pick up any recurrence as early as possible. Her hair has grown back, full and lustrous, and she is once again active and energetic. She has become a public health awareness volunteer for the charity Breast Cancer Now (BCN), giving talks to work and community groups to raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of breast cancer. She also looks after the BCN publication stands at Eastbourne Hospital and feels extremely blessed to have caught her cancer early enough to make a full recovery.

Lauren was given the opportunity to apply for voluntary redundancy from the civil service last year, an offer she felt came at just the right time. She has recently started work on her first children's book, but she'd rather not tell us what it's about just yet.

Lauren is enjoying her job as Clerk to the Parish Council in Newenden. She likes the fact that council meetings are well attended and that there is such a strong community sense in the village. The church is not ideal for council meetings. She can't wait for the village hall to be completed so that the meetings can be held there, with a proper table for her papers! She would like to give her breast cancer awareness talk to the village as soon as the hall is up and running.

Newenden is fortunate indeed to have such a positive, well informed, and enthusiastic clerk for our parish council. **Anthony Dawson**



Lavinia is taking a sabbatical. She will be back, but in the meantime we are looking for articles or anecdotes with a food theme. It could be a memorable meal cooked or consumed, fascinating/different food found abroad, from your veg patch to the table (and when it works and when it doesn't go so well). Those are just a few suggestions. You may have other ideas. If there is a thought that will become 300 to 500 words - wonderful. Here is the first item with thanks to Sally.

FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD!

Tale of an Oxtail



Last week we bought a piece of beef at the butchers for Sunday roast. While there, I spied hiding behind a substantial joint, an oxtail.

Oxtail used to be a meat that was sold for next to nothing many years ago, but now under the influence of celebrity chefs, its price has increased rapidly. So rather trepidatiously, I asked, "How much?" and was rewarded with a nowadays 'reasonable' price.

The other night we ate said oxtail, using my mother's simple casserole recipe. I had forgotten how tasty it was. Delicious and absolutely essential to suck every last bit of the meat from the bones using your fingers. *So here it is:-*

OXTAIL CASSEROLE

1 oxtail (cut up)

2-3 sliced medium onions

30 grams plain flour

400ml beef stock

2 carrots sliced

2 teaspoons lemon juice

1 bay leaf

Mixed herbs

salt, pepper to taste



- Warm oven to 150c/130c fan.
- Fry oxtail in some oil until golden brown.
Place in casserole.
- Fry onions, sprinkled with flour, cook until brown.
Add stock gradually and bring to boil.
Add herbs, carrots, bay leaf, lemon juice and seasoning.
Pour over meat.
- Cover. Cook in oven 2 1/2 to 3 hours. Apparently, about 45mins in a pressure cooker.
Eat with mash and greens - and don't forget to suck those bones!

Sally Sawyer



NSPCC Quiz Night

Saturday 23rd March

The NSPCC Quiz Night held in the village hall on Saturday, 23rd. March was a very successful evening and a "sell out", with 16 teams and 100 players taking part. The questions set by Peter and Tina Garrott were challenging but fun to answer.

The total money raised after expenses was £1,175 including £234 taken on the raffle. This amount will be invaluable in the work of the NSPCC. Thank you to all who supported the evening or generously gave raffle prizes or cash donations.

However, our biggest thanks go to Peter and Tina who did an outstanding job and allowed the evening to run smoothly. Everyone had ---a great time!

Maralyn Button



Rolvenden Pre-School News

Over the Easter holidays two of our lovely mums came to pre-school to tidy the garden - they did a great job making it look inviting and ready for the children to enjoy on their return for the summer term. Thank you Kirsty and Tasha!

We have also welcomed a new volunteer to the pre-school - Liz will be coming to play every week and we are really pleased to have her with us. It makes such a difference to the staff and children to receive help from our local community and we feel very grateful for it, we hope that those helping us also enjoy doing it.

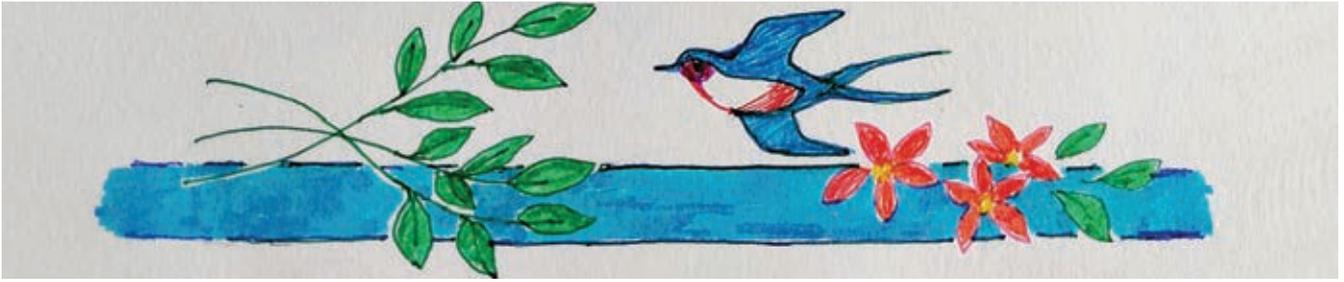
We will also be strengthening our links with Rolvenden Primary School this term by taking the children over to visit the Reception class. They really enjoy these visits and get a lot out of their time spent exploring the school environment with the older children.

Another exciting activity for this term is a weekly yoga session - yoga has always been popular with this group and we hope they will benefit from the guidance of a professional yoga teacher.

This is such a bright and hopeful time of year and we encourage you all to explore new things, get out and about and get involved in your local community.

*facebook@rolvendenpreschool
or email us on rolvendenps@gmail.com.*





Friends of Newenden Meadow Meeting

Friday 31st May 2024

We are delighted to announce the launch of the Friends of Newenden Meadow at a meeting on Friday 31st May, 2024 at 7pm to be held in St Peter's, to which everyone is invited.

The Friends have been created to support the work we are doing in the Selmes Field Meadow restoration project. We will be holding meetings and publishing regular updates on what is happening, growing, and living in the meadow. There will be an annual summer event in the field and organised walks with experts on various insects, flowers, birds and animals that live in, and visit the field. These events will be for adults and children alike.

The Friends will be a welcoming group who care about nature and their surroundings, and will work to improve habitat for wildlife within the village of Newenden, focusing on the Selmes Field. Subscription will be £10 annually per person, children are free. *Please do come along and support us at the launch of the Friends, at our first meeting on May 31st.* Jillian Eldridge

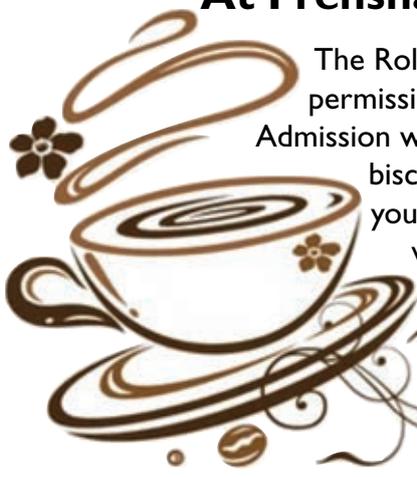
NSPCC

COFFEE MORNING

Saturday, 18th. May, 2024

From 10:30am

At Frensham Manor, Rolvenden Layne



The Rolvenden NSPCC Committee are most grateful for the kind permission of Mr. & Mrs. Rob Pursey to hold this event at Frensham. Admission will be £5 which will include a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits. There will be a raffle and cake, book and plant stalls. If you feel you would like to donate to any of these on the day, we would be grateful.

We are very fortunate to be given the opportunity to use this garden for such a worthwhile cause and hope that you can join us.

Now we just have to organise a fine day...! Maralyn Button



2024 Ewe and Lamb Stoolball Tournament

Monday 27th May
Play on the Layne Field
Beer and Barbeque at the Ewe and Lamb



Three team captains have volunteered. They need three teams of mixed gender, 5 of one and 6 of the other to give a balanced game. Ken is in discussions with potential second umpires. A score book has been ordered. Now we need people to use it on the day. Anyone who has acted as the scorer for a cricket team would be on familiar territory, always remembering that there are 8 balls to the over in stoolball. If you are a scorer please get in touch with Ken or Elsie. Elsie has the catering arrangements well in hand. All that is needed now is the weather.

And a brief bit of bigger picture gazing:
The Stoolball Trophy was part of the first year of the restored Ewie under Elsie and George. The first birthday of this wonderful arrangement was celebrated in March we have been given permission to share the delightful unique card marking the first year given to George and Elsie by Michele of Bespoke by Brushstrokes.





The Star is Working Community Magic again!

>>THE MUSIC FEST 2024<<

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the HGV trailer from 1.00pm



>>SATURDAY AND SUNDAY<<
MAY 25TH & 26TH 2024
12:00 NOON TO 10:00PM

>>SATURDAY<<
>SEPTEMBER PROJECT

>FREELOADERS
>SCARLETTA HEART
>SEAMONKEYS



>>THE INKERMAN FIELD<<
AT THE BACK OF STAR PUB
ROLVENDEN TN17 4LN

>>SUNDAY<<
>ELLIE LAINE & THE ANDY MACLEAN
JAZZ BAND
>SEPTEMBER PROJECT
>EMMA ADAMS BAND-WHY NOT
>FREELOADERS

>>PLENTY OF OTHER THINGS GOING ON TO APPEAL TO ALL AGES<<

DEBBIE'S DISCO & SOUNDS*A MAGICIAN AND BALLOON SCULPTURES

*PUNCH & JUDY,AND CIRCUS SKILLS.

FIELD ACTIVITIES AND GAMES FOR THE CHILDREN*TOMBOLA*PRIZE RAFFLE

AND THERE WILL BE FOOD PROVIDED BY THE
PUB THROUGHOUT THE DAY

AND STREET FOOD TRUCKS FOR THE EVENING

>>LOTS OF FUN RAISING FUNDS FOR CHILDREN'S CANCER CHARITIES<<





Bins-an apologetic notice of change

We have all been adapting to the new bin service from Ashford Borough Council, some with more success than others. As editor, my battle started mid-March with trying to work out how the revised schedules could be summarised month by month on the final blue page of the April issue.

I used a number of postcodes from both parishes and used the online look-up tool to find collection days for different roads. I could see the days varied, as did which week was grey bin and which green. I gave up trying to check brown bins because the tool appeared to go down to actual addresses with a brown bin contract. Given what I had found, I had a stab at giving a weekly forecast, with the warning that you should also check online.

The variability of the new contract was gradually revealed as the new lorries arrived. It is obvious that a week-by-week schedule for Newenden and Rolvenden would require much more space and time to manage. Reluctantly I decided that the Bin entry will now restrict itself to telling you who to contact and may grow some one-off reminders about where you can recycle what.

The real losers here are those households where there is no online access. My sincerest apologies go to those readers. And to the rest of you, can I ask you to keep an eye out if you have, most likely, older neighbours who are not getting the bins right. It would be neighbourly to have a friendly word and tell them which bins to put out when.

Judy V

Music in Sandhurst

Just an early notice regarding the 16th. annual Hospice Musical events in Sandhurst. Since Daniel Grimwood will be playing at Vinehall on Sunday afternoon December 8th, we will be introducing a friend of his, the well-known pianist, Mark Viner to play at the garden party recital on Saturday July 27th. at 3pm. He will be performing some Beethoven, something by Alkan (he is the Chairman of that the Alkan Society) Liszt: Hungarian Rhapsody, some Blumenfeld and, of course, Henselt.



In September I have been fortunate enough to book the piano duo of Emma Abate and Julian Perkins once again. They will visit us on Wednesday September 11th at 3pm. I do not yet have a definite programme but I know that Richard's piano certainly suits their gorgeous touch. **Booking details will come later.**

Gillian Davis



Christian Aid Week 12-18 May 2024



Every Christian Aid Week, people across Britain and Ireland raise funds, act and pray for their global neighbours in a celebration of hope for a fairer world.

This year's appeal is focussing on the organisation's work in Burundi, one of the most densely populated and poorest countries in Africa. Heavily reliant on agriculture, it's also

one of the least prepared to combat the effects of climate change, including droughts, floods and landslides. The global cost of living crisis has intensified the challenges: more than 70 per cent of the population live in poverty and more than half of children are chronically malnourished.

Christian Aid has been working in Burundi since 1995 when it first offered humanitarian assistance to people surviving the civil conflict. Now, alongside local partners, the organisation helps establish Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs). These community-led groups mean people can save and borrow money, making small businesses possible, offering reliable and diverse incomes so families can eat regularly, get medicine when they need it, and build safer homes.

Thirty-five-year-old Aline Nibogora is the chairperson of a VSLA which supports some 25 families in a remote village, in Makamba Province. Aline escaped an abusive marriage only to find herself on the streets begging for a place to stay. Her life changed when she went to a three-day, Christian Aid-funded community workshop. With a small start-up loan, Aline began trading avocados and peanuts locally. She's now a grocery wholesaler living on her own plot of land where she's building a home for her family. In the next five years she hopes to expand, so one day she can buy a mill. This will provide a source of income without the need to transport heavy goods over long distances.



Credit: Christian Aid/Armstrong To

"I don't want my children to have a painful life like mine, remembering it makes me weep. I could never have dreamed I would one day have a brick house and be a successful businesswoman, able to feed and clothe my children. This is a plan and I will do it; I am a woman who is an achiever."

We have three ways in the Benefice we can use to make a donation to Christian Aid:



- Use the online link using this web address:
<https://fundraise.christianaid.org.uk/envelope-2024/tentroxchurches>
- Scan the QR code with your smartphone
- Or for cash or cheque payments please phone Judy V for a red envelope



Rolvenden Neighbourhood Watch April

Our focus this month is on how to contact Kent Police and being proactive about community safety

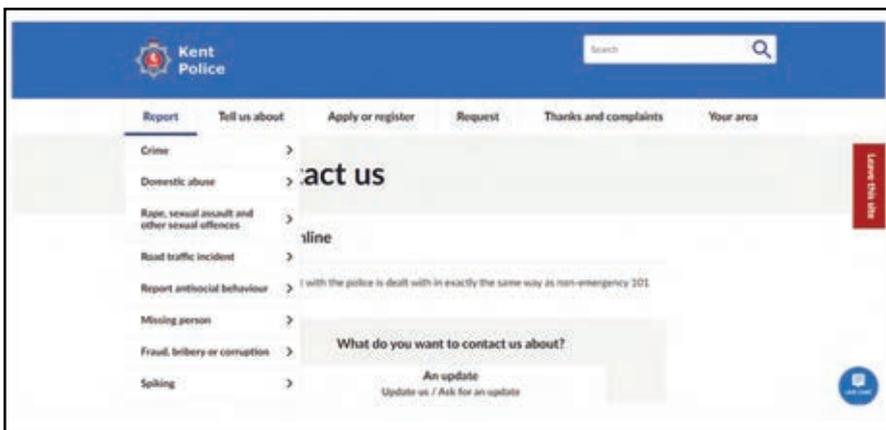
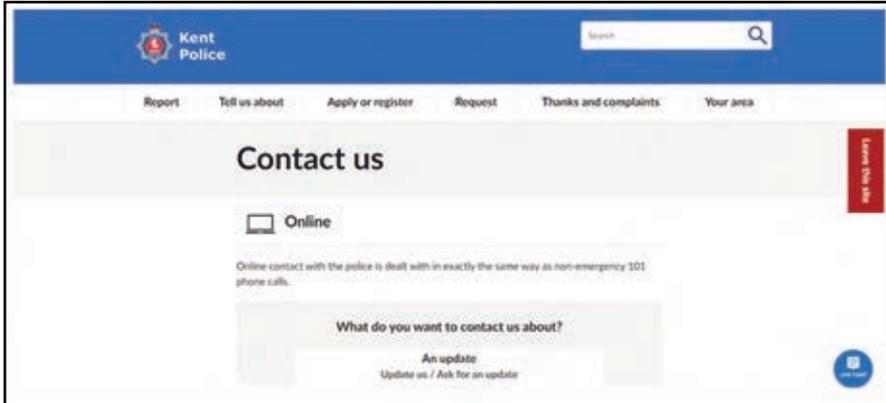


It was clear at the 26 March 2024

Council meeting that residents are concerned about crime in the village and some are fearful of reporting it. In order to understand what is happening in our village, it is essential all of us report incidents.

1. How to contact Kent Police to report crime
For a serious crime that is in progress or where people are in danger, dial 999.

If there is something that has already happened that should



be reported, you can either phone or report online:

■ If you do not have computer/online access: Telephone 101 and you will be put through to Kent Police.

If you have computer/online access:

<https://www.kent.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us-beta/contact-us/>

■ If you use the Report Tab at the top of the page you will get a drop-down menu to guide you into making a report.

■ There is in the bottom right a button; 'live chat' where you can type your name and contact details and type a live conversation with a rep.

■ If you click on 'Your area' you can put in your postcode to find out about specific crimes.

2. Being proactive about community safety.** This is the place to find a lot of information: E-watch Community Safety information hub

<https://www.e-watch.co/>

It is a community safety hub, bringing together a summary of safety information from various websites with back links to then view those websites for full details.

Unique to e-watch is the daily collection of Kent crime details by a band of dedicated police volunteers who add them to the website. The crimes are



displayed on the website by District, Ward and Parish. Browse the website, the districts are listed on the left of the page – click 'Ashford'. The wards are then shown on the right side of the page, click 'Rolvenden and Tenterden West' to see the crimes for Rolvenden and Newenden.

On Tuesday and Friday the newsletter is built with all the new information that has been added to the website and sent to all the registered subscribers. The website is then cleared down (except for the crimes which are retained for at least 90 days) and the process starts again.

It also has a link to Highways for checking road works and an introduction to the useful app, Country Eye, a simple way of reporting suspicious behaviour, incidents or concerns including fly tipping just by taking a photo on your mobile phone. To get to that one, click on the green owl symbol.

Reporting crime to the police

Serious crimes in progress dial 999, other incidents via 101 (phone) or online using Live chat: <https://www.kent.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/>
If deaf or speech impaired, text 'police' and your message to: 60066

Reporting crime anonymously

Sometimes people want to alert the authorities but are afraid to talk to the police. That is where the charity Crime Stoppers comes in. They'll ask questions about the crime but won't ask about you. If you're concerned your call could be traced, dial 141 before 0800 555 111, this will block your phone number. They also have a website where you can make a report. You cannot be traced. But before you make a report check the list of 'Information we cannot use'...against each item there is advice on where you can go with the particular information you have.

*Siân Reeves,
Rolvenden Neighbourhood Watch*

****If you are reading this article online, you will find an extra page with the blue pages that guides you through using the E-watch website.**

If you are reading a paper copy and would like a copy of this guide, please ring Judy on 01580 241504

Reporting crime to the police

Serious crimes in progress dial 999, other incidents via 101 (phone) or online using Live Chat:

<https://www.kent.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/> If deaf or speech impaired, text 'police' and your message to: 60066



Parish magazine essential information:

Articles and supporting photographs: email to judyannvinson@gmail.com.

Photos for the cover should be emailed as a jpeg in colour or monochrome to Trevor Lodge on stmaryrolv@aol.com.

To keep the cover photos in tune with the month, Trevor likes to keep seasonal photos on hold waiting for the season to come round the following year. Any keen photographers who want to contribute, please send your photos to Trevor.



THE DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE IS 5:00pm TUESDAY 14TH AMAY

Note for distributors: ☆ Rolvenden Magazines available for collection on Saturday 26th May. ☆ Newenden Magazines available in St Peter's on Sunday 28th May.

The online version will be available from 1st May accessed via the Parish Council websites for Newenden and Rolvenden Parish Councils, for which arrangement we are most grateful. *Judy V*



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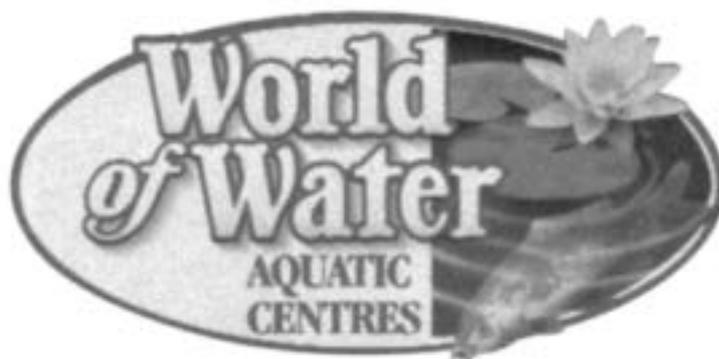
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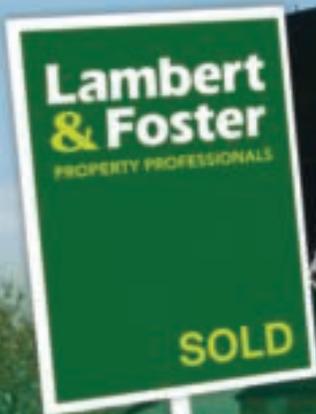
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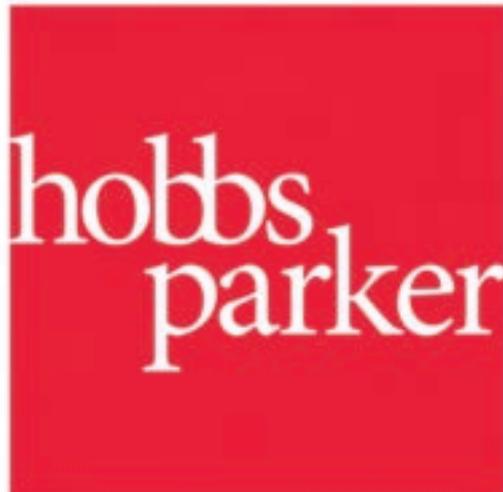
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Making our communities tick - this month: Patient Participation Group (PPG) Ivy Court Surgery in Tenterden

The NHS requires each GP Practice to have a PPG to help the Surgery provide the best possible service to patients, doctors and staff. It is a group made up of GP Practice patients aged 16 years and over, carers of registered Patients, and members of the Practice staff. In Ivy Court there are 14 members, 2 being Practice staff. The PPG receives feedback from patients and presents to the Practice the collective voice of the patient population covering what Ivy Court does well, or could do better.

The PPG does not get involved in individual patient health issues as these should be raised directly with the Practice. But they do encourage all patients to be involved by reading the newsletter and getting in touch if they have any issues which they feel require the PPG's attention.

The appointment booking system and the lack of appointments must be a frequent topic. But it could be that we, the patients, can help to improve the situation.

A major factor in the shortage of appointments seems to be the high number of 'Did not attends' (DNAs). Ivy Court website has the following entry on Missed Appointments:

Every month 100's of patients don't show up for doctor or nurse appointments. This creates longer waiting times for others.

If you are unable to attend your appointment for any reason, please do let us know so we can offer that appointment to another patient. There is a separate cancellations line, option 1 on our phone system which takes you straight through to a voicemail, so you don't even have to speak to someone to leave the message.

Just leave a message cancelling your appointment which can be reallocated to other patients – even a cancellation made at short notice will often enable the appointment to be given to someone else.

Contact details: email address PPG@ivycourtsurgery.co.uk
or in writing via the Surgery reception desk (please mark items 'PPG')
or post to: Ivy Court Surgery, Recreation Ground Road, Tenterden,
Kent TN30 6RB

To subscribe to the PPG Newsletter and view current and previous issues Go to <https://www.ivycourtsurgery.co.uk/> and select the News tab Hard copies will also be available in the Surgery and distributed locally.

Contact Details for organisations you might find you need:

EC30

A coffee shop and so much more! For more information email: info@ec30.co.uk, also see www.ec30.co.uk. EC30, Recreation Ground Rd, Tenterden. Open: Mon- Fri 9am - 4pm; Sat 9am - 3pm.

The Tenterden Family Foodbank EC30

Monday to Friday 9-4, Saturday 9-3/ food boxes for people who suddenly find themselves in difficulty due to late credit payments, unexpected bills, loss of job etc. info@ec30.co.uk / 07919 381827

Emergencies only please call: 07919 381827 / 07805 840493.

The Old Schoolhouse Larder

Supporting vulnerable families with children who are finding it difficult to provide meals every day. Open Friday 9 to 11am. Selection of nonperishable groceries and household & hygiene products. Vouchers allowing families to select fruit & vegetables from the Tenterden Friday Market and from the Market Square Farm Butcher also available.



Kent Savers for affordable loans www.kentsavers.co.uk

KCC Mobile Library Service visits Rolvenden every 2 weeks on a Tuesday:

- High Street between 11:30am and Noon
- Monypenny between 12:10 and 12:55pm

To join phone: 03000 41 31 31

Regular Events

For those living with short-term memory loss and their supporters

- Memory Café and Friends meets every Friday 2 – 4pm at St Andrews Church Hall, Ashford Road, Tenterden
- Musical Memories meets every Tuesday 10:45am – 12 noon Highbury Hall, Highbury Lane, Tenterden, a singing for health group.
- Monthly Lunch Club Meets 4th Wednesday 12:30 for 1:00pm Little Silver Hotel, St Michaels Tenterden.

For all 3 Contact: Jan Bridger Tel: 01580 762932 Mob: 07445971791

Parkinsons Café

Mutual support for people affected by Parkinson's including family, friends, partners and carers. Meets every third Monday 10:30 to noon at the EC30 Tenterden Contact: Christine Endersby 01580 764046

CARM Rolvenden Meeting Point

Every second Wednesday 10:00am to noon in Monypenny Lounge, drop in and meet friends old and new. <https://carmromneymarsh.org.uk/>

Scan the code to be taken to the Kent
Domestic Abuse support website



There is NO excuse for domestic abuse

If you or someone you know is being physically, sexually, economically or emotionally abused by another person, this is domestic abuse.

Victim Support: 0808 16 89 111

If you are in immediate danger,
or suspect someone else is,
call 999

The Samaritans: 0845 79 09 090

Childline: 0800 1111

Mankind: 01823 334 244

domesticabuseservices.org.uk

Please act NOW and call any of these numbers if you feel unsafe or suspect someone you know may be at risk of domestic abuse or bullying.

VS VICTIM
SUPPORT

SAMARITANS

ChildLine
0800 1111

ManKind
Initiative



Refuse Collection Dates for May

Waste food bins, small black with orange lid, are emptied weekly. All other bins, grey, green and brown are emptied fortnightly. To see which of your bins are emptied when type 'Ashford BC Find my bin' into your web browser. You have 2 search tools:

- Grey (household) or Green (recycling)
- Brown (Garden refuse)

You can also download a calendar.

Collection dates do not vary through the year except across the Christmas New Year Holiday season.

Please keep an eye out for neighbours who may not be connected to the web. If neighbours are not getting the bins right have a friendly word and tell them which bins to put out when.

For new arrangements on such things as clothes, shoe and electrical items please see the Ashford BC – How do I dispose of?

- Yellow sacks, where supplied, will be collected weekly

- For all queries about recycling or waste disposal:

On-line, see ABC website: www.ashford.gov.uk/waste

Telephone ABC on Tel 01233 330646

NEWENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

www.newenden-pc.gov.uk/

Parish Clerk: Mrs Lauren Dobson.

C/o Carpens, Hobbs lane,

Beckley. East Sussex, TN31 6TT

Telephone: 01797 260364

e-mail: enquiries@newenden-pc.gov.uk

Annual Parish Council Meeting 7:00pm

Tuesday 7th May,

Annual Parish Assembly 8:00pm

Tuesday 7th May

ROLVENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

www.rolvendenparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Clerk: Mrs Julie Flenley.

email: rolvendenclerk@gmail.com

Parish Council 7:30pm

Tuesday 21st May

Annual Parish Meeting 7:00pm

Thursday 23rd May

Both held in St Mary's

Members of the public have a statutory right to attend as observers. At the discretion of the Parish Council Chair people may be invited to speak.

How to register –go to: <https://www.e-watch.co/register.php>



Add your email address and click on Ashford.

You will receive an email asking you to confirm your email, and that's done.



To view local information on the site, click on 'Ashford' top left.



You then have the option to view the latest/other newsletters.



To view the crime information for Rolvenden and Newenden, scroll down to 'Rolvenden & Tenterden West' on the right:



That will bring up the Rolvenden and Newenden statistics