
Frittenden Parish Magazine

Connecting our community



FREE

May 2022

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rector@frittendenchurch.org.uk

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Reader Tony Staples 852226

Treasurer Christopher Page 852230

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Not operating at present

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www.frittendenchurch.org.uk

Childline 0800 1111

Relate 01892 529927
appointments@westmidkent.eclipse.co.uk

Defibrillators
These are now available at: the village hall, the pub, Larchmere and a mobile unit available for use at village events.

OTHER VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Cricket, Sports & Social Club
Chair Nick Bull 852105
Secretary Charlotte Sharp 852217

Friends of Frittenden School
Chair Beks Harding 712138

Pre-school Manager
Sarah Davies 852100
Home 852130

Primary School Head of School
Nichola Costello 852250

Gardening Society
President Sue Martin 852425
Chairman Duncan Rouse 852232
Secretary Tricia Palmer 852430
Show Secretary Jeremy Beech 852312
Treasurer / Subs Nicky Robinson 852488

Historical Society
Chair Phil Betts 852243
Treasurer Bernard Millard 852219
Secretary Tor Millard 893703

Marquee Hire Mike Cooper 852108

Memorial Hall
Chair Rosalind Riley 852317
Hire hall, tables/chairs, etc.
Eileen Bridges 852563

Parish Council
Chairman Tony Staples 852226

(For more details of other Local Council contacts, see back page).

Royal British Legion
Chairman Mike Burden 01622 432866
Hon Sec. Howard Lilley 852225

Tennis Club
Chair Nigel Casswell 852772
Treasurer John Marshall 852345

Women's Institute
President Anne Holroyd 893256
Vice President Valerie Reeves 852201
Secretary Aneta Godwin 714150
Treasurer Jenny Croucher 852468

Youth Club
Youth Work Manager Beth Kemp 07936 948688
beth.kemp@westkentymca.org.uk

UNITED BENEFICE OF SISSINGHURST WITH FRITTENDEN MAY SERVICES, ACTIVITIES AND NOTICES

Sun 1st	Easter 3 10:00 Family Worship - St Mary's 11:15 Holy Communion (BCP) - St Mary's
Mon 2nd	19:30 Bell Ringing Practice
Wed 4th	9:00 SPACE - St Mary's 10:00 Coffee Morning @ Trinity 16:30 Open The Book Rehearsal
Sat 7th	8:00 United Benefice Prayer Breakfast at St Mary's
Sun 8th	Easter 4 10:00 Morning Worship - St Mary's
Mon 9th	9:00 Moving Mountains - St Mary's 10:00 Little Lambs 11:00 Wardens Meeting 19:30 Bell Ringing Practice
Wed 11th	14:30 CAMEO in St Mary's Church
Thu 12th	19:30 Joint PCC in St Mary's
Sun 15th	Easter 5 10:00 Holy Communion (CW) with Sunday Club - St Mary's 10:00 Little Lambs 16:30 Open The Book Rehearsal 19:30 Bell Ringing Practice
Mon 16th	9:00 Moving Mountains - St Mary's 10:00 Little Lambs 16:30 Open The Book Rehearsal 19:30 Bell Ringing Practice
Wed 18th	9:00 SPACE - St Mary's
Sun 22nd	Easter 6 10:00 Morning Worship - Trinity 17:30 Holy Communion BCP - St Mary's

Mon 23rd	9:00 Moving Mountains - St Mary's 10:00 Little Lambs 19:30 Bell Ringing Practice
Thu 26th	Ascension Day 19:30 United Benefice Holy Communion (CW) in St Mary's
Sat 28th	15:00 Wedding
Sun 29th	Easter 7 10:00 United Benefice Morning Worship @ St Mary's
Mon 30th	9:00 Moving Mountains - St Mary's 10:00 Little Lambs 19:30 Bell Ringing Practice

Late changes - Please check on the church website for any changes to services or events - frittendenchurch.org.uk

SUNDAY CLUB - separate provision for primary age children during part of the service.

SPACE - Silent reflection Prayer and Communion Ending by 9:30

Moving Mountains - Prayer for the needs of the Community, held in St Mary's, open to all.

Little Lambs - the new group for Toddlers and their Carers, meeting weekly in St Mary's.

CAMEO - Come And Meet Each Other - Coffee, tea and chat in St Mary's or Memorial Hall.

A recording of the Sunday morning service will be available each week on the website, under the Audio tab, and also available to listen to via the dial up number 01580 234185.

In the United Benefice of Sissinghurst with Frittenden, St Mary's is the parish church of Frittenden and Trinity is the parish church of Sissinghurst.

Church rotas - Sunday Services

Date	Time	Sidesmen	Readers	Prayer	Sound	Coffee
1st May	10:00	Deaves family	Pete to arrange	Pete to arrange	John Stansfeld	Beech
1st May	11:15	Christopher Page	Julia Braggins Berni Cooper	-	John Stansfeld	
8th May	10:00	Rob Addis Judith Addis	Nicky Vernon Peter Braggins	Nicola Robinson	John Dutton	Booth Clibborn
15th May	10:00	Mack Mehrabian Calvin Moore	Zoe Murton John Murton	Nicky Vernon	Debbie Haine	Braggins
22nd May	17:30	Tony Staples	Christopher Page Pete Deaves	-	Judy Staples	Highwood
26th May	19:30	John Stansfeld	Helen Stansfeld John Dutton	Isobel Mehrabian	Judy Staples	-
29th May	10:00	Henry Robinson Nicola Robinson	Pete to arrange	Pete to arrange	John Stansfeld	Mehrabian

Flower Rota: 1st May - Emma Griffin; 8th & 15th May - Sue Betts; 22nd & 29th May Marian Boswell
Cleaning Rota: Joanna Beech, Berni Cooper **Key Rota:** Mack Mehrabian - 852391

Homes for Ukraine

Parish of Sissinghurst & Frittenden



Are you offering accommodation or thinking of doing so?

Could you join our volunteers' community by offering your time?

Do you have relevant language skills & time you could spare?

Are you able to offer any other support like music, yoga, art etc?

Would you like to sponsor some accommodation financially?

Do you have ideas as to how we can help our newcomers?

We do not know what this needs to look like yet, but we would like to make a community available for people who come to our area so that they do not feel isolated or alone.

If you feel this is something you would like to help with, please register your interest, stating what is relevant to you, by contacting Nikki Hadley by email or by text:

Nikkihadley10@gmail.com / 07715 636906

Very grateful thanks in advance...



Hope...

Dear friends

Everywhere you look, centre stage is the upcoming Platinum Jubilee, as our extraordinary Queen enters more new record-breaking territory. Up and down the country, from Abbas Combe to Zeal (via Frittenden and Sissinghurst, of course!) preparations are well underway to ensure that her Majesty's incredible 70 year reign is happily and gloriously celebrated. I **hope** to see you at the various local events, including our special Thanksgiving service - 10am Sunday 5th June.

In stark contrast to many others in authority, Queen

Elizabeth continues to consistently live a life of humility and self-giving. She models her life and service on the example of Jesus Christ, who 'came not to be served, but to serve'.

Here's what she said in her Christmas broadcast 20 years ago, reflecting on the 2002 Golden Jubilee:

*I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all the day brings, and to put my trust in God... I draw strength from the message of **hope** in the Christian gospel.*

This **hope**, so central to the Queen's life and service, is the source of her assurance and confidence.

Despite her influence and significant wealth, Her Majesty's confidence is not in herself but in king Jesus. This **hope** doesn't shift or change with the seasons, and it's not dependent on mood or weather, or circumstances. Instead, it's a **hope** based on Jesus' death and resurrection we just celebrated at Easter. This **hope** can anchor and ground us, right in the midst of what's going on around.

Hope Explored is the title of our upcoming mini-series, designed to do exactly that - explore this **hope** which the Queen holds centre stage. If you've ever had a niggles that just maybe Jesus is who he says he is, then this one's for you... The video and discussion-based sessions assume no prior knowledge or faith, and will be informative and informal, relevant and relaxed. Please contact Henry or Nicky Robinson (hphrobinson@aol.com) or me to book a place or ask any questions - **hope** you can join us!

Every blessing

Pete - 852275

Hope Explored is an informal and relaxed three-week course. It's for anyone who wants to find hope, peace and purpose in life. It's run by ordinary Christian people local to you and is completely free. You don't need to know anything about the Bible, and you won't be asked to pray or sing. You can ask any question you like, or you can just sit and listen.

Whoever you are, whatever you're thinking, **Hope Explored** is a place for you to discover the hope of a future that is better than you could ever imagine.

We'd love you to consider coming to the three relaxed evening sessions, enjoying a meal, chatting to others as we explore **Hope**. To find out more, please get in touch with Pete, or Nicky or Henry Robinson (852488).



**There is no time like Spring,
When life's alive in everything,
Before new nestlings sing,
Before cleft swallows speed their journey back
Along the trackless track –
God guides their wing,
He spreads their table that they nothing lack, –
Before the daisy grows a common flower
Before the sun has power
To scorch the world up in his noontide hour.**

Christina Georgina Rossetti (5 December 1830 – 29 December 1894) was an English writer of romantic, devotional and children's poems. She also wrote the words to the popular Christmas carol "In the Bleak Midwinter"

We welcome reflections to frittendenparishmagazine@gmail.com – a poem, prayer, thought... something to help us pause and reflect.

LITTLE LAMBS

**Our weekly (term time only) Baby and Toddler group
10-11.30am @ St Mary's Frittenden**

Parents and Carers of Babies, Toddlers and Preschoolers are warmly invited to hop along to Little Lambs @ St Mary's Church.

A warm welcome, toys, good coffee/tea, delicious homemade cakes, crafts, Bible Story and singing time. It will be a great opportunity to connect with other local families. We'd love to see you there!

**Currently, there is no need to book a space so do just come along!
For more details contact Claire Deaves: deavesclaire@gmail.com**



Spring is working its magic on the land around us and uplifting our spirits



We have a bumper Parish Magazine for you;

- All you need to know about the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations around the village (pages 24-33)
- Glorious start to the season - cricket is back (page 42)
- A look back 70 years to the back page of the village magazine (page 13)
- Bluebells take pride of place in Villagers' View (page 15)

...and of course all the results and reviews of the legendary Frittenden Fun Run (below and page 8/9) - what a wonderful day everyone had, and congratulations to all those who took part.

The June issue is dedicated to the Platinum Jubilee - please send through your articles, photos and village stories and lets keep connecting the community.

James Booth-Clibborn

Editor – frittendenparishmagazine@gmail.com



What a day we had!

Charlotte and Dan Hunter

Back after a two year covid induced break the village fun run was back this Easter and wow, what a day we had! We couldn't have asked for better weather or a better turn out, with nearly 200 runners, cyclists, horse riders and walkers ranging in age from 1 to an amazing 90 years old - well done Margaret Knight, a true inspiration to us all!

After organising this amazing family event for nearly 20 years Rob Addis passed the reins over to the Memorial Hall along with all his invaluable knowledge and stash of safety pins!

This year all the money we have raised through the entry fees and generous donations is going towards the refurbishment of the Memorial Hall,



After an almost false start, when in all the excitement we nearly forgot to start the stopwatches (thank you Hannah Read for remembering at the last second!!) the racers set off up The Street to the sound of the bells from St Mary's.

It was a quick race with Matt Simpson, the first male back in 18.06 and Katie Allan, the first female completing the course in 22.04. Jacob McGeachy, the winning child, gave it his absolutely all, collapsing after the finishing line, with an amazing time of 25.05.



Others took a more leisurely approach, even stopping to forage a bit of wild garlic for lunch on the way round!

A huge thank you to Sean and Rosie at The Bell & Jorlocks for generously giving the prizes; to the registering and timing team - Hannah Read and Diane Campos; to the marshals along the route - Tor Millard, Eileen Bridges, Helen Bosley and Lester Gosbee and to

the first aiders, Diane Pullen and Niccy Elliot and thank you to Frittenden Parish Council for insuring the event.

We will see you all again next year!



due to open its shiny new doors in time for the Queens Jubilee weekend in June and the new Community Shop which is to be built next to the hall.



Here are the top 100 runner's times:

20	Matt Simpson	18.00	54	William Gibbons	25.54
127	Mark Bosley	18.30	106	Andy Sloman	26.33
131	Edward Crossley	18.59	82	Edward Griffin	26.43
19	Charlie Ellison	19.01	143	Will Drew	26.45
178	Tommy David	20.13	67	Gabriel Ovens	26.54
21	Dan Staples	20.2	172	Tina Jordan	27.02
11	Dave Finton	20.21	173	Jo Crafter	27.03
158	Stephen Sharp	20.33	181	Fraser McKie	27.04
134	Edward Horton	21.15	13	Clare Tucker	27.16
150	Mark Hollingworth	21.44	89	Richard Hoye	27.39
79	Omar Habbal	21.50	130	Thomas Triggs	27.46
28	Katie Allan	22.04	170	Craig Duranti	27.5
16	Derren Croucher	22.07	42	Edward Steele	27.56
94	Gary Jones	22.17	176	Rosie David	28.04
135	Tom Page	22.18	126	Jules Triggs	28.16
20	Steven Ellison	22.34	27	George Wells	28.18
65	Patrick Clews	22.38	84	Sam Evans	28.18
136	Dill Page	23.24	70	Guy Johnson	28.18
169	Nat Poulter	23.38	49	Emily Steventon	28.18
109	George Simmons	23.40	46	Mandy Bissel	28.2
144	Charlie Drew	23.52	88	Paul Hope	29.02
60	? Collins	23.58	59	? Collins	29.07
71	Tilly Johnson	24.18	78	Jessie Beech	29.07
31	Chris Anderson	24.24	58	? Collins	29.07
41	Steven Lenham	24.31	45	Jordan Waters	29.07
68	Daniel Smith	24.35	105	Louis Warner	29.17
83	Olivia Griffin	24.36	8	Michael Dixon	29.19
133	Felicia Crossley	24.48	24	Henry Wells	29.23
36	Jacob McGeachy	25.05	43	Penelope Stent	29.29
44	Valerie Pondaven	25.10	39	Helen Steele	29.35
40	John Butcher	25.12	151	Amy Mae Hollingworth	29.40
123	Sue Kenny	25.36	152	Clare Deverell	29.40
138	Joshua Lucas	25.40	121	Jane Gilbert	29.47
75	Steve Gasson	25.54	24	Leonie Abraham	29.55
29	Zoe Allan	25.54	4	Clare Clews	30.40
53	Isabel Gibbons	25.54	63	Stephen Clews	30.41
2	Phoebe Gilbert	25.54	147	Rob Cage	30.54
30	Mary Maynard	25.54	148	Jenny Cage	31.13
			103	Nigel Mellor	31.15
			159	Margot Skinner	31.16
			194	David Haynes	31.20
			195	Pippa Haynes	31.20
			192	John Lacey	31.52
			191	Sam Lacey	31.53
			141	James Haggerty	35.06
			142	Ellie Raishbrook	35.06
			155	Dominic Guise	35.25
			145	Suzie King	35.35
			156	Lucy King	35.35
			47	Jackie Wallis	35.35
			177	Tanya Mckie	35.46
			146	Hubert Ashton	35.46
			18	Rufus Read	36.24
			17	Jamie Read	36.24
			100	Freddie Keem	36.31
			98	Nick Keem	36.31
			129	Mila Triggs	38.09
			15	Peter Levoir	38.2
			57	George Collins	41.21
			12	Emlia Tucker	42.43
			14	Ros Cory	43.35
			90	Andy Fairweather	46.09
			125	Richard Abraham	46.15



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Spring Fair

Joanna Beech

For the first time ever the Spring Show of the Frittenden Gardening society was held in St Mary's Church, as the Memorial Hall is closed for refurbishment. There were over 200 entries into the show from 30 individuals, including four children. The beautiful flowers were enhanced by our lovely Church, making it a unique occasion.

The Gardening society were very grateful to the Rector and Church wardens for allowing us to use the Church and to a number of committee members

for helping to stage the show, namely Vince Cordell, Duncan Rouse, Diane Campos and Jeremy and Joanna Beech. Also to our judges, Malcolm Buller and Janice Cook, who

drove up from Dover, despite the traffic problems in and around Dover. Mr Buller said he had judged four shows this year and ours was the best he had seen this Spring.



The standard of the show was high and everyone enjoyed looking at the exhibits at 3pm when the doors were opened. Tea and cake were also very popular, (thanks to Sue Martin and others) as was the raffle, with thanks to Richard Finn for running this.

At the prize giving, the cups were awarded as follows, The Wordsworth Cup, for daffodils to Duncan Rouse, with the Joyce Newstead Cup for best exhibit. The Spring Blooms cup went to Nicky Robinson, and these two members shared the Spring Show Trophy. The Kitchen Cup was awarded to Helen Stansfeld and the Floral Art cup went to Sue Day.

The Spring show is only the first event in our calendar and there are several events in the year including visits to three gardens in the Village and the Autumn show in September. It is a very sociable group and membership of the society only costs £5 for an individual and £10 for a couple/family, so do consider joining us by contacting Nicky Robinson (852488) or joining through the Gardening Society website.



Kit Marlowe: Dramatist and Spy

Sue Betts

Christopher Marlowe, Elizabethan playwright and poet, was born in Canterbury in 1568, a contemporary of Shakespeare who was born just a couple of months later. Kit was christened at St George's Church, Canterbury. It's tower still stands in the High Street, but the body of the church was destroyed in an air raid in 1942

Marlowe's parents were John, a shoemaker from Ospringe, and Katherine. He was the eldest of their nine children. At the age of 14, he won a scholarship to The King's School, Canterbury and, two years later, another to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, graduating in 1584. But 3 years later, the college initially refused to award him an MA as he had had a series of unusually lengthy absences from the university which violated its residency requirements. However, the Privy Council intervened on his behalf commending him for having "done Her Majesty good service" on "matters touching the benefit of his country". This prompted a theory that he was a secret agent for Privy Council member, Sir Francis Walsingham, who was tasked with protecting Queen Elizabeth I and deeply involved with state espionage.

Our speaker, Geoff Doel, a member of The Marlowe Society, described Marlowe as having a violent nature. He frequently got into trouble as a result of fights in Canterbury and Shoreditch, but always seemed to escape punishment. In 1592, he was arrested in Flushing for a counterfeiting operation with Richard Baines, a spy and informer. This was a treasonable offence and yet no charge or imprisonment resulted. The same year he was back in court again, on account of threats made, and ordered to keep the peace. Later, he was accused of a knife attack, but cleared. Was this just good luck, or was he being protected by senior figures?

His literary career was launched in 1587 at the age of 23. Ben Jonson, a leading satirist thought he was the greatest



writer of the time and he is credited with making blank verse popular. Marlowe's first play was Dido, Queen of Carthage. He subsequently wrote Tamburlaine, The Jew of Malta, Edward The Second, and The Massacre of Paris. His most famous work, however, is Doctor Faustus, the magician who sold his soul to the Devil's messenger, Mephistopheles. This play gave him an opportunity to rail against religion and also brought us the line "Was this the face that launched a thousand ships".

Marlowe professed atheism and was said to have Catholic sympathies at a time when Elizabeth had issued anti-Catholic laws. His plays challenged the established order and amplified his reputation as a heretic. In 1593, a warrant was issued for his arrest by the Privy Council. A heretical tract had been found and attributed to Marlowe and the Queen supported his prosecution. He was placed under house arrest and taken to a property in Deptford in the company of three men, all of whom had been employed by the Walsinghams. On 30 May, he was stabbed, allegedly following an argument over the bill.

Unsurprisingly, there are many alternative theories about the reason for his murder and the full circumstances will probably never be known. An inquest was held on 1 June and he was buried the same day in an unmarked grave at St Nicholas, Deptford, at the age of only 29.

Magazine back page 70 years ago

Bernard Millard

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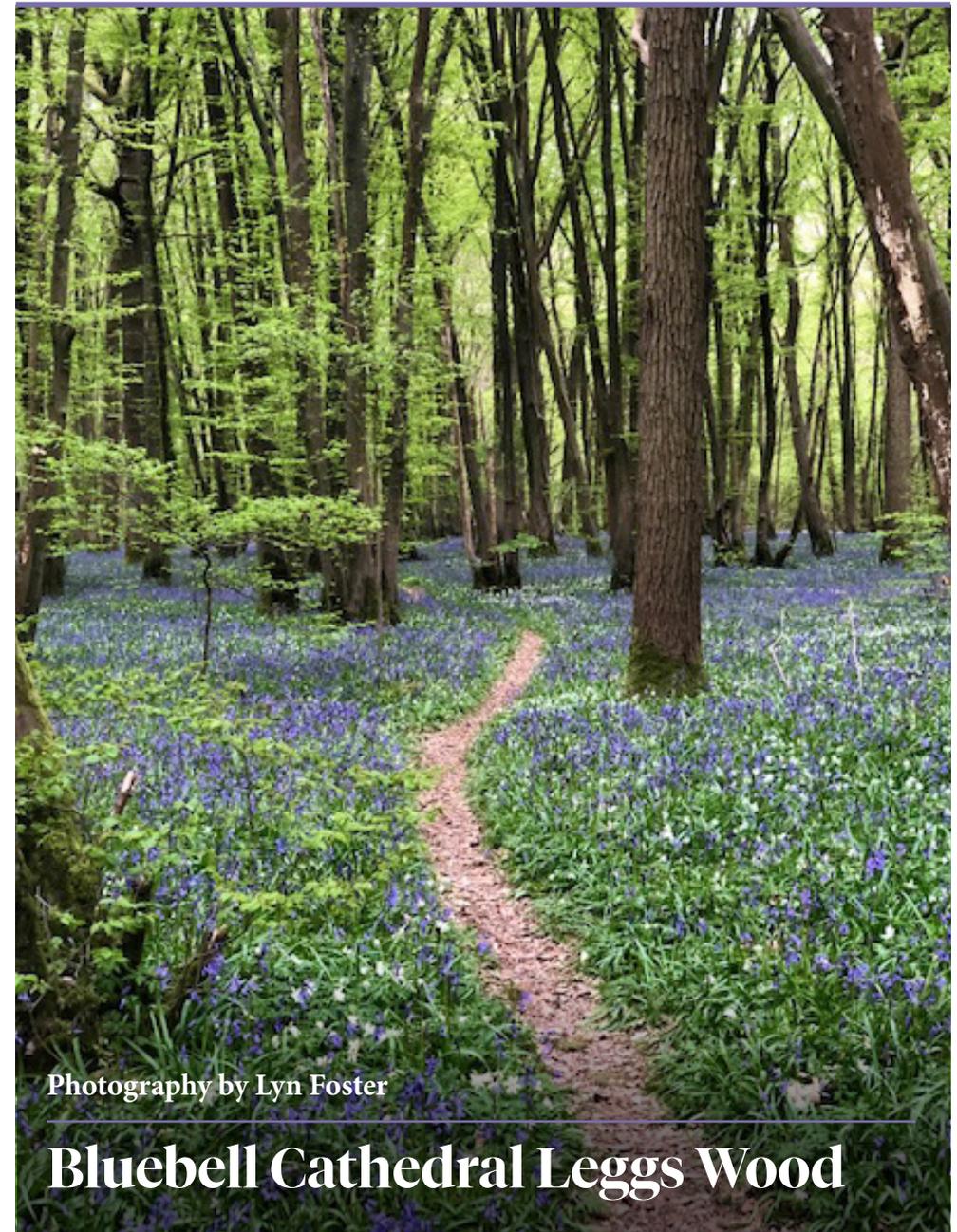
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Photography by Lyn Foster

Bluebell Cathedral Leggs Wood

We welcome monthly photography submissions accompanied by a caption to frittendenparishmagazine@gmail.com

Happy St Dunstan's Day!

Rebecca Steele

The 19th of May is a special day for Bell Ringers, for it is the feast day of Saint Dunstan, patron saint of bell ringing!

It is thought that Saint Dunstan was born in the village of Baltonsborough in Somerset, a few miles to the south of Glastonbury, in the year 909 or 910. His father was a Wessex nobleman and his uncle, Athelm, was the Archbishop of Canterbury. After being educated at Glastonbury Abbey, Dunstan joined his uncle at the royal court of King Athelstan. Dunstan returned to Glastonbury and took holy orders in the year 943, when he developed a skin disease which he feared might be leprosy. At Glastonbury Dunstan showed great skill in the art of metalworking, casting bells and crafting vessels for the church.

Dunstan did not remain at Glastonbury for long as he was called back to the royal court, into service as a priest. He acted as a royal advisor and negotiator for King Edmund and his successor Eadred, helping to establish a period of peace from Danish attacks. He rose in importance, being made Abbott of Glastonbury, Bishop of Worcester, Bishop of London and eventually Archbishop of Canterbury.



Dunstan's success in metalworking and casting bells endeared him to bell ringers. He is buried on the right hand side of the High Altar in Canterbury Cathedral. His tomb was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages. Dunstan was canonised in 1029 and, until Thomas Becket's death in 1170, Saint Dunstan was the most popular English saint.

While St Dunstan did much to support bell ringing in churches across England, ringing was an important part of Christian religion long before his birth. It was an old belief that evil spirits were afraid of bells and fled from the sound of them. There are reports that, in Roman times, bronze bells were used to repel demons and herdsmen attached bells to the necks of their flocks to keep away evil spirits and wild beasts. The poet Ovid wrote that people beat bronze vessels during an eclipse and at the death of a friend to scare

away demons. Bells were rung to dispel storms, quench fires, ward off human enemies, and even to stop disease. One of the reasons that the houses of medieval towns were built close up around the church was to place its occupants and property under the protective sound of the bells.

In modern times church bells ring at Easter and at Christmas; they ring for celebration and mourning, for weddings, funerals and coronations. On Sunday mornings the church bells remind people who aren't there, that the church is. Jeremy Pratt, head bell-ringer at Westminster Abbey, once said that church bells "are the loudest and most public, outward-facing voice of the Christian Church. When people hear them, they know something is happening."

It might also be worth remembering that, with the Ringers working hard and the church bells driving away demons, it is less likely that evil spirits will trouble the residents of Frittenden!

If, after learning a little about Saint Dunstan, you now want to find out some more about bell ringing, then Frittenden Bell Ringers practise on Monday evenings 7:30pm until 9:00pm. Please do contact us and maybe come along to find out a little more.



You can now also keep up to date with our news on both FaceBook and Instagram through the links below:
www.facebook.com/FrittendenBellRingers
www.instagram.com/FrittendenBellRingers



Spring concert among the daffodils

Staplehurst Music Centre celebrated the end of term and welcomed spring with an informal evening concert to parents and relatives. We were lucky to be hosted in the beautiful, flower-filled garden of one of our families, amongst a sea of daffodils at the edge of the fields. The performance started with music from the rock band, led by Nick Stephens. The band have been playing together for a few months now and they sounded fantastic. They played covers of old favourites, including "Sittin' On the Dock of the Bay" (Otis Redding), "Can't Stop" (Red Hot Chili Peppers) and "Three Little Birds" (Bob Marley and the Wailers). They also played some original music written by the students, including the catchy "Rabbit Stew" and the Pink Floyd-esque "Carrots". The rock band was followed by the chamber music group, who played a medley of pieces from "The Sound of Music", and, very poignantly, the Ukrainian national anthem. We had a wonderful performance of "I Want A Hippopotamus For Christmas" (Gayla Peevey). Finally, the evening evolved into an informal jamming session, with the mic passed around to anyone in the audience who felt in fine voice

In other news, Foundation Music classes will be starting up again after the Easter holidays. We are planning two groups. The younger age group (2-5 years) will experience music through songs, rhymes and dance, and will learn about pitch, rhythm, pulse, dynamics and more. The older group (6-8 years) will have the opportunity to play their instrument in a small group and will develop the skills needed to join one of the other ensembles on Saturday mornings. To find out more about these new groups, the existing ensembles or individual music lessons, get in touch through www.staplehurst-music-centre.org.

Plenty of good local orchestral music in May, (if you look around there is more that I haven't listed) but a bit thin on choral concerts – that's the consequence of many choral presentations around Easter. The strongly recommended concert at Leeds Church on 28th will reduce the bias a little as it includes both singers and keyboard. So my May list is:

Sat 7th May 6.30pm at St. Martin's Church, Northumberland Rd. Maidstone, ME15 7LP, the Maidstone Singers perform Schubert's G Major Mass and Chilcott's A Little Jazz Mass. Tickets 07802 575656. The Singers are also inviting other choristers to join in this concert on a one-day "come and sing" basis – details 01622 737916

Also on 7th May, 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Mill St., Maidstone ME15 6YE, Maidstone Wind Symphony have a concert entitled "Textures" and featuring guest soloist Alastair Penman. Tickets <https://www.maidstonewindsymphony.org/>

Sat 21st May 7.30pm at Maidstone Leisure Centre, ME15 7RN, the Maidstone Symphony Orchestra continues its season with a concert that includes Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No2 – soloist Daniel Lebhadt, and Sibelius' Symphony No.2. Tickets 07817 429143 or on the door.

Sat 28th May 7.30pm at St. Nicholas Church, Leeds, ME17 1RJ, a trio of musicians from The Chapel Royal at Hampton Court provide a concert of May Music. Tickets 01622 842915

This month's anniversary is the birth of Richard Wagner on May 22nd in Leipzig. This German dramatic composer and theorist whose operas and music had a revolutionary influence on the course of Western music, either by extension of his discoveries or reaction against them. Among his major works are The Flying Dutchman (1843), Tannhäuser (1845), Lohengrin (1850), Tristan and Isolde (1865), Parsifal (1882), and his great tetralogy, The Ring of the Nibelung (1869-76).

The artistic and theatrical background of Wagner's early years (several elder sisters became opera singers or actresses) was a main formative influence. Impulsive and self-willed, he was a negligent scholar at school. He frequented concerts, however, taught himself the piano and composition, and read the plays of Shakespeare, Goethe, and Schiller.

Attracted by the glamour of student life he enrolled at Leipzig University, but as an adjunct with inferior privileges, since he had not completed his preparatory schooling. Although he lived wildly, he applied himself earnestly to composition. He failed to get his first opera produced at Leipzig and became conductor to a provincial theatrical troupe from Magdeburg, having fallen in love with one of the actresses of the troupe, Wilhelmine (Minna) Planer, whom he married in 1836.

A concert of

MAY MUSIC



at St Nicholas Church, Leeds

On Saturday 28th May 7.30 pm

Tickets £12.00 – concessions £10.00

**Booking 01622 842915 or
b.hardy17@outlook.com**

Brian Hardy

Gosbee's Gossip

Lester Gosbee

Our Queen will be 96 years of age on 21st April. I'm sure that everyone will wish her a wonderful day. I was sad to hear that she is still affected by Covid, feeling exhausted. I know that many people in Frittenden have come down with it in the last month. Wishing everyone a speedy recovery, hope we can all enjoy the current lovely Spring weather.

I was very impressed with this year's Gardening Society Spring Show, held in the Church as the Memorial Hall is closed at the moment. The daffodils on display were very impressive after the frost and high winds. It just goes to show how resilient they are. My wife Hazel entered a 'Winter Scene' photo, which did very well in the photography class, and my sister-in-law Heather Collins did well with her floral entries. Well done to Joanna and Jeremy Beech for their hard work organising the Show, and to all the entrants and winners.

If you are coming to the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, particularly the Saturday evening Concert, you need to book your table soon, as space is limited and tickets are selling like hot cakes. Please contact Chris Brown on 01580 852452.

In January, I was diagnosed with Type Two diabetes. I was told that 95% of people with this type of diabetes is caused by lifestyle, obesity and high sugar intake, and the other 5% are just unlucky. I said that I would reverse it in 3 months. For any readers with medical knowledge, my blood test results say that I am at high risk of diabetes as the HbA1c is 42 – 47 mmol/mol (46). I gave up lemonade, breakfast cereal and cakes. I don't drink alcohol, mainly

because I have to take so much medication that can not mix with alcohol. I lost half a stone. I hope that this will encourage others.

The Tories are likely to get a kicking at the Local Elections on 5th May. I think that this will be the kick up the backside that Boris Johnson needs, otherwise he will be toast in May 2024, when the next elections are likely to be. So Keir Starmer could be our next Prime Minister, but maybe not with a majority, so there could be another coalition with the Scottish National Party. Please no. That would be just awful for everyone. Scotland could then gain independence, another disaster for the UK, so hopefully the Lib Dems will win a few more seats. This would be the lesser of two evils, in my opinion. The Liberal Democrats and Conservatives managed to work together from 2010 to 2015.

I have been trying to do a bit of gardening, and have been shocked at the increase in the price of compost. Peat-free compost is more than twice the price of traditional compost. For commercial growers, it will be another increase to their cost of living. Inflation in 1975 was 27%, 26% in 1976. Labour were in power, but were run by the Unions. We were known as 'Sick Man Europe'. Half the country was on strike.

In the current French elections, Emmanuel Macron will get to serve a second term, beating Marine Le Pen. The voting choices in parts of France seem to be extreme left or extreme right. Voting will take place on 24th April. We have the fairest election system in the World, but even 'first past the post' has its flaws.

On a lighter note, have you watched the BBC series "Freeze the Fear" with Dutchman Wim Hof? Welsh BBC Weatherman Owain Wyn Evans is taking part. He is always very interesting to watch, whatever he does. The best weather presenter on TV is ITV's Holly Green, who is usually on after Meridian news. Her forecasts are always full of knowledge and facts.

Joke time: What happened when two silk worms raced each They ended up in a tie.

Who can drink ten litres of petrol and not get sick?. Jerry can.



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Easter come and gone so quickly!

Becky Bruce

Easter come and gone so quickly! We had a lovely time with all the sunshine and all the fun activities.

Here are various snaps of our 'goings on'. We are lucky enough for one of our residents to own a farm and therefore could arrange for a lamb to come in for the residents to hold and feed.



Simply delightful and we are having another visit from a lamb this week too!

We had Easter Hat making fun and had a fabulous Easter raffle, the prize was won by non other than our very own Nick and Lyn, it will

be kept safe until we next see them and one of our kitchen staff won the meal out for 2 at The B&J.

One of our residents managed to win 8 times on the raffle! But

due to the generosity of her soul put most of the tickets back but kept the biggest box of chocs for herself – quite right x

Also, one of our staff brought in her puppy for all to adore. Robin seen here with a big smile with puppy on lap. Adorable!

We have introduced 'seated dance' from Millie which went down such a treat we are getting her in twice a month to keep our residents active and smiling. Also, soon we are introducing 'seated yoga' from Sarah!! what a fit and 'zen' bunch of residents we will have.

Last Saturday we took a group of residents to the theatre in Cranbrook (CODs) to see the Vicar Of Dibley. It was fabulous - who needs the West End when you have such quality here. The lead was more like Dawn French than Dawn French! Superb and a big thank you to Kaz and Glyn and everyone involved in the production.

We continue with our monthly trips to the B&J – so enjoyed by our residents and we are always greeted with a big smile and great food and drink by Sean and Rosie.

We have also had a go at flower arranging this month – so many got involved (even some of the fellas!). Always cheers everyone up and gives them a sense of what



Summer will hopefully be.

The much anticipated 'first' flight at Headcorn Aerodrome for one of our residents is happening at the end of the month – will tell all with pics in next

month's issue. So happy for him, he can't wait. This is part of the 'wishing tree' project we have ongoing, where I find out what residents would really like to do if they had a wish (within reason, of course!) and its up to us to help that dream come true. Thanks



to the wonderful Phil Collins who owns a plane at Headcorn, this wish is coming true.

I wanted to mention the wonders of technology and how they have helped here at Larchmere. More and more residents are getting their own Alexa's in their rooms so they can listen to any music, ask any questions they want and

listen to books etc. It's a wonderful thing. We even have Geoff (our soon to be centenarian) listening to the '100 year old man who climbed out of a window and disappeared'. For those of you unaware this is a brilliant book about a chap escaping from a nursing home and the escapades he gets up to!! rather appropriate I thought! – lets hope it doesn't give him any ideas

We have lots coming up this month. This week alone we have the pub, cooking Rosie's special apple and sultana tarts and a trip to Slap n Dash in Hawkhurst for ceramic painting!!! Who said nursing homes were dull? I am booking my room now x



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FRITTENDEN MEMORIAL HALL - THURSDAYS

9:15-10:15am Beginners / 10:15-10:45am Advanced

11-12pm Qigong/Chair based exercise. A 'gentle' class improving posture and balance

Diane Pullen TCUGB BCCMA AMAC PTCCI (Level 7)

01580 852375 / 07811 241 506

Plant a Tree for the Jubilee

Rebecca Brown

In this year of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Queen Elizabeth is backing a worthwhile initiative of "Plant a tree for the Jubilee". This scheme is aimed at individuals and groups across the country to put trees back into our landscape. Sadly, we are one of the most treeless countries in Europe. Nevertheless, drawing on the Queen's initiative, we would like to set up a long-term project that invests in trees as part of the landscape character of our lovely parish.



Frittenden is in the Low Weald, the gently rolling belt of countryside that separates the hilly High Weald in the south from the Greensand Ridge and the Downs to our north. Sometimes regarded as the 'poor cousin' to the beautiful High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, our Low Weald has its own charm and character: a gentle topography, well-wooded, and speckled with ponds and water-courses; but most of all characterised by stupendous oak trees, which love our wet, sticky clay.

The landscape of our parish and its neighbours has a rich and distinctive character of low hedges interspersed with mature oaks, which loom up above the hedges and flat fields, majestic and striking. Look across the

fields in the parish and you will see what we mean.

But all is not well. These mature oaks may last for another century, perhaps more - but look again and you will see there are very few young oaks coming up to replace them when these giants die. We all benefit from a beautiful landscape - but we are not passing it on to future generations in the village. A landscape without this distinctive quality of hedgerow oaks is surely not what we want to leave as our legacy?

No-one is to blame. This project is most definitely NOT about pointing fingers at anyone. But all our hedges are cut by flail, indiscriminately chopping off every tree that grows above a certain height. In the past, hand-cutting allowed for careful preservation of individual trees. Oaks especially were nurtured in hedges and allowed to grow up to provide timber in the future. This does not happen now and, as a result, we are losing - and will increasingly lose - the beautiful and distinctive character of our parish.

What can we do?

We would like to talk to land-owners and farmers who would be prepared to allow a few new oak trees to be planted along a few of their hedges, at suitable sites agreed with them. Let's start small - perhaps one or two trees in one or two hedges per land-holding? Each tree would need one, or even two, tall stakes to warn hedge-cutters where to

pause the flail. Some may require protection from stock.

What resources would this need?

- Permission: from landowners, all that is required is permission to plant, and a gentleman's agreement that the trees will be allowed to grow.
- Trees: we are working on sourcing young trees from charitable bodies, including the Woodland Trust, who are backing the Queen's Green Canopy.
- Stakes: we hope to beg for some tall stakes from local wood suppliers, as a donation to the project.
- Tree Protection: And the same goes for the necessary tree guards or wire.



- Help and Goodwill: this is a parish-wide project and we really need some volunteers to help with it.
 - Vision: it's so easy to find reasons why projects are difficult. Let's not fall into that trap.
- So: Do you know any suitable sites?**
- Or would you be prepared to help identify and negotiate suitable sites?
 - Or don your wellies to plant a few small oak trees during the winter?

- Or help to dig some holes and bash in some stakes?
- Or undertake to check the trees periodically to give them the best start in life?
- Or just provide moral support in the background?

We can't do this alone - but together we could make a long-term difference to the future of our landscape for the sake of our children and grandchildren. We think that's worth a chilly day or two with a spade and some stakes, and we hope some of you do too.

Please drop me a line at: rebeccabrown0@icloud.com



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2nd June

Historical Society Display opens in Memorial Hall & continues until Sunday pm/evening
3pm Lantern-making Workshop In Hall

4th June

Morning: Historical Society Exhibition relocates to Marquee in Parish Field

2pm approx. Set up of decorated tables in Marquee

2pm approx. Puppetry Workshop

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4.30pm approx. Judging of decorated tables

Bar from 6pm then ...
6.30pm Village Supper (Bring Your Own) in marquee with Entertainment &

Dancing (to be booked in advance please)

3rd June

12 Noon til 6pm

Cricket Match on Cricket Field
7.30pm Concert (music & readings) in Church

PLATINUM

T H U

F R I



2 0 2 2

8.15pm Quarter-peal

8.30pm approx. Processions to Village Centre

9.15pm Beacon lighting

5th June

10am Jubilee Thanksgiving Service in Church

From 12 Noon Lunch in Marquee

BBQ, Hog Roast, B&T Bar, Veggie Eats

WI Tea & Cakes, Pudding Competition

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1.15pm Classic Car Parade &

The Queen's Grand Arrival

2.00pm approx. Fête with Children's

Games, Tug o' War,

Plant Stall, Crown Competition

All with a 1950's theme if you so wish
For further info. See Frittenden Parish Magazine &/or Frittenden Community on FB page

IN FRITTENDEN

70TH JUBILEE

Supported by:





What we have planned

Thursday 2nd June	Friday 3rd June	Saturday 4th June	Sunday 5th June
<p>Historical Society display Memorial Hall From 2pm to 5pm</p>	<p>Historical Society display Memorial Hall From 10am to 5pm</p>	<p>Historical Society Display Marquee, Parish Field From 10am to 5pm</p> <p>Decorated tables setting-up in the Marquees From 2pm to 4.30pm</p>	<p>Historical Society Display Marquee, Parish Field From 10am to 5pm</p> <p>Jubilee Thanksgiving Service St Mary's Church 10am All welcome</p>
<p>3pm Lantern-making workshop Memorial Hall From 3pm to 5pm</p>	<p>Four-way Cricket tournament Cricket Field Sinkhurst Green From 12 noon to 6pm</p>  <p>If you fancy a game, Joe, give Paul Hope a call</p>	<p>Puppetry Workshop Memorial Hall From 2pm to 3.45pm For children aged 4+ with parent.</p> <p>Free, but booking essential as tickets limited www.frittendenevents.co.uk or in person at the Bell & Jorlocks Box Office</p> <p>Judging of decorated tables Marquees 4.30pm</p>	<p>Village Lunch Marquees 12 noon onwards Food available to purchase Hog roast, barbecue, veggie dishes</p> <p>Arrival of "The Queen" and Classic Car Parade Parish Field 1.15pm and</p> <p>Judging of Pudding Competition Judging of Crown Competition 2pm followed by Fête Tug o' War, Plant Stall, children's games, refreshments. Parish Field</p>
<p>St Mary's bells quarter-peal Church from 8.15pm to 9pm approx.</p> <p>Lantern processions to War Memorial From Memorial Hall, Sand Lane junction, Valence View Starting at 8.30pm (8.40pm from Valence View)</p> <p>Beacon lighting War Memorial 9.15pm</p>	<p>Concert of music and readings St Mary's Church 7.30pm</p> <p>Adults, and children from older primary school age upwards with parents. Refreshments. Tickets £5 adults and children 16 and above</p> <p>Available on the door but book if possible – Judy or Tony Staples, tel 01580 852226</p>	<p>Village Supper <i>bring your own food</i></p> <p>Marquees From 6.30pm (Bar from 6pm) To 11pm</p> <p>Adults, and children 11 and over</p> <p>Tickets £5 from Chris and Jackie Brown, 01580 852452</p>	

Jubilee Concert

Roll up, roll up.....to St Mary's Church at 7.30 pm on Friday 3rd June for our Jubilee Concert! We hope to offer you instrumental and vocal music of all sorts, much of it with a Jubilee or regal theme.

And, as we've done in the past, we'll be interspersing the music with a variety of readings, both serious and light-hearted.

Younger and not-so-young performers and readers will be delighted to have your company for the evening. Children from older primary school age upwards are welcome to come along too, with a parent.

Admission prices are modest – £5 adults, and young people 16 and above. Younger children free.

Tickets from Judy and Tony Staples, tel 01580 852226, email judith_staples@hotmail.com anthonystaples@btinternet.com

Interval refreshments will be served.

Save the date – we look forward to seeing you there!

Decorated tables

Tables for the Village Supper will be decorated early on the afternoon of Saturday 4th June, and judged at 4.30pm. A prize for the best!

Pudding competition

Create a pudding (ie a dessert) fit for a queen! Bring it along to the Village Lunch in the Parish Field on Sunday 5th June; the puddings will be judged by "The Queen" on her arrival at 1.15. Make sure your dish is named underneath – the name should not be visible. Each dish will be given a number. A prize will be awarded to the best. Good luck!

Crown competition

Design a beautiful crown and bring or wear it to the Village Lunch on Sunday 5th June. Contestants may be asked to parade in their crowns at 2pm, when judging will take place and prizes will be awarded. Two categories: 1) children up to and including 11; 2) adults, and children 12 and over.

Helen Grant

MP for Maidstone and the Weald

I am here to help you in any way that I can. If there is an issue of concern to you, where you believe I can assist, or if you would like to arrange a meeting with me, please email me at helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk or telephone **020 7219 7107**.



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Village Supper

Saturday 4th June, in the marquees on the Parish Field, 6 pm for 6.30 pm start.

Tickets £5 each.

CONTACT CHRIS BROWN FOR

TICKETS: 01580 852452

Open to age 11 and over.

Come along and celebrate our Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The idea is to book a table for six. If you are a smaller party, don't worry – you can be put on a table with others.

We hope you will all decorate your table in

the Jubilee theme in the afternoon. Judging will be at 4.30 pm. Yes, there is a prize!

Come along and bring your own banquet; there will be plugs available for slow cookers; microwaves will be available for warming.

Enjoy your meal with friends before the evening entertainment:

Headcorn Ukulele Group
SHABBA – our local "ABBA" group
Followed by "Old Skool": an Essex 7-piece function band with brass section.

Don't forget your dancing shoes!

Paying bar provided by Rosie and Sean of "The Bell and Jorlocks"

Jubilee Cricket Match



Friday 3rd June
12.00pm running through to around 6ish.

It's free to play in a 6 a side 4 team tournament with the bar open and bbq going all day. Bring on the sunshine!!

If anyone wants to come along and play please let me know. Paul Hope



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A new round of



Yes, Applause is back with a season of four shows to coordinate with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations here in Frittenden. Applause Rural Touring brings professional actors and musicians right to our doorstep, so do come along! Our application for a grant to the Let's Create Jubilee Fund in partnership with Applause was successful (announced elsewhere in the

Magazine) so we can offer half-price tickets to adults at £5 and free tickets to youngsters (18 and under) and also to those on low income and to those accompanying a wheelchair user.

You must book tickets at www.frittendenevents.co.uk and you must have a ticket even if there is no charge. Frittenden residents benefit from priority booking, so tickets at £5 for adults will be available until 20th May, after which general booking opens to non-residents as well and the price increases to £6. So do make sure you get your tickets early. Tickets are also available at the Bell and Jorrocks. As always, proceeds from the shows go to the Memorial Hall fund. Details of each show follow.



Long Nose Puppets and Annie Brooks present

Du Iz Tac?

Puppetry Show and Workshop

A tiny tale told by tiny creatures about BIG ideas.

Told though the language of insects, Du Iz Tak? is a story about the cycle of life and all its impermanence. Come and peer into a miniature world of little puppets to see a delightful group of friends exploring their ever-changing home.

Funny, imaginative and thought provoking. A show for all the family. Running time 30 minutes.

Limited capacity for an intimate experience.

A puppet-making workshop lasting 60 minutes will follow after an interval.

"A visual feast. One thing is certain, I'll never look at a woodlouse the same way again."

Lisa Wolfe

Frittenden Memorial Hall, Saturday 4th June at 2pm

Audience limited to 30 children with an accompanying parent for the show and the workshop. BOOK EARLY. Entry by ticket only – free (but must be booked).

Tickets at www.frittendenevents.co.uk and in person at the Bell and Jorrocks Box Office. Seating unreserved. Suitable for age 4+.

The Foundry Group present a musical comedy:

Lord God

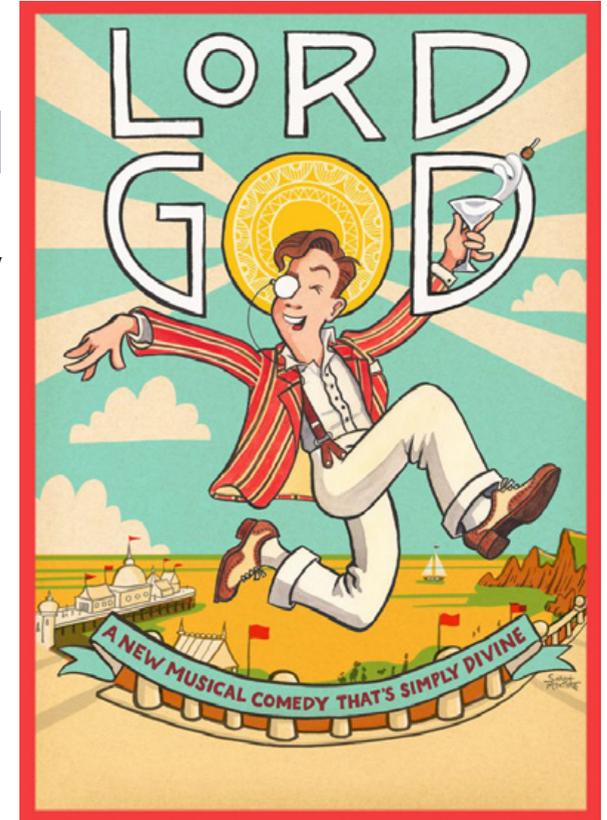
When Lord God is persuaded by retainer Gabriel to take a holiday in a Devonshire seaside hotel (to get Him out from under His angels' feet), He looks forward to a fortnight filled with tennis, cream teas and the latest Agatha Christie.

But the presence of campaigning atheist Prof. 'Minty' Tweddle and her fiancé, caustic drama critic Rex Addison, leads to all manner of supernatural scrapes, japes and narrow escapes and the invention of a hot new global dance craze.

Can our hero persuade Minty He really exists? Can He solve the Problem of Evil before breakfast? Will Gabriel step in once more to save the Almighty's bacon?

Find out the answers to these questions and all the mysteries of Creation in this new 1920's-set, family-friendly musical comedy from best-selling author Philip Reeve and award-winning playwright and composer Brian Mitchell, writers of the acclaimed musical 'The Ministry of Biscuits'.

'Lord God' takes a timely look at morality, faith, and why sometimes it is best not to take things too seriously. With a top-notch cast including comedian Joanna Neary (BBC2's 'Ideal') 'Lord God' promises a night of witty lyrics, toe-tapping tunes and thoughtful frivolity. For more information visit: www.foundrygroup.co.uk.



Frittenden Memorial Hall, Saturday 11th June at 8pm

Bar opens at 7.30pm. Tickets: Adult £5 if booked before 20th May, £6 thereafter. Youngsters (18 and under) and those on low income or accompanying a wheelchair user: free (but must be booked).

Tickets at www.frittendenevents.co.uk and in person at the Bell and Jorrocks Box Office. Seating unreserved. Suitable for age 7+.

A Father's Day Treat!

From Bright Buoy Productions who brought the hilarious Blue Planet III to Frittenden in 2020

Privates: Great Ideas By Geniuses

Live comedy's anarchic answer to Wallace & Gromit

"Absurd and hilarious"
(The Wee Review)

"Highly enjoyable... Absolute magic"
(Mumble Comedy)



Three brilliant, big-headed idiots try to make history and win a Nobel Prize with some totally stupid homemade inventions.

Discover a show about the discoveries that changed the world, by people who know nothing.

Award-winning idiots Privates reinvent the wheel, ignoring the past and ruining the future along the way. This show will eureka you out of the bath, drop an apple on your head and invent the chair you're sitting on. Not sat down? Oh man, you have got to try one of these chairs!

Great Ideas By Geniuses is the greatest invention in human history - because it's got them all in it

Frittenden Memorial Hall Sunday 19th June at 3pm

Bar opens at 2.30pm. Tickets: Adult £5 if booked before 20th May, £6 thereafter. Youngsters (18 and under) and those on low income or accompanying a wheelchair user: free (but must be booked)..

Tickets at www.frittendenevents.co.uk and in person at the Bell and Jorrocks Box Office. Seating unreserved. Suitable for family audience.



And back by popular demand after their sell-out show in 2019

Red Hot Rhythms straight from the streets of Santiago De Cuba



Son Yambu are a UK based band who play authentic Cuban son - the essential Afro-Cuban sound that originated in the streets of eastern Cuba at the turn of the last century and later gave rise to modern salsa.

Most of the band members hail from Cuba. Each has a lifetime's worth of experience in playing son Cubano and are all passionate about maintaining the traditions of the genre.

Playing their irresistible tropical rhythms, Son Yambu bring their audiences a truly sensational, authentic Latin-music experience and their music is guaranteed to turn any event into a fiesta!

Absolutely tremendous ... music like that and we're all feeling terrific
Sean Rafferty, BBC Radio 3.

With a line up of expat Cuban musicians playing rootsy Cuban son... Son Yambu had dancers twirling from the off.

Jane Cornwell, Evening Standard.

The real sound of Santiago De Cuba.
Simon Broughton, Evening Standard

Frittenden Memorial Hall, Friday 15th July at 8pm

Bar opens at 7.30pm. Tickets: Adult £5 if booked before 20th May, £6 thereafter. Youngsters (18 and under) and those on low income or accompanying a wheelchair user: free (but must be booked)..

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Dogs, Dunnocks and Destruction

Rebecca Warren

May is upon us - that most beautiful time of year in the Weald, when the bluebells are out and the young leaves are on the trees. It's also a critical time for wild birds and animals, when breeding is well underway.

Many people don't realise that lots of our birds breed on the ground or low down in hedges and bushes: skylarks, yellowhammers, woodcock, blackcaps, wood and garden warblers, nightingales, whitethroats, quail, dunnocks, wrens, not to mention cuckoos, which lay their eggs in small birds' nests, including some of the above species. Almost all these birds are disappearing fast from our countryside - imagine a spring with no cuckoos, no skylarks?

So please, if you are taking your dog out into the fields and woodlands **KEEP IT ON THE LEAD**. It may feel nice to see Rover bounding away, snuffling through the undergrowth, following his nose. But dogs' noses are excellent at sniffing out birds and animals. Once a nest is disturbed, even if not destroyed, the entire breeding season of that bird will be destroyed.

Our wildlife is in catastrophic decline at the moment. So please don't assume Rover is 'doing no harm' because you 'can't see any nests'. Nests aren't designed to be seen by humans - but Rover is designed to find them. Please keep him on the lead and take responsibility for protecting what wildlife we have left. It's the least we can do.



Illustration by Rebecca Warren



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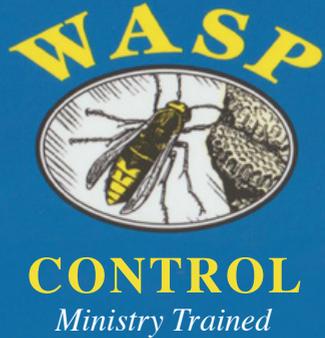
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Is your head in the clouds?

Colin Bullock

- Saucer-shaped lenticular clouds have been mistaken for UFOs.
- A single cloud may hold billions of litres of water, but not all clouds bring rain.
- Fog is actually clouds that touch the ground.
- The highest clouds are at 50,000 feet.
- A massive hurricane swirling above Saturn produced clouds the size of Texas USA.
- A volcanic eruption in Iceland produced an ash cloud that rose 3 miles into the atmosphere.
- Unlike a tornado, a funnel cloud never touches the ground.
- Depending on the speed of the wind, clouds can travel up to 100 MPH across the sky.
- A fire rainbow-clouds that look like colourful flames- are a result of light passing through high altitude cirrus clouds.
- At any moment, clouds cover about 60 percent of the earth.
- Clouds that glow electric blue are formed by water vapour from meteor smoke.
- The yellow-orange clouds above Venus, are made of almost 100% sulphuric acid.
- Mushroom clouds form when dense, hot gas from a nuclear blast hits cool air in the atmosphere.
- Some of Earth's clouds can span more than 600 miles of sky.

Tricky Quiz

1. Which religion has Five Pillars?
2. In which city is the DVLA situated?

3. In which county would you find Donington Park racing circuit?
 4. Who played Hans Gruber in Die Hard?
 5. Which two nations compete for the Calcutta Cup?
 6. Which is the oldest university in the USA?
 7. Which pub is associated with the fictional brewery Newton & Ridley?
 8. Who was managed by Colonel Tom Parker?
 9. Who wrote The Old Man and the Sea?
 10. Which four American states are prefixed by the word "New?"
 11. How many curves are there on a standard paper clip?
 12. Where in the UK does the law forbid the Queen from entering?
- (Answers on the back page)

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There have been some developments on the project since we last put an article in the Parish magazine in October 2021.

We are delighted to welcome Jim

Henderson to the team with a background in marketing and Mark Viviers who has taken on the role of Financial Director and Treasurer. Mark has updated the Business Plan and the Financial projections. Sarah Murray has also joined our team. The Committee is under-represented in the 30-50 age group and Sarah along with Mark will be able to give us much needed input from this age group.

Funding

We are continuing to see growth in the overall funding for the project. Since November we have received additional pledges and offers of loans from the Community and the totals are now as follows:

FUNDING TO DATE (17/09/21)	
PLEDGES	
Community Shares	£52,100
Donations	£3,650
Loans	£16,000
Corporate Sponsors	£1,250
Total	£73,000

In addition, the team have continued to work on applications for external funding and are delighted to announce that we have been awarded a grant of £10,000 towards the fit-out costs from the National Lottery Community Fund. This was a fund that was targeted at communities adversely affected by COVID-19 so we were not sure if we would qualify,

however it is very encouraging news that we have been awarded this grant.

The total of our external funding now stands at £22,000, which brings the total to date to £93,000. Our target is £150,000.

We recently submitted an application to the Spring 2022 Grant Programme of the Princes Countryside Fund – Supporting Rural Communities. The Fund is inviting applications from projects for grants of up to £25,000 that will have a long-lasting impact on rural communities. The results should be known in mid-June. Like all these programmes they are oversubscribed and so it is by no means certain that we will be successful. In the last funding round, there were 130 applications, and 20 projects were awarded funding. What PCF have told us is that we must be able to demonstrate strong community support for the project. Thank you to all those in our community that sent in testimonials expressing support for the project that we were able to use in our application.

Transition from Stable Stores

You will be aware that Stable Stores has now closed and so our planned transition will not take place. Sean and Rosie have done an outstanding job in meeting the needs of the village during the two years of COVID on and off lockdown and we are all extremely grateful to them for this.

We are aware that as the various restrictions were eased the support for Stable Stores started to reduce nevertheless, we continue to believe that there is a need for a Community Shop and Café in the village with all the benefits that this will bring.

So, if you would like to pledge support for the project, volunteer or have the relevant skills to strengthen the present development team please use the response form on our website frittendenstores.co.uk, or get in touch by email to info@frittendenstores.co.uk

Volunteering at Sissinghurst Castle

John Dutton

Let me tell you what it is like to volunteer at Sissinghurst Castle. My favourite shifts are spent either by the tower, in the library, or in South Cottage (the home of Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicolson who set up the garden.) Volunteers also welcome visitors at the car park, the visitor reception, or the garden gate. Some work the gardens or on the estate. Others, who have been volunteering for a while, help with the conservation or archives, or take visitors on guided tours.

Some people have not returned to volunteering since the pandemic, so this article is written in the hope that readers might think about trying it out. In particular there is a need for people to do what I do, which is talking to visitors within the garden. Sometimes it's dealing with practicalities like "where is the White Garden?" or making sure that not too many people go up the tower at once. But mostly it's talking about the history and background of the place.

Sissinghurst is a window onto so much of interest – the long-gone Elizabethan palace, the prisoners-of-war housed there in the eighteenth century and the arrival in 1930 of Vita and Harold. There is a connection to Knole in Sevenoaks where Vita was born; and Harold was a diplomat and MP before and during the war. Regular readers of this magazine will have seen the article on Sissinghurst Castle in the second world war. And there is the fascinating story of Harold and Vita's marriage and family, and their relationships outside their marriage. They were both writers, and Vita, with her connection with Virginia Woolf, was on the edge of the Bloomsbury group.

To volunteer, you can be any age or background but you need to enjoy meeting new people and talking to them about all these stories. You don't need to know



©National Trust Images/Andrew Butler

anything about the property already, you just need to be enthusiastic to learn. Every visitor has a different area and level of interest – you quickly get a feel for what, and how much, people want to hear. There is no particular time commitment. You book shifts online according to your availability.

What might you get out of it? You meet many different people, both visitors and among the staff and volunteers; before the pandemic there were lots of international visitors and they will probably return. You learn about a fascinating local treasure. At present my shifts include a 30-minute meander around the garden. And if you clock up 50 hours in a year you are given a card for free entry to all National Trust properties until the end of the following year, plus 20% discount in all their shops and eating places.

You may have noticed that I haven't mentioned anything about plants – luckily (for me) you don't need to know a thing!

To find out more please contact me at john.dutton@talk21.com or 01580 852361, or Peter, the Volunteer Recruiter at Sissinghurst, at peter.hooper@nationaltrust.org.uk



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Tennis Club

Frittenden Tennis Club Membership form 2022

Would you Like to play Tennis in Frittenden?

The village club is open to tennis players of all ages, and abilities, and is actively looking to increase membership.

Please do get involved and come and try out the court, join at very reasonable rates and have fun playing tennis in the village.



Playing fees – annual membership (April – March)

Family (2 adults & children to 18yrs)	£45
Adult	£25
Senior Citizen	£15
Student up to 18 years	£15

Joining Instructions – payment and email to:

Frittenden_Tennis@outlook.com

Payment direct to the Tennis Club Account (Sorry No cheques)

FTC Sort Code: 30-92-36 Account: 00514059

The winners of the Prize Draw

APRIL 2022 DRAW

1st Prize	No.25	Tim Bull	£20.00
2nd Prize	No.07	Diane Campos	£15.00
3rd Prize	No.83	Eileen Mounter	£10.00

Here are the lucky winners of the April draw. The prize money has increased as we now have 90 members. As you know half of the monthly ticket proceeds are divided between three prize winners and the other half goes towards the upkeep of the Frittenden Memorial Hall.

If you haven't managed to get around to completing a Membership Form yet, but would like to join, please email me at: shop@acornsstores.co.uk or give me a ring on 01580 852563 and I will get one to you. You can pay by cash, cheque or by bank transfer (details on the form). As we are over half way through the year, there are five draws left, so the Subscription until the end of the year is £5.00 per person.

Thank you for reading this and Good Luck!

Eileen Bridges Organiser

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Glorious start to the season...

Tim Bull timbull@aol.com

Frittenden's Cricket Club, now well-established with ground and pavilion at Sandhurst Bridge on the Staplehurst Road, can trace its playing roots back to the 18th century. Our village historian, Phil Betts, has researched the history of cricket in this parish, and identified the various venues at which the game has been played as its fortunes waxed and waned over the years. By the 1980s the club was no more (though a bag of equipment and some old scorebooks survived). One or two matches were played on the parish field in the 1980s, between our morris dancers (yes we had our own!) and the Bell & Jorrocks darts players. But it was in 1995 that a proper revival began, when participants of the monthly friendly football match decided to play the summer game. The parish field had limitations as a cricket ground, so in 1996 the players obtained permission to use the field at Sandhurst Bridge, a former cricket venue. A herculean effort was made to beat out a wicket in the sheep field, and five informal matches were played. Such was the enthusiasm this provoked that a new Club was formed and has played continuously since then.

Frittenden CC plays friendly matches and, since 2005, in the Kent Village League. The Club has been a stalwart member of the league's lower divisions, achieving glory in 2018 as Champions of Division Six. Frittenden prides itself on being an inclusive club, where everyone will get a game. We have fielded mixed sex teams, and always have a very wide mix of ages. The Club is not able to provide youth coaching, but we encourage younger players and make sure they are fully involved in our matches. Our ethos is simple: we like to win, but the most important thing is to enjoy the game and play in the right spirit. Any new residents of the village who may be interested in an occasional or regular game, please come down and introduce yourselves. New players are always welcome!

The 2022 season started on Easter Sunday, in glorious weather, as The Club took on The Pub. Batting first, the Club scored 121 runs, led by Bill Totterdell (22), Aiden



McGinley (32 not out) and Nic Rodreigo (29 not out). Tom Martin took 3 wickets for the Pub. In reply, N Sims and James Parry put on an entertaining partnership for the second wicket, but a rash of dismissals saw the Pub fall to 47-8. Jordan Monks (26 including one enormous six) and his stepfather Richard Hunter (28) combined to take the score to 105 with 2 overs to go. But with victory in sight, both were dismissed. Nic Rodreigo was man of the match with 4 wickets and 2 catches, as the Pub enjoyed a final flurry to finish 120, all out.

Frittenden Fixtures for May & June

1st May	Frittenden v Great Chart
8th May	Frittenden v Holcombe & Blue Bell Hill (league)
15th May	Frittenden v Kings Hill (league)
22nd May	Egerton v Frittenden
29th May	Horton Kirby v Frittenden (league)
3rd June	Jubilee Celebration: the Nora Bearsby Challenge Cup Six a side tournament
5th June	Lydd v Frittenden
12th June	Sherwood v Frittenden (league)
19th June	Frittenden v Rolvenden
26th June	Frittenden v Borden (league)

Frittenden Cricket Club is a welcoming, friendly Club. New players are always welcome. For information, please see our website: frittenden.play-cricket.com or contact the writer.

From the Monthly Farming Update

John Day

READ SLOWLY:

ARBITRATOR: A Cook who leaves Arby's to work at McDonalds

AVOIDABLE: What a bullfighter tries to do

BERNADETTE: The act of torching a mortgage

BURGLARIZE: What a crook sees with

COUNTERFEITERS: Workers who put together kitchen cabinets

ECLIPSE: What a South London barber does for a living

EYEDROPPER: A clumsy ophthalmologist

HEROES: What a guy in a boat does

LEFTBANK: What a robber did when his bag was full of money

MISTY: How golfers create divots

PARADOX: Two physicians

PARASITES: What you see from the top of the Eiffel Tower

PHARMACIST: A helper on the farm

POLARIZE: What penguins see with

PRIMATE: Removing your spouse from in front of the TV

RELIEF: What trees do in the spring

RUBBERNECK: What you do to relax your wife

SELFISH: What the owner of a seafood stores does

SUDAFED: Brought litigation against a US government official

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Coffee Morning



On 6th April we were delighted to welcome Chris West from Frittenden who spoke on behalf of the Sam West Foundation (www.samwestfoundation.org).

Chris and his wife Michelle started the charity after their son Sam tragically took his own life 3 weeks before his 16th birthday in 2018 after being diagnosed with depression and anxiety. The mission of the Sam West Foundation is to support children, young adults and their families affected by mental health issues. To this end the Foundation has been funding the charity Place2Be to provide a "whole school approach" towards the mental health and well-being of pupils, teachers and parents at Cranbrook Grammar School as well as primary schools in Sissinghurst, Hawkhurst and Cranbrook.

The Sam West Foundation also supports a large multi-academy trust (TKAT) to embed emotional wellbeing strategies across 45 state primary and secondary schools

in Kent and Sussex. The Foundation itself runs a series of highly subsidised youth and adult mental health first Aid courses, and runs a monthly parent/carer support group for those looking after a child who may be experiencing poor mental health (for more details email Michelle at cranbrookcarersgroup@gmail.com).

We raised £251.40 for their work. Thank you to everyone who came and donated so generously.

Next Bring and Buy Coffee Morning is on Wednesday 4th May at 10.00am in Sissinghurst Parish Room in aid of Kent Air Ambulance. Paramedic Richard de Coverley is our speaker.

Everyone very welcome.

Pat Jackson, Ann Mahoney and Ann Reid

Headcorn Health Walks May

Wednesday 11th: Meet in the car park at Kingswood & Broomfield Recreation Ground, Lenham Road, Kingswood (ME17 1LX) at 09:30 for 9:45am start for a walk of three miles with gentle inclines and no stiles! Hopefully, we will see and smell some lovely bluebells.

Directions: Take the road from Headcorn to Ulcombe, continuing through the village to the crossroads at the top of Ulcombe Hill. Turn left along Lenham Road and the entrance to the recreation ground is on the right-hand side.

Wednesday 18th: Meet at Parsonage Meadow, next to Headcorn Village Hall, at 9.30 for a 9.45am start for a 45 minute social stroll around the village at a pace to suit everyone. As the weather improves, we may cross fields near the village. Please wear suitable footwear.

Wednesday 25th: Meet at the Village Hall in Frittenden (The Street, TN17 2DD) at 9:30 for a 9:45am start for an approximately four mile circular walk to Sissinghurst Castle. Parking is available along The Street. A fairly flat walk across fields and along quiet lanes with several stiles. We may stop at Sissinghurst Castle for a quick drink in the National Trust tea room.

Everyone is very welcome to join us on our free and friendly walks but if you would like more information before doing so, or would like further details of any particular walk, please contact: Barry (barry@watersideoast.com) or Paula (07525 260539).



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March weather statistics: The warmest March Weather Statistics: The warmest March day in Frittenden was 24th, with a temperature of 19.1 c/ 66.38 f. Countrywide the warmest March day was 20.5 c/ 69.90 f at Portmadog, Gwynedd on 26th. Frittenden's coldest day this March was on 5th at 6.6 c/ 43.88 f. The UK's lowest day maximum temperature was -5 c/ 21.92 f. Frittenden's lowest night minimum temperature was on 20th at -3.5 c/ 25.70 f. The UK's lowest minimum temperature this March was -7.8 c/ 17.96 f on 21st at Braemar, Aberdeenshire. In March, I recorded 3 air frosts and 18 ground frosts. Frittenden's rainfall for March was 26mm/ 1.24 inches, just 50% of the average. So far this year, our rainfall total is 60% deficient, but we have had 130% of the average sunshine hours for England. Northern Ireland and Scotland had their sunniest March on record with 180 hours.

FORECAST FOR MAY 2022 for Kent to Dorset, the Cotswolds and Lincolnshire.

May will start with lower pressure with showers and a gusty southerly wind. Lincolnshire will see the least of the rain. So Early May Bank Holiday will not be as warm or as nice as Easter Bank Holiday weekend was. There will be only a few bright spells with average temperatures, 15 c/ 59 f. From 4th to 8th May, winds will turn to the north west, bringing showers, mostly in western areas. The northern areas of the south east will have the brightest weather. The nights will be chilly, with ground frosts and frost hollows will have close to freezing temperatures. Time to turn the central heating back on. Temperatures will rise to 12 c/ 54 f in the west and north of the areas that I forecast for. London could just reach 15 c/ 59 f. Between 9th and 18th May, the Azores high will bring summer warmth on a southerly breeze. Most places will reach 22 - 25 c/ 72 - 77 f. The only fly in the ointment is that sea fog may affect the Channel Coasts. When this occurs, temperatures could be only around 12 c/ 54 f. The weather will become humid mid month. There could be home grown thunder storms in the South East, East Anglia and the Midlands. We may even see hail and gusty winds during storms. Between 19th and 25th, high pressure over Germany will feed in some cloud and a cool easterly breeze on North Sea Coasts/. Anywhere 40 miles inland will be warm

and sunny. Bournemouth, Dorset and Cheltenham could get temperatures close to 80 f/ 26.7 c. There will always be a small risk of thundery showers in the evenings. High pressure will move into the North Sea, and most places will have a light south easterly breeze. A heatwave is classed as 3 or more days with temperatures 5 c/ 9 f above the average. I expect some places in North London, Cambridge and Birmingham to reach a temperature of 30 c/ 86 f. Thundery lows will move in south of Bristol to Suffolk. This could bring local flash floods, where just 10 miles away it could be dry. Temperatures where storms occur will fluctuate by as much as 13 c/ 25 f. It would have been good Whitsun/ Late Spring Bank Holiday weekend weather. 100 years ago, from 20th to 24th May, we had our hottest mini heatwave to affect May, peaking at 32.8 c/ 91 f in Camden Square, London. The summer that followed was wet and decidedly chilly. Hopefully we won't have a repeat of that this year.

May's hottest days could approach temperatures of 30 c/ 86 f during the last week of the month. May's coldest days will be in the first few days of the month at 13 to 15 c/ 55 to 59 f, but later in the month, the Channel coast may get some sea fog, then temperatures will be only in the low 50 f's. May's coldest nights will be from 4th to 8th, possibly dropping to frost level in frost hollows. Ground frost will be widespread from Wiltshire, the southern South East, the Midlands and East Anglia. Gardeners take note. Rainfall will be sporadic, with high totals where storms occur, otherwise it will be another dry month with 30 - 35mm, but double that in storms. This May will be less sunny than 2020, but better than 2021, which had a soggy May. Sunshine: Many areas could have 140% of the average sunshine hours. The East Coast will be close to the average. The average sunshine hours for May in England is 190, 203 hours in Kent. March's Central England Temperature was 7.9c, which is 1.7 c/ 3.06 f above the long term average. Some weather pundits are predicting that it will be the warmest Spring on record. I think that it could end up in the top 6 warmest Springs. May's Central England Temperature will be 11.23 c/ 52.21 f. Last year, it was 10.5 c/ 50.90 f. The hottest May on record was in 1833 with a CET of 15.1 c/ 59.18 f. We have had many Junes, Julys and Augusts much lower than that. This year it will be 12.6 c/ 54.68 f, the warmest since 2008, which was followed by a poor Summer. I predict that August will be our warmest month this year.

REFUSE TRUCK SCHEDULE

This service has been suspended until further notice

LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS

Frittenden Parish Council		
Chairman	Tony Staples	01580 852226
Vice Chairman	James Tuke	01580 852372
	Heather Cullingworth	
	Lester Gosbee	01580 852340
	Sarah Murray	01580 852288
	Rosalind Riley	07854679348
	Richard Vernon	01580 852317
Parish Clerk	Emma Nightingale	01580 852537
		01580 292576

www.frittenden.org.uk

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	
Town Hall	01892 526121
Cranbrook - Weald Information Centre	
	01580 715686

Member for Frittenden & Sissinghurst
 Andy Fairweather 07976 290185
andrew.fairweather@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

Kent County Council
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Member for Cranbrook
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sean.holden@kent.gov.uk

Policing
 Non-urgent crime reports 101

Neighbourhood Watch Liaison
 Sean Croucher 01580 852415

Community Warden
 Adam Osborn 07813 695741

We are most grateful for your support and welcome any contributions.
 It is simple to do
NatWest: Sort: 60-06-18, A/c: 59020911
Name: PCC Frittenden. Ref: Parish Mag
 Hope you are all enjoying the new magazine

May has the colour of bud green, a soft hue that hints at healing, rejuvenation and prosperity.

NEXT EDITION

Closing date for material for the next edition is 16th May.

Email: frittendenparishmagazine@gmail.com

To submit an article please send as a word document. We encourage colour images to illustrate your article, and please supply as high resolution (PDF or 300 DPI). If you wish to text images, or What's App please do so on 07768456935.

The Editor wishes it to be known that any opinions expressed in any edition of this magazine are those of the individual contributor and in no way infer any form of agreement, either by the Editor or by St. Mary's Church, of the details given or sentiments implied.

QUIZ (PAGE 37) ANSWERS

1) Islam, 2) Swansea, 3) Leicestershire, 4) Alan Rickman, 5) England and Scotland, 6) Harvard, 7) The Rovers Return, 8) Elvis Presley, 9) Ernest Hemingway, 10) Four, York, Jersey, Hampshire & Mexico, 11) Three, 12) House of Commons.

Frittenden Parish Magazine

Connecting our community

Send us your submissions

We want to make this magazine as vibrant and interesting as possible. If you have story to tell, a hobby to share, a viewpoint or a picture, even your favourite pet - we would love to share it.

All ages welcome, this magazine is for you and your village.

frittendenparishmagazine@gmail.com



Larchmere House is set in the pretty Wealden village of Frittenden providing 24-hour nursing Care. Our team of friendly, qualified Nurses and Care Staff are committed to providing the highest standards of nursing care for up to 30 residents in a safe and caring environment. * Delicious home cooked food and all dietary needs catered for * Daily activities, entertainment and regular outings (current situation permitting) * Consistently 'Good' CQC Inspections.

Please feel free to contact the home on the number below if you have any questions and take a look at our Face Book page for an insight of activities at Larchmere House. We have maintained a Covid-19 Free environment for over a year and continue to follow Government Guidelines in order to keep our residents safe and well.

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01580 852335 Find us on Face Book

www.larchmere.co.uk • info@larchmere.co.uk