

April 2022

***This is the time to say
'Goodbye'
(unless you can help)
as the sun goes down on***

Network

***Harrietsham's Village
Magazine***



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Save the Date

**Harrietsham Parish Council will be lighting the Beacon on Thursday 2 June
and
The Jubilee Big Lunch will be held on
Sunday 5 June**



**Harrietsham
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Harrietsham Fish Scheme Who's Who

Fish Scheme-Helping Hands

Lift Organisers	Andrew & Felicity Rogers <i>Ridgedown, Marley Road, Harrietsham ME17 1AU</i> <i>Email andrew.rogers3@btinternet.com</i>
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Network Magazine

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Visit our website: www.harrietshamfishscheme.org

Harrietsham Network is published by the Harrietsham Fish Scheme

Thank you

Goodbye!

Sadly, this is the last issue of Network Magazine. Please do not send any more copy as we cannot publish and we won't be able to reply. Advertisers will be contacted by members of Harrietsham Fish Committee.

Thank you everyone who lives in Harrietsham for your support through the years. Thank you everyone who has helped to produce and deliver Network, and thank you everyone who has provided copy and taken out advertisements.

The Network Team and Harrietsham Fish Scheme wish you all well for the future.

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Network - Harrietsham's Village Magazine

January 1970 - April 2022	18,19
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Village Diary

Just a reminder that a Diary has been placed in the Post Office for anyone to put in any events which may happen in the village.

Harrietsham Network

Harrietsham Gardening Society



Our speaker for February was Jane Scotchmer, who related her visit to 'Guatemala – A land of Terrible Beauty'. Certainly it's a country which doesn't appear very often in the news but definitely one to visit if you want to impress the neighbours!

At our April meeting on Tuesday 19 April Heather Silk will be giving a talk entitled 'How to make your garden visitors welcome'. At the time of writing I'm not sure if that means attracting butterflies, birds and frogs, or having tea, cake a parasol and a hot tub at the ready but we'll see.

The Annual Show this year is Saturday 3 September so start to think about photographic entries; the categories are:

A close up photograph of part of a shrub.

A farm animal

A humorous photograph

A Farming Landscape

A day at the seaside.

A photograph of a Spider's web.

Kevin Harlock

Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls

I hope you have all been pleased with and enjoyed the extra half an hour that has been added to the roll-up times for Monday afternoons and Thursday evenings. It does give us leeway for more playing time and helps to alleviate the shadow of extra charges for leaving the hall past our allotted time slot. It will also help when we can return to friendly games. The numbers attending the roll-ups have increased, but they do still fluctuate, however, it seems to be a good time to increase the length of the sessions although it will be necessary to pay attention to the increased cost.



Keep on Bowling, and Best Wishes

Phil Gooda Chairman/Secretary Harrietsham SMBC

Harrietsham in Bloom

Harrietsham in Bloom

We have experienced a wonderful Spring display throughout the village thanks to our sponsors, volunteers and collecting boxes.



There is a lot of deadheading and weeding to be done over the next few months and we are still desperate for volunteers to come forward and join us. Just looking after one planter would be a help and not take up too much of your time. Please consider offering any help you can. Details from our Chairman Andrew Rogers 01622 859352.

On Saturday 23 April in the village hall will be our annual quiz night – 7 pm for 7.30pm start. Tables up to 8 persons need to be booked via Andrew 859352 or Barbara 853754 at £5 per person, bring your own drink and food. There will also be a raffle. We look forward to seeing you. Please support this event. Enquiries to Andrew Rogers (Chair) 859352

Audrey Joy

Parish Council News

Community Litter Pick

The annual community litter pick, which is organised by the Parish Council, will be taking place on Saturday 2 April 9am – 11am. This will commence on the village green in West Street.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 27 April at 8.00pm in St John the Baptist Church. The speaker this year will be from Kent Police and will talk about the serious issue of scams. The Annual Parish Meeting will follow the usual monthly Parish Council meeting, which will be a shorter than usual meeting, commencing at the earlier time of 7.00pm. All residents are welcome to attend both meetings.

Amanda Broadhurst - Parish Clerk – 850089
harrietshampc@aol.com

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Message From the Editor

Whilst every effort has been made to include as wide a variety of information as possible, the editor reserves the right not to publish, or to edit, any item. The editor's decision is final. Responsibility for the information and views set out in articles and notices in this publication lies entirely with the authors.

Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the officers or committee of the Fish Scheme.

The publication of an advertisement does not constitute an endorsement. No reproduction allowed in any form without written consent. No flyers or inserts to be sent to the printers for inclusion in the magazine direct or without the editor's prior consent.

Front Cover : Photo by Jonathan Petersson from Pexels

April Diary

Abbreviations:

*HVH = Harrietsham Village Hall
LCC = Lenham Community Centre*

Sat	2	9.30am	Harrietsham Litter Pick	Village Green
Mon	4	9.45am	Purple Yoga	HVH
Mon	4	2pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Wed	6	7.30pm	Wives Group	Scout Hut
Thurs	7	7.30pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Sat	9	12-2pm	Ploughman's Platterday	St John's Church
Mon	11	9.45am	Purple Yoga	HVH
Mon	11	2pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Thurs	14	7.30pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Mon	18	9.45am	Purple Yoga	HVH
Mon	18	2pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Tues	19	7.30pm	Harrietsham Gardening Society	HVH SPRING SHOW
Thurs	21	7.30pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Mon	25	9.45am	Purple Yoga	HVH
Mon	25	2pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH
Wed	27	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	St John's Church
Thurs	28	7.30pm	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH

Harrietsham Network



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Harrietsham Parish Council litter pick

The Parish Council litter pick will take place on Saturday April 2nd. All residents are welcome 9.30-11 starting at the village green, opposite the Premier shop. Litter pickers and sacks will be supplied, please bring gloves. It would be wonderful to see adults and children with supervision attending. We would like to thank the workers from Bedfont for their active contribution in this. For more information ring 01622 859412

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Ploughman's Platter Day

**Saturday, 9 April 2022 between
12 noon and 2pm**

Enjoy a cheese/pate Ploughman's at St. John the Baptist church, Harrietsham. Meet people and enjoy lunch without any preparation or washing up! Proceeds go to the upkeep of our beautiful village church.



Tea, coffee and biscuits also available

Teers Meadow Events Programme 2022

Harrietsham Parish Council has organised an exciting series of events for all ages at Teers Meadow. All events are free to attend. Meeting point for all events is on the Glebe Field in front of the St John the Baptist Church on Warley Rd. No need to book, just turn up.

Wildlife Events

Find out more about the wildlife of Teers Meadow

Reptiles – with Mike Phillips
Saturday 23rd April, 10am – midday

Birds – with Simon Ginhaw
Wednesday 1st June, 6pm – 8pm

Wildflowers – with Lesley Mason
Saturday 16th July, 10am – midday

Reptiles – with Mike Phillips
Saturday 3rd September, 10am – midday

Mammals – with Steve Kirk
Time and date to be confirmed

Other surveys have been arranged but dates to be confirmed nearer the time. All welcome but contact us for more info.

Moths – with Tony Rouse
After dark in May + July.

Bird Surveys – with Simon Ginhaw
April, May, June, July, November + February

Task Days

Your chance to get stuck in and help the wildlife of Teers Meadow. Keep fit by keeping paths clear, creating places for wildlife or pulling ragwort. Tasks run from 9am to midday.

Saturday, 12th March

Saturday, 12th June

Family Events

Fun for all the family. Events run by the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership

I-spy Family Walk

Walk around the meadow finding out more about the bugs, wildflowers and butterflies in fun games.

Wednesday 1st June, 10am – midday

Summer Holiday Family Wildlife Days

Have fun in the meadow with face painting, storytelling, minibeast safaris, wildlife crafts and games.

Friday 12th August, 10.30am to 2.30pm

Friday 19th August, 10.30am to 2.30pm

Guided Walks

Take a gentle walk around some of the best places that Harrietsham has to offer. Both walks are around 3 miles at a gentle pace.

Harrietsham's Green Spaces – with Mike Phillips
Sunday 10th April, 2pm – 4pm

To the North Downs Way – with Will Hirstie
Sunday 22nd May, 2pm – 5pm

Historical Harrietsham – with the Harrietsham History Society
Saturday 23rd July, 10am – midday

If you want to find out more about any of the events, add your name to our mailing list or book a place, contact Mike Phillips at mike@whitethorseecology.co.uk or call 07540 250320



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Len Valley Benefice

April 2022



Everybody is welcome

Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.

Jeremiah 6:16

Sunday 3 April

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

9.30am Ulcombe: Café Church

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

11.00am Harrietsham: Family-friendly Morning Worship with Baptism

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Wednesday 6 April

9.30am Lenham: Holy Communion Service (Book of Common Prayer)

Sunday 10 April - Palm Sunday

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church followed by joining the market.

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

3.30pm Boughton Malherbe: Choral Evensong

Monday 11 – Wednesday 13 April

Series of Holy Week evening talks followed by Night Prayer

Monday 7.30pm at Boughton Malherbe

The Christian faith and poverty: “You will always have the poor with me, but you will not always have me” (Mt 26:11)

Tuesday 7.30pm at Lenham

The Christian faith and the body of Christ: “Take, eat, this is my body” (Mt 26:26)

Wednesday 7.30pm at Harrietsham

The Christian faith and life after death: “I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my father’s kingdom” (Mt 26:29)

Thursday 14 April – Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Ulcombe: Maundy Thursday service with footwashing

Continued on page 17

Local Churches

Parish Church of St John the Baptist

Vicar: Revd. John Huggins
01622 850280 vicar@lvb.org.uk
(Day off: Wednesday)

Assisting priests:

Revd. Millie Hart 01622 297296
revmilliehart@lvb.org.uk

Curate: Revd. Charlotte Coles
07805092823 curate@lvb.org.uk

Readers:

Joan Drury 01622 853766
jdrury23@btinternet.com
Pamela Cuerden 01622 859442
pamela@lvb.org.uk

Benefice Office:

Sarah Hills 01622 850604
ChurchOffice@lvb.org.uk
For details of services see p.23

United Reformed Church

Week Street, Maidstone
Minister: Rev Andrew Royal
Sunday Service at 10.30am with creche. No evening service.
01622 686053
maidstoneurcoffice@talktalk.net

Baptist Church

Knightrider Street, Maidstone
Minister: Bill Miller
Office: 01622 686013
Sunday Services at 10.30am with creche, and at 6.30pm
www.maidatonebaptist.net

Bearsted and Thurnham Methodist Church

Bearsted (next to Station)
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Sunday Service 10.30am

Church of the Good Shepherd Roman Catholic Church

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Harrietsham
Parish Priest: Fr Geoffrey Pointer
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Holydays Mass 7pm

St Peter's Roman Catholic Church

Button Lane, Bearsted 736100
Confessions, Saturday 5 – 5.30pm
Saturday Evening Mass 6pm
Sunday Mass 10.30am
Weekday Mass generally
Monday and Tuesday 7pm and Friday
10am
Holydays Mass 10am and 8pm

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McCabe www.pathwayschurch.org.uk
Pathways Church is supported by
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For all church services please see
information on page 23 or contact your
own church for up to date information.

Len Valley Benefice

April 2022 *(Continued from page 15)*

Friday 15 April – Good Friday

2.00pm Services in all four churches 'An hour at The Cross'

Sunday 17 April – Easter Sunday

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Easter Breakfast Church

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

Sunday 24 April

10.30am Benefice Holy Communion at Ulcombe

We're Back!! After 2 Missed Years!!

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Many thanks to all my friends who support me and the Project at this event.

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Tickets are limited so please reserve them now to avoid disappointment.

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Jackie Bevan

Network - Harrietsham's Village Magazine

January 1970 – April 2022

In January 1970 the members of the Fish Scheme produced the first copy of the Network. This was a simple A5 leaflet with 10 pages and a fishing net design on the front cover. The magazine was edited by Douglas Baldwin, assisted by the editorial board comprising of Ian Mckenzie, Rev R. Maxwell and Mrs Baldwin. The printing costs for the magazine were paid by the advertising and donations from Fish Scheme supporters. A copy of this issue can be viewed on the Archive page on our website www.harrietshamfishscheme.org.

Douglas Baldwin continued as editor until September 1972 when he handed over to Ian Mckenzie who edited just two issues before Bill Green became editor in November 1972 and produced the next fifty six editions finishing in June 1977, by which time the magazine had increased to an average of 20 pages each month. In July 1977 David Ellis took over as editor and continued until February 1981 when Ian Mckenzie stepped in once again and took over editing for the next ninety four months ending in December 1988.

Since Network was first published the editors have been from a number of different walks of life, it has had an auditor, a patent agent, a dentist and a land agent. After nineteen years it now had the logical luxury of a journalist as Andrew Bond took over the role in January 1989 and stayed until February 1994.

November 1992 saw the change in design of the front cover which stayed with the magazine until December 2011. After Andrew retired as editor Ken & Pam Hounsom took over in March 1994 and became the longest serving editors of the magazine producing one hundred and eleven issues which ended in May 2003. During the time they were editors the magazine increased to thirty six pages with considerably more news from the village organisations and additional adverts to pay for the extra printing costs. The next five issues, June 2003 to October 2003 were edited by Chris and Hazel Roots before Pamela Cuerden became editor in November 2003 and continued to produce the magazine until November 2011 when this was taken on by Rosi Taylor until August 2015.

January 2012 saw the production of the first digital copies of the Magazine with the latest front cover and colour advert pages and a few colour pages and photos. Copies of the magazine were also available to view and to download on our website.

In September 2015 Ann Brown became editor and produced the magazine until July 2018 when unfortunately she suffered a brain haemorrhage and was unable to continue. The next seven issues of the magazine were edited by Anthony Wiffen and Rod Martenstyn, with Anthony dealing with the August, October and November 2018 and the February 2019 issues and Rod doing the September and December 2018 and the January 2019 issues. Rod Martenstyn has been a member of the editorial team for a number of years, stepping in on occasions to help out.

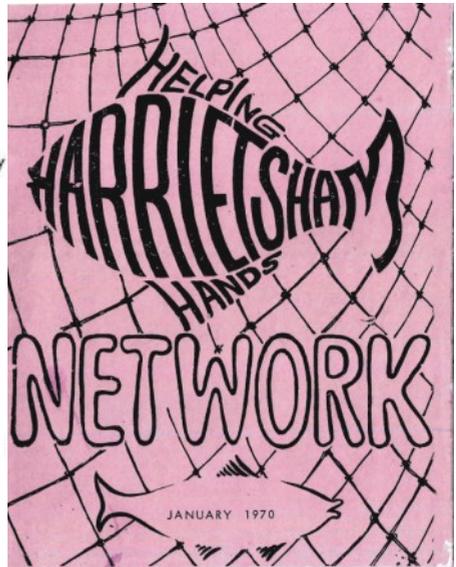
In April 2019 our current editor Jan Dijkstra-Caplan edited her first copy of the magazine and sadly is finishing by editing the final copy this month April 2022. Jan has probably had to cope with one of the most difficult periods experienced in the life of the magazine with the arrival of the Covid Virus in early 2020, but with the assistance of the current editorial team Amanda Ward, Denise Williams and Rod Martenstyn has managed to produce a copy every month over the past two years despite the lack of activities in the village.

Over the past fifty two years there have been a number of advertising managers, all of these have worked extremely hard obtaining advertisers to provide an income to enable the Fish Scheme to publish and distribute the Network magazine free to all residents. There have also been a large number of volunteers delivering the magazine every month, currently organised by Jackie Bevan and David Lowry. Sadly the time has come to put the Network to bed for the last time as unfortunately despite our considerable efforts we have been unable to find anyone to help us continue its production.

A FISHY BUSINESS

Some people may think there is something fishy about this new magazine delivered free. You don't often get something for nothing these days. Where's the catch? There isn't one. Advertisers - to whom we are most grateful - knowing this publication will reach every home have put up enough money to pay for the printing. So do support them and quote this magazine when you do so. The only fishy thing about it, is that Network has been started by the Fish Scheme - your neighbours who have offered to have a share in an Emergency Help plan. We've called our magazine "Network" because of the Fishy association but mainly because it speaks of communication - people at the top of Stede Hill for example being kept in touch with those who live Fairbourne way, people in the Tennis Club knowing about the latest activities of the Darby and Joan Club and so on. We seek to serve people of differing views and beliefs and therefore Network is non-party and ecumenical. Partisan and controversial issues can be aired but the editorial staff will try to express a fair balance. So do let us have your comments and suggestions; (we have much to learn), and do keep us supplied with news of club and other village activities. This must reach the editor (Douglas Baldwin of 15 West Street) by the 15th of the month.

Terry Hodges (4 Rectory Lane) has offered to help net our news. Ian Mackenzie has already netted the advertisers and Mrs. Jackie Brasington and Miss Norah Cutbush hope to net everyone in their distribution plan. We are most grateful to all who are helping in this way. The writer of these remarks as editor of this magazine's ageing parent (now deceased) will serve as Consultant and is responsible for the Christian Message which each issue will contain. These will be written by local Christian leaders of (continued on back inside cover)



The cover of the first issue of Network in January 1970 and the lead article outlining it's aims and format. Not much has changed in 52 years and the Editor has constantly asked for content and information throughout! The first production team had amazing foresight!

different Church loyalties. But if your magazine is to be successful then you must have a share in the work. Do plie our Reporter with news, events, ideas.
Dick Maxwell

Harrietsham Network

Local Directory A-Ha

Art Classes (Drawing/Painting Improvers)

Tutor - Amanda Thesiger Kent Adult Education amanda.thesiger@cls.education

Beaver Scouts

Leader Ann Seales 01622 859829

Bell Ringers

Captain Ken Leach 01622 851173

Captain Graham Cuthbert 01795 886365

Bible Reading Fellowship

Co-ordinator Mrs J Bevan 01622 859310

Booth and Baldwin Charity

Secretary email boothandbaldwin@hotmail.co.uk

Brownie Guides

Brown Owl Louise Ayres 07590 037693

Community Support

PCSO John Boyd 101

Conservative Association

Faversham Office 01622 758053

Countryways Quilters

And Stitchers Pamela Gillard 01233 879507

Craft and Chat/Crafternoon/

Knit Crochet and Natter Hazel Roots 01622 851885

Cricket Club

Chairman Mr A Hubble 01622 859692

Cub Scouts

Leader Mrs A Seales 01622 859829

Explorer Scouts

Leader Mark Horlock 07789 226516

Family History

Enquiries Mr F Long 01622 850863

Flower Guild

Parish Church Mrs R Long 01622 850863

Friends of St. John the Baptist Church

Chairperson Audrey Joy 01622 850806

Gardening Society

Chairman Mr David Oversby 01622 859674

Girl Guides

Leader Andrea French 07901 667018

Golf – Bill's Round for Charity

Secretary Mr T Grimes 01622 850632

Harrietsham Academy of Ballet

Organiser Deborah Nankivell 07775 716714

Harrietsham History Society

Chairman Mr P Brown 01622 851075

Harrietsham in Bloom

Chairman Mr A Rogers 01622 859352

Harrietsham Preschool

Chairman Susan Snoad 07897 821399

Harrietsham Social Club

Secretary Jed Stone 07759 8771198/whipacres2@g.mail.com

Local Directory He-Z

Health Walks

Organiser Ms M Darby 01622 850657

Helpers

Chairman Mr T Sams 01622 859412

Karate Club

Organiser Mr Lewin Tuckwell 07812 089304

Kent Community Warden Mr M Sherwood 07977 981993

Kent Messenger

“Your Local Pages”

Village correspondent Charlotte Lingard miss_lingard@hotmail.com

Lenham and Harrietsham Youth Hub

Contact Katie at KCC 01622 755044

Liberal Democrat Assoc. Mr David Naghi 07970 626829

PTFA (Harrietsham School)

Chairman James Reed harrietshamptfa@gmail.com

Rainbows

Leader Kate Davies 07971254029/beaukate@btinternet.com

Safari Supper

Organiser Mr R Bevan 859310

Scouts

Group leader Mr E Seales 859829

Leader Mr N Still 880139

Short Mat Bowls

Chairman Phil Gooda 01622851217/p.gooda@btinternet.com

Tai Chi Class Angela Akast 07754454030/akast.a@btopenworld.com

Tennis Club

Chairman Mr A Rogers 859352

Secretary Mrs K Daking 850652

The Lenham School

Head of School Mr Chris Foreman 858267

The Poppy Appeal

Organiser Richard Cast 07787476879/richardcast@btinternet.com

Ulcombe Pre-school

Chairperson Helen Leat 07511657828/
ulcombepreschool@live.co.uk

Village Hall Paul Chandler (Chair) 07572 049480/01622 439457

Wives Group Gill Whent 01622 859426

Yoga Helen Kacperk 07762761905/helenpurpleyoga@gmail.com

Help Needed

Can anyone help in compiling a Family Tree from hand written copies please.
Payment to be agreed. Many thanks .

Pamela Todd. Email ptoddindevon@icloud.com mobile 07958 112827

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Ploughmans Platterday

Just a reminder that this month we start our Ploughman’s lunches which will take place in Harrietsham Church on Saturday 9 April between 12 noon and 2pm. Come along and bring friends for a delicious Ploughman’s. Tea, coffee and biscuits also available. All profits go to the upkeep of our beautiful village church.

100 Club Draw Results

The results of the Sixty-fourth Draw of the Friends of St John 100 Club, drawn on 12 March 2022 by various diners at the Soup Saturday in the presence of Chris Roots and under the supervision of Michael Gear (Independent Adjudicator).

- 150 numbers were included in the draw giving a prize fund of £150
- First prize £75.00 – number 84 – Valerie and Stephen Brown
- Second prize £45.00 – number 121 – Denise Williams
- Third prize £30.00 – number 81 – Kevin Harlock

As this is the last issue of Network, the results of the draw will be displayed in the church porch. All winners will, of course, be informed.

Denise Williams –Secretary

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Harrietsham Network

Borough Council Corner

We write this with the dreadful war in Ukraine in the forefront of our thoughts and the terrible suffering of so many innocents. The people will need help in so many ways. The Red Cross, UNICEF, Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders amongst others will of course be very grateful for your donations. We are so lucky to have the basics that we sometimes times take for granted.

20's Plenty Residents may remember that over 8 years ago we collected more than a 1000 names on a petition locally, calling for 20mph outside our schools. This was adopted by Maidstone Borough Council and working with KCC, pilot schemes were established in the Borough. At the February Full Council meeting we asked MBC to consider beginning a process to bring in 20mph as a default speed where needed in both town and village locations. Following amendment and discussion it was agreed by a significant number of enlightened councillors that where support from the community could be established the Borough council would support this where it could be agreed.

The Local Government Boundary Commission consultation regarding ward boundaries closes on **4 April**. It is very important as the suggestion is to have a new ward comprising of Harrietsham, Lenham and Hollingbourne as well as Otterden, Wichling, Wormshill, Frinsted, Hucking, Bicknor and Broad Street a ward 8 and half miles long covering 9 Parishes. Additionally, and particularly concerning, is the removal of Lenham Heath, Sandway and Platts Heath to Headcorn ward - all the area south of the railway line. We are shocked that there has been this suggestion that the Lenham Parish for Borough elections could be split like this. We oppose this attempt to adjust numbers at the residents' expense and we know that this will be opposed by others. With the Boundary commissions key aims being, electoral equality, community identity and effective and convenient local government, we feel that this proposal fails on all three points. Please make your feelings known

<https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/have-your-say/32722>

Government consultation on the Glover Landscapes Review – an opportunity to stop 'off-roading' in the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs)

Many residents are very concerned with the use of motor vehicles on parts of the Pilgrims Way, we would encourage you to voice your concerns here.

An opportunity to end use of green lanes by recreational motor vehicles. The Government has issued a public consultation on its response to the Glover Landscapes Review. The consultation document includes questions that give respondents the opportunity to call for the prohibition of the use of green lanes by recreational motor vehicles. We urge you to respond. This chance won't come again. You will find the online consultation at <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/futurelandscapes-strategy/government-response-to-the-landscapes-review/>

Consultation ends on April 9th

Thank you

Janetta & Tom Sams

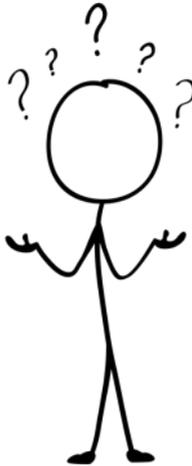
Maidstone Borough Councillors for Harrietsham & Lenham Ward
01622 859412 07891901831 janettasamscllr@gmail.com

April 2022

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For more information contact the group co-ordinator, Jan Enever on 01622 851623 or email jenever@btinternet.com

Jan Enever

Lenham W I

Sometimes it is nice to just get together and have a social evening. This is exactly what we did in February. We learned how to play whist and spent a while playing a few games and then we had a Beetle Drive. So we all had a bit of fun and a good time catching up.

At our meeting this month we are having a talk from Martha King on Holistic Healing and Energy Medicine. That should prove interesting and informative. Also in April some of us are attending the WI Lifestyle Days at Ditton. The speakers include The Alstroemeria Man, Andrew Salter from Must Chup Sauces, Chris Williams from Edibleculture, Do You Know What You Are Eating with Juliette Jahaj, Neil Miller, the Head Gardener at Hever Castle and Mick Wheeler from the British Coffee Association. The speakers at these annual days are always very good and we all look forward to a day out there.

At the end of April we have the ACWW "Women Walk the World Day" and we hope that we can raise lots of money to help raise the standard of living of women in the world's poorest countries. Even though some of us will be away on holiday we are still going to take part while we are away.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 14 April at Lenham Community Centre at 7.30pm and I will be collecting subscriptions for the coming year. The annual subscription is £44 so if you are interested in joining the WI please come along, you will be very welcome. For further information please get in touch:

Chris Godden - 01622 858658 Email: rgodden@btinternet.com



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Dentist, Lenham	01622 858204
Dentaline (out of hours emergency treatment)	01634 890300
Saxon Warrior Pharmacy	01622 858287

Hospitals:

Maidstone ME16 9QQ	01622 729000
The Tunbridge Wells Hospital. Pembury, TN2 4QJ	01892 823535
William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, TN24 0LZ	01233 633331

Councils:

MP – Helen Whately	01622 758053
Kent County Council	03000 41 41 41
Maidstone Borough Council – all departments	01622 602000
Harrietsham Parish Council – Parish Clerk	01622 850089

Police: Emergencies only	999
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Samaritans, 48, Grecian Street, Maidstone	01622 674444
Citizens Advice Bureau, 2, Bower Terrace, Maidstone	01622 752420
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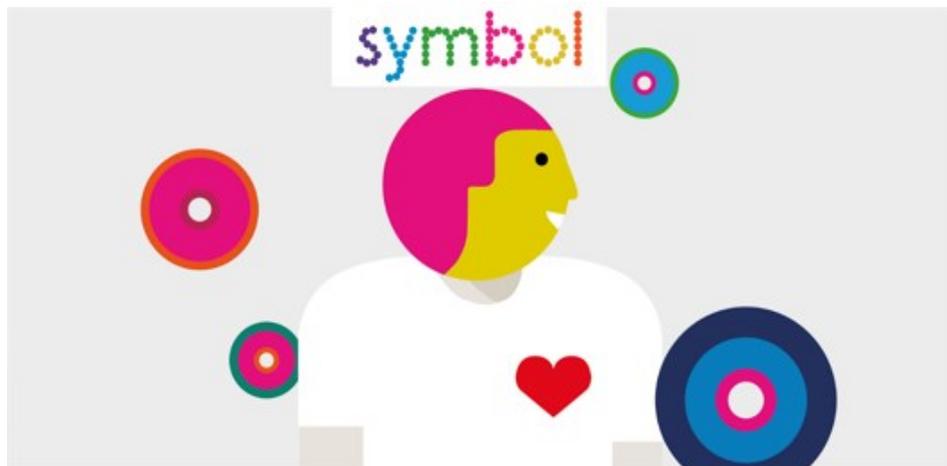
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You can reach me, Alex Pennington, Symbol's Human Resources Manager on 01622 863 291 or email me at info@symbolconnect.co.uk.

Harrietsham Network

Christian Message

As I write this is February. Storm Eunice is in full swing outside the window and Lenham has just lost internet, electric and telephone line

You will read this in April when we hope for clear skies, warmth, extreme growth in the gardens and hedgerows, baby birds, Easter eggs & bunnies, resurrection and summer within sight...

But right now a '*storm of a storm*' rages across a bright sky with menacing fast scudding clouds.

Storms hit our lives in a myriad of forms. An accident, a sudden bereavement, redundancy, a relationship breakup, an angry encounter, a torrid discovery, an unexpected illness and so on.



Storms of life happen. They cause us anxiety; we cannot settle or focus. We may hide under the duvet enveloping the problem in excess sleep. Conversely, we may not sleep a wink as we relive the dilemma repeatedly. De-stabilised some seek the help of friends or family, or a counsellor; others run to remote places to try to figure it all out on their own. Sometimes we are dumbstruck and other times we need to talk endlessly about the problem. We respond according to our character and life experiences. Few of us show no signs of strain whatsoever in a storm of life. Even those highly trained to cope with trauma and calamity will likely experience post trauma effects, bodily or mentally.

But what if the Holy Spirit of Jesus was present with us as the trauma or storm erupted? How might His presence help?

Jesus is known for the calming of a storm on Lake Galilee on at least 2 occasions. Once asleep in the hull of the boat whilst the disciples grappled with the raging waves, unbothered, He is surprised when they wake Him asking for His help – he speaks to the storm and peace descends. On another occasion he walks across the water to Peter and friends in the boat equally showing His fearlessness in the face of the storm. The presence of Jesus changes storms. I will say that again: the presence of Jesus changes storms.

Those who watched Him die in a storm of political upheaval and religious betrayal then met Him in a resurrected state, alive, conquering and overcoming death and were changed forever for the experience of the first Easter as He breathed His Holy Spirit upon them and gave them His peace.... the very events from which the church is birthed.

Christian Message (cont'd)

It would be a lie to say that the presence of Jesus makes everything alright. We may still have to go through that surgery, divorce, redundancy, court case, bereavement. But with Christ - the anointed one - beside us we can know He will comfort, protect and guide us. His presence strengthens us to bear the storm, as we receive the Prince of Peace. The storms surrender to His authority and in His hands, they ease; we trust His wise accompaniment. *For all wisdom's ways are perfect and all her paths are peace.....Proverbs 3:17*

Next time we hit a life-storm let us make sure, metaphorically, we have Jesus in our boat with us and with even a little faith we shall fare much better I am confident.

Every blessing, the summer is coming!

Rev. Lorraine Apps – Huggins

Chaplain to The Living Well, Canterbury Diocese Centre for Healing & Wholeness, Nonington.

Hear the Planes

At the time of writing we are already underway with rehearsals for a summer play 'Hear the Planes'. this is a romantic story set in Lenham during the Second World War. The play will be performed on 21 May at 2pm and 7:30pm at Lenham community centre. It is a play written

specifically for the group by David Penny and we have managed to put together a fantastic cast that will bring this play to life. It will be directed by the playwright himself. Tickets for this play will be available from 10 April by contacting the box office on tickets@hamsproductions.org or by phone **07731 455 677** after this date. There has already been a lot of interest in tickets judging by the talks given by the playwright on 'pantomime and being a pantomime dame' and his new talk 'writing a play' and so demand is likely to be high so we would suggest booking early to avoid disappointment. The play is child friendly but would suit older children.



If you are interested in becoming a member of HAMS Productions with a membership fee of just £5, or helping us in a supporting role either backstage or front of house we would love to hear from you. If you would like further information, please contact our chairman at **07909 846 885** or by email at chair@hamsproductions.org.

We hope to see you all at the new play.

HAMS Chair.

Harrietsham Network

The Vicarage Daffodils

I wandered, venturing out around
My new home, here in Hailsham town.
The bustling High Street left behind,
I saw the churchyard path unwind.
The steeple-shaking bells at rest,
No people in their Sunday best.

A kissing gate of bygone age
led me on to the vicarage,
And there, with gift of inward eye
Back through the years my thoughts
could fly.

I paused, and saw a lady there
kneeling, her head bent as if at prayer.
No, she was gardening, hands a-toil
Deep in the dark rich Sussex soil.

With brisk decisive hands she placed
Each bulb in its appointed place.
All through the winter months they'll lie
'neath ice and snow and leaden sky.

Then, when their Maker says its time,
Up to the light their shoots will climb
To tell mankind the winter's chill
Has passed, " I'm here, the daffodil " .

Not all the greedy wannabees
Aflame with their technologies
Could make, and nor they ever will,
One purely perfect daffodil.

"Beside the path, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze" ,
They're here for me to drink my fill,
The Hailsham Vicarage daffodils.

Sylvia Westley (age 90)



Photo from the Editor's Album

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