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#### Harrietsham Fish Scheme Who's Who

#### Fish Scheme-Helping Hands

**Lift Organisers** Andrew & Felicity Rogers

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Telephone 859352 Email: andrew.rogers3@btinternet.com

Chairman Vacant

Treasurer Steve Brown

Email: treasurer@harrietshamfishscheme.org

Secretary Nicola File

**Network Magazine** 

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Visit our website: www.harrietshamfishscheme.org

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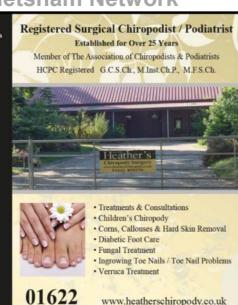
Tuesday 1 April 2025 12 noon advertising and copy deadline for May Network.

In addition to printing the magazine and distributing it to all homes in the village, Network is uploaded to our website by the 1st of each month.

Please send advertising contributions to <u>adverts@harrietshamfishscheme.org</u>
Please send copy to: <u>editor@harrietshamfishscheme.org</u>.

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15 15

29

10

10

29

24

28

27

#### **Contents**

**Clubs and Societies** 

A Big Hello from HAMS Productions!

Update from your local MP Helen Whately

Countryways Quilters Harrietsham Village Hall Trust

Save the Date—VE Day Concert

Lenham WI

**Quiz Corner** 

Parish Council News

**Answers** 

North Downs Walk

Harrietsham Gardening Society Harrietsham History Society Harrietsham In Bloom Harrietsham Ladies Group Harrietsham Lawn Tennis Club Harrietsham Short Mat Bowling Club	8 12 8 15 9
Churches	
Christian Message Friends of St John's Len Valley Benefice Service Times Local Church Contact Details	30 21 19 22
Information	
April Diary Editorial Local Directory Public Services and Emergencies Directory Who's Who	<b>25 7</b> 16, 17 23 3
Features and General Articles	

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# **Message From the Editor**

Welcome to the April 2025 edition of the Harrietsham Network. This month's issue includes updates on local events, community news, and opportunities to get involved.

Take a look at the poster on page 20 for the Harrietsham In Bloom Quiz Night. It is definitely one not to be missed.

As always, we welcome your stories, photos, and feedback for future editions. Please email us at <a href="mailto:editor@harrietshamfishscheme.org">editor@harrietshamfishscheme.org</a> with your contributions. Thank you for your continued support, and we hope you enjoy this month's issue.

Visit our website: www.harrietshamfishscheme.org

Cover photo by Eva Bronzini: https://www.pexels.com/photo/flowering-tree-under-blue-sky-6263053/

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.

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# **Harrietsham Gardening Society**



On Tuesday 18 February we had our last afternoon meeting of the winter and it was well attended.

Our speaker was Alison Marsden who gave a talk about Gardening and how it can help with Health and Well Being. It was interesting to hear just how much research had gone on in recent times as to how gardening, even on a small scale, can be of benefit to the person. It helps both physically and mentally. One can spend as much or as little time as you like in the garden as any time at all is of benefit. For those who do not have a garden it is possible to take part in gardening by joining organised groups, of which there are many, who look after both private and communal spaces.

Our next meeting will be 15 April 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The Speaker is Chris Spring who will be giving a talk entitled 'Seventeen years of purgatory under the National Trust'. It should be very interesting given the press the NT has been having in recent times.

Time is getting on and it's time to buy new seeds or get out that box of last year's seeds which has been lingering in the back of the shed or garage, that is unless the mice have been munching on them.

We are aways on the lookout for new members so please come along to our meetings. Please do not be put off by thinking we are all experts, we aren't but we are a sociable bunch who enjoy gardening or just talking about it.

David Oversby - Chairman

#### Harrietsham In Bloom



The Village displays are looking very good. There will be lots of deadheading and weeding now, if you feel you would like to help please contact our Chairman on 01622 859352.

**QUIZ NIGHT** is on Saturday 5 April starting at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Tables up to 8 people need to be booked, £7 per person which includes soft drinks and nibbles. Please feel free to bring your own refreshments to enjoy during the evening. There will also be a raffle. To book your table please ring Andrew Rogers on 01622 859352 or Barbara Incledon on 01622 853754. Do come and support us even if you are on your own as there will be others who could join with you to make a team. The money raised from this event goes towards our costs for plants and bulbs for the village displays. See posters or Network for further details.

Any enquiries to Andrew Rogers (Chair) or Barbara Incledon (Secretary). Thank you.

#### **Audrey Joy MBE**

#### Harrietsham Lawn Tennis Club



Your Harrietsham Club received two awards at the LTA Kent Tennis Awards evening in

February. The "Club of the Year (1-4 courts)" award and the "Lifetime Achievement" award went to Sue Greenwood for her contribution to the Club for over 60 years as Committee Member & Club Volunteer. Many congratulations to Sue on this very special achievement.

#### Coming soon.... Walking Tennis

In May we plan to introduce Walking Tennis - an LTA approved version of tennis played on a standard sized court where the ball can bounce twice and no running or jumping is permitted. The game is ideally suited to those who are less mobile or recovering from an injury where

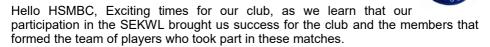
more gentle exercise is necessary. Look out for further details next month.

**Pickleball** - the Tennis Club now has a regular booking on Sunday afternoons from 2-4pm to play Pickleball in the Harrietsham Village Hall - do come along, no membership is necessary, just "pay as you play" at £3 per 2 hour session.

For any further details please ring Andrew on 079000 23399 or visit our website harrietshamlawntennisclub.weebly.com for the latest news.

Andrew Rogers - Tennis Club Chairman

# **Harrietsham Short Mat Bowling Club**



Hopefully, the league table for week twelve of the season has been printed, and since then we have learned that we have won the league. The last couple of weeks before the result had been tense, with a have we haven't we scenario. In the end however we won with points to spare. The club have not taken part in a league for many years, so it was a good achievement and promotes the face of the club to encourage new members.

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Shots For	Shots Against	Shot Difference	Ends Won	Points
12	10	0	2	160	84	76	86	30
12	7	1	4	162	129	33	80	22
12	7	0	5	140	110	30	78	21
12	5	1	6	147	116	31	73	16
12	5	0	7	115	176	-61	63	15
12	4	0	8	101	160	-59	57	12
12	3	0	9	111	161	-50	64	9
	12 12 12 12 12 12	12 10 12 7 12 7 12 5 12 5 12 5	12 10 0 12 7 1 12 7 0 12 5 1 12 5 0 12 4 0	12 10 0 2 12 7 1 4 12 7 0 5 12 5 1 6 12 5 0 7 12 4 0 8	12     10     0     2     160       12     7     1     4     162       12     7     0     5     140       12     5     1     6     147       12     5     0     7     115       12     4     0     8     101	12         10         0         2         160         84           12         7         1         4         162         129           12         7         0         5         140         110           12         5         1         6         147         116           12         5         0         7         115         176           12         4         0         8         101         160	12     10     0     2     160     84     76       12     7     1     4     162     129     33       12     7     0     5     140     110     30       12     5     1     6     147     116     31       12     5     0     7     115     176     -61       12     4     0     8     101     160     -59	12     10     0     2     160     84     76     86       12     7     1     4     162     129     33     80       12     7     0     5     140     110     30     78       12     5     1     6     147     116     31     73       12     5     0     7     115     176     -61     63       12     4     0     8     101     160     -59     57

However, we must not forget that our club's formation was founded to promote SMBs within the community and its existence depends on that principle. So, keep on playing and enjoy your bowls.

Phil G

#### **Parish Council News**

#### **Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 30 April at 8.00pm in the Booth Hall. This will follow the monthly Parish Council meeting, which will be a shorter than usual meeting. All residents are welcome to attend both meetings.

#### **Update on the New Burial Ground**

Residents will have noticed that Harrietsham Parish Council has undertaken excavation work on the land behind the Church – known as the New Burial Ground.

This included an extensive geophysical survey following which a number of deep trenches were dug. The archaeological survey yielded an interesting and complex mix of archaeology involving Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and possibly early medieval remains. The highlights include one ring ditch, probably used to drain an Iron Age round house, one human cremation and two human burials. The work is now complete and we are awaiting confirmation of the ages of the human remains. Following further extensive archaeological surveying, the remains have now been reburied and must not be disturbed.

Meanwhile, disappointingly, it has come to our notice that there is evidence of unauthorised metal detection having been carried out. The New Burial Ground is the property of the Parish Council and permission has not been granted for this activity. The Parish Council wishes to make it clear to those responsible that permission will not be granted in the future and, furthermore, the Parish Council will take action against anyone carrying out unauthorised activity on what is deemed to be an ancient burial ground.

Amanda Broadhurst - Parish Clerk 01622 850089 clerk@harrietshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

### **Quiz Corner**

#### Round 18

- 1. What woman was 'Time Magazine's' man of the year in 1952?
- 2. How many rooms are there on a Cluedo Game board?
- 3. What was 'The Beverly Hillbillies' family name?
- 4. In 1963, who shot Lee Harvey Oswald?
- 5. How many tiles make up a set of dominoes?
- 6. What is the are of low pressure around the Equator called?
- 7. 'The Star of India' is what kind of precious stone?
- 8. What is the capital of Iraq?
- 9. In the Beatles' hit When I'm 64', what are the grandchildren's names?
- 10. How would you write 999 in Roman numerals??

#### Answers on page 29







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# **Harrietsham History Society**

The petrol station located on the corner of West Street and Station Road in Harrietsham, Kent boasts an interesting history. A grade II listed building means it is recognized for its special architecture and/or historic interest. It was first listed on the National Heritage List for England on April 26, 1968.

The petrol pumps no longer fuel travellers heading towards London or the Channel ports, but over the years, would have served as a vital refuelling point for motorists and both the petrol station and the adjoining garage on West Street boast a rich motoring heritage that stretches back over a century.

The original business was established in 1910, making it one of the oldest garages in Britain and the building has been in constant use ever since. Throughout its history, it has commanded a certain presence and provides a tangible link to the past. In its early days it served as both a petrol station—with original petrol pumps (now refurbished) — and a traditional country garage complete with workbenches and shelves. This long-standing facility is recognised as one of the oldest of its kind still in operation in Kent.













Fast forward to the early 1960s, when a new chapter began. In 1962, Julian Kingsford-Booty founded the Vintage Sports Car Garage in Lenham Square. By 1967, the business had relocated to Harrietsham. With this move came a rebranding and evolution into what later became known as the Lenham Motor Company (or Lenham Sportscars). This enterprise built its reputation by modifying and restoring classic sports cars—often working on Austin-Healey Sprites and Healey models—and even producing bespoke sports and racing vehicles.

Today the site on West Street remains a tangible link to the early days of motoring in Kent. Although the petrol pumps no longer serve fuel, their refurbishment preserves a key part of the building's historic charm. The garage itself stands as a testament to the ingenuity and passion of local motoring pioneers and has contributed significantly to the regional legacy of automotive design and motorsport.

Together, the petrol station and the Lenham Sport Car Garage illustrate a seamless blend of early 20th century utility and later bespoke automotive craftsmanship—a history that continues to be celebrated by enthusiasts and heritage bodies alike. The building is now occupied by Southern Lightning Engineers Limited. They have undertaken a restoration job on the two original pumps. Ensuring the history of this important part of village history is preserved for future generations.

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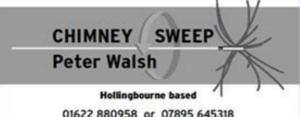
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# Harrietsham Village Hall Trust AGM 2025

The Village Hall Trust will be holding their AGM on Monday 7 April at 2pm in the Booth Hall.

The hall is desperately in need of new Trustees to help with ensuring that the hall can continue to operate.

If you are able to volunteer any time to assist with the day-to-day management of this valuable community asset, then do please come along to the AGM.

If you would like to know more about what is involved, then do please email the Parish Clerk (clerk@harrietshamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

# **Countryways Quilters**

We had to cancel a meeting back in February due to Flu cases, and have been running a little behind. So if we have managed to get caught up by April, we are scheduled to work on a very colourful star quilted cushion. We'll have to see how it goes.

I hope you'll come join us and try your hand at something new or just enjoy the company, have a chat and a cup of tea. An enjoyable way to spend an afternoon.

We have our meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of every month except December and would love to see you.

We meet usually in the Osbourne room in the Lenham Community Centre from 1:30 to 4:30.

If you would like more information on our group or would like a copy of our 2025 program please contact me, Pamela Gillard at 07914 809946 or e-mail moonbeamspinner@gmail.com

#### Pamela Gillard

# Harrietsham Ladies Group

There were only eleven of us at our March meeting but we had a quiz, bingo and plenty of tea, cake and chat. This month we revert back to our evening slot of 7.30pm for the Summer months and will be welcoming a speaker from The Dogs Trust on the 2 April. Hopefully a few more of our group will be able to come in the evening and we would also like to welcome any of the many dog lovers from our village to join us. I am sure it will be very interesting meeting, hearing about the amazing work that the charity does.

# **Local Directory A-Ha**

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**Bell Ringers** 

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 Ken Leach
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 Captain
 Graham Cuthbert
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Bible Reading Fellowship

Co-ordinator Mrs J Bevan 01622 859310

**Booth and Baldwin Charity** 

Secretary boothandbaldwin@hotmail.co.uk

**Brownie Guides** 

Brown Owl Louise Ayres 07590 037693

**Conservative Association** 

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Craft and Chat/Crafternoon/

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Cricket Club

Chairman Mr A Hubble 01622 859692

**Cub Scouts** 

Leader Mrs A Seales 01622 859829

**Explorer Scouts** 

Leader Mark Horlock 07789 226516

Friends of St. John the Baptist Church

Chairperson

**Gardening Society** 

Chairman Mr David Oversby 01622 859674

**Girl Guides** 

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Golf - Bill's Round for Charity

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**Harrietsham History Society** 

Chairman Mr M Avis chairmanhhs@gmail.com

Harrietsham in Bloom

Chairman Mr A Rogers 01622 859352 **Harrietsham Preschool** Mrs Florence Sealy 07458 915213

Charlee Guy

Secretary Jed Stone 07759 8771198/whipacres2@gmail.com

### **Local Directory Ha-Z**

Harrietsham Ladies Group

(formerly Wives Group) Gill Whent 01622 859426

**Health Walks** 

Organiser Ms M Darby 01622 850657

Helpers

Chairman Mr T Sams 01622 859412

**Karate Club** 

Mr Lewin Tuckwell 07812 089304 Organiser

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 Parish Warden Mr M Sherwood 07724 544409

warden@harrietshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

PTFA (Harrietsham School)

Vikki Beck Chairman harrietshamptfa@gmail.com

Rainbows

Leader Kate Davies 07971254029/beaukate@btinternet.com

**Scouts** 

Mr E Seales Group leader 859829

**Short Mat Bowls** 

Chairman Phil Gooda 01622851217/p.gooda@btinternet.com Tai Chi Class 07754454030/akast.a@btopenworld.com Angela Akast

**Tennis Club** 

Chairman Mr A Rogers 859352

The Lenham School

Head of School Mr Chris Foreman 858267

**Ulcombe Preschool** 

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Village Hall **Booking Clerk** 07393 030409

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Wellbeing Community Group Ellie Stevens 07952 594655

wellbeingcg@outlook,com

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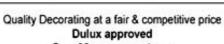
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# Len Valley Benefice April 2025

### **Everybody is welcome**



For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, do not fear; I will help you. Isaiah 41:13

Wednesday 2 April

**9.30am** Lenham: Holy Communion **11.00am** Harrietsham: Chippendayle

Sunday 6 April

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church 9.30am Harrietsham: Morning Worship 11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 13 April - Palm Sunday

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion
9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church
11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion
11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

3.30pm Boughton Malherbe: Choral Evensong

#### Monday 14 - Thursday 17 April - Series of Holy Week evening sessions

**Monday 7.30pm** at St Nicholas, Boughton Malherbe Finding God in nature, Revd. John Huggins

**Tuesday 7.30pm** at All Saints, Ulcombe Finding God in art, Canon Lorraine Apps-Huggins

**Wednesday 7.30pm** at St Mary, Lenham Finding God in music, Lis Bayford

**Thursday 7.30pm** at St John the Baptist, Harrietsham Finding God in helping others, Revd. David Bates Followed by Maundy Thursday washing of feet

Friday 18 April - Good Friday

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

Saturday 19 April

3.00pm Lenham: Messy Church - Messy Easter

Sunday 20 April - Easter Sunday

6.30am Boughton Malherbe: Benefice Daybreak Easter Celebration

**9.30am** Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church 11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion 11.00am Lenham: Morning Worship

Sunday 27 April

11.00am Benefice Holy Communion at St John the Baptist, Harrietsham

'Re-Sourced in Christ - Confession and forgiveness'

# HARRIETSHAM IN BLOOM

# **QUIZ NIGHT**

Harrietsham Village Hall

# SATURDAY 5th April 2025

7.30pm start

£7 per person

(Price includes soft drinks and nibbles)

Please bring your own food and wine/beer to enjoy during the break

A raffle will be held

Max. 8 persons per table

To book your place/table please contact

Andrew Tel: 859352 or Barbara Tel: 853754



# The Friends of the Church of St John the Baptist, Harrietsham

Registered Charity No. 1090622

#### Soup Saturday

Unfortunately, there will be NO Saturday lunch in April because of the Easter Break. The **next** Ploughman's Platter Day will be on Saturday 10 May 2025. Chris Roots (treasurer) will arrange for the 100 Club Draw to take place on the second Saturday in April and I will publish the results of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Draw.

#### 100 Club Lottery Results

The results of the Ninety-Ninth Draw of the Friends of St John 100 Club drawn on Saturday 8 February 2025 by various diners at the Soup Saturday lunch under the supervision of Michael Gear (Independent Adjudicator) and Chris Roots (Promoter) are:

- First Prize £70.00 number 80 Michael Flawn
- Second Prize £42.00 number 5 Glenda Dean
- Third Prize £28.00 number 133 Gordon Jane

There were 140 numbers included in the draw giving a prize fund of £140.

#### **Events**

A note for your diaries for this new event – on **Saturday 21 June -** we have the Kettle Bridge Concertina Band concert in the church. This will be a great evening of singalong music for all.

If you would like further information or an application form to join either the 100 Club or as a Friend, please email Chris Roots at <a href="mailto:friendsofstjohn@outlook.com">friendsofstjohn@outlook.com</a> or phone 851 885.

By now Audrey will have resigned at our AGM (in March) so we do not have a Chairperson! We desperately need more active members willing to join our management committee. Without more members, we probably will be UNABLE to continue our regular fund-raising activities in the future.

Valerie Brown - Secretary

#### **Local Churches**

# Parish Church of St John the Baptist

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

Assisting priests:

Revd. Millie Hart 07766 555415 millie.hart@uwclub.net

Readers:

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.maidstonebaptist.net

# **Bearsted and Thurnham Methodist Church**

Bearsted (next to Station)

Minister: Revd. Robert Zachar
117 Crossways
Sittingbourne
ME10 4RN
01795 422573
Sunday Service 10.30am

# Church of the Good Shepherd Roman Catholic Church

Rectory Lane, off East Street, Harrietsham

<u>Parish Priest</u>: Fr Geoffrey Pointer Deacon: Rev Cyril Durbin 736100 Mass every Sunday at 8.45am and Wednesday at 10.00am 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

#### Pathways Church, Maidstone

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month at 10.30am in Lenham Community Centre. Wednesday evenings in homes in Lenham and Harrietsham.

<u>Church leaders</u>: Ben and Kaat Doggett <u>info@pathwayschurch.org.uk</u> <u>www.pathwayschurch.org.uk</u>

For all church services please see information on page 21/22 or contact your own church for up to date information.

# **Public Services and Emergencies Directory**

Doctors' Surgery (Lenham and Harrietsham )	01622 858341
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	01233 633331

#### Councils:

MP - Helen Whately	01622 758053
Kent County Council	03000 414141
Maidstone Borough Council - all departments	01622 602000
Harrietsham Parish Council - Parish Clerk	01622 850089

#### Police:

Emergencies only	999
Non emergencies	101

Samaritans, 48 Grecian Street, Maidstone	01622 674444
Citizens Advice Bureau, 2 Bower Terrace, Maidstone	0808 2505704
Childline	0800 1111
KCC Children's Social Services	03000 411111
KCC Adult Social Services	03000 416161



# **Update from your local MP Helen Whately**

Faversham and Mid Kent is under siege from development. This is the number one topic people raise with me at the moment.

There are currently five large developments in the pipeline across Faversham and Mid Kent. If they all go ahead the number of people living here will increase by more than the population of Faversham. I don't need to tell you that this will completely change the rural character of our area.

Before the General Election I lobbied successfully to change national planning policy to focus development in cities and urban areas. The plan was to raise density levels in inner London to those of European cities like Paris and Barcelona, build more homes on brownfield land in urban areas and regenerate parts of Leeds, Liverpool and York.

The new Government is reversing this. They have cut London's housing targets, and they are pushing more housing into rural parts of the South East like Kent.

I've always said I understand the need for more housing, and I know people need a roof over their head, but this scale of development in our countryside is something else altogether.

Before Christmas I introduced a new Bill in Parliament which aims to protect high quality land for farming. It's very hard for a Private Members Bill to become law, but if I succeed, it will stop large developments being built on Grade 1 agricultural land. We need our best farmland to be used for growing food, not houses.

In November, I was shocked when the Deputy Prime Minister took away Swale Borough Council's power to decide whether the Highsted Park development (8,400 new homes) should go ahead. That happened literally hours before a meeting when local councillors intended to reject the application; instead, the decision will be made in Whitehall.

It's hard to turn around the juggernaut of the UK Government, but there's still a fight to be fought. We are lucky to have committed campaigners who have set up groups to do just that. Four of the local groups are: Against Lidsing Garden Development, Save Our Heath Lands, Stop Winterbourne Fields and Stop Highsted Park Action Group. Apologies if I have missed campaign groups off this list – if so please do let me know.

With so much development coming locally, everyone is going to be affected. Even if there's no new housing planned in your parish, all the roads are going to get busier, along with more demand for local public services like doctors and dentists.

So can I urge you to get involved and support one of the local campaigns fighting these massive developments. You can find out more about them by searching online or check my website –www.helenwhately.org.uk for links.

Helen

helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk / 0207 219 6472

# **April 2025 Diary**

#### Abbreviations:

#### 

Wed Wed Thurs Fri	2 2 3 4	7.30pm 7.30pm	Mobile Library Harrietsham Ladies Group Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls Group Coffee Morning	Post Office Scout Hut HVH HVH
Mon Mon Wed Thurs Thurs Fri	-	9.45am 2pm 7pm 1.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm 10.00am	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls Knit, Crochet and Craft Craft and Chat Lenham WI Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH HVH LCC LCC HVH HVH
Mon Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri	14 14 15 16 17	9.45am 2pm 7.30pm 1.40pm 7.30pm 10.00am	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH HVH HVH Post Office HVH HVH
Mon Mon Mon Thurs Fri Sat	21 21 11 24 25 26	9.45am 2pm 2pm 7.30pm 10.00am 1.30pm	Purple Yoga Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls Knit, Crochet and Craft Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls Group Coffee Morning Craft and Chat	HVH HVH HVH HVH LCC
Mon Mon Wed	28 28 30	9.45am 2pm 1.40pm	Purple Yoga Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls Mobile Library	HVH HVH Post Office

M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

#### HARRIETSHAM SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

#### NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

VENUE HARRIETSHAM VILLAGE HALL MONDAY AFTERNOONS, 1.45pm TO 4.15pm THURSDAY EVENINGS, 7.15pm TO 10.15pm

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION £25.00, GREEN FEE £4.00 WITH TEA/COFFEE AND BISCUIT CONTACT = PHIL 07484878327, RON 07771633561

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e: leeterry4@googlemail.com t: 07971 552663



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#### **Harrietsham Parish Council**

Save The Date

8 May 2025

Invitation to the

Invicta Band 80th Anniversary VE Day Concert

Glebe Field (Opposite St. John the Baptist Church).

7.30 pm

ALL WELCOME

# A Big Hello from HAMS Productions!

(To all our wonderful supporters.)

Over the years, HAMS Productions has strived to bring joy to the community, and we are committed to continuing this tradition for many years to come. We firmly believe in the numerous positive aspects of community theatre. It introduces children and young people to the enchanting world of live theatre, offering an emotional depth and joy that often surpasses that of movies. Theatre can be emotionally fulfilling and healing for the audience, and it has the power to bring a community closer together. This is our belief and our aim.

But we want to offer even more. HAMS Productions invites you to join us and experience the wonders that theatre can offer, both on stage and behind the scenes. There are countless wonders to discover. We aim to bring more plays to life, but we need you—wonderful people with yet-to-be-recognized acting talents or stage and theatre management skills. Together, we can explore new, amazing worlds and share them with others.

Throughout the year, we hold acting workshops. Just come along and give it a try. It's not as scary as it seems—certainly less daunting than public speaking—and it's beneficial on so many levels. So, don't hold back. Come and join us.

For more information, visit our website <a href="http://hamsproductions.org/">http://hamsproductions.org/</a>

Facebook or TicTok or call 07909846885 or 07877143088

# **North Downs Walk**

for Cancer Research UK



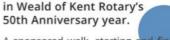




#### SUNDAY 8 IE 2025

Register Online now at www.wealdofkentrotary.org.uk/north-downs-walk

The 40th North Downs Walk. in Weald of Kent Rotary's 50th Anniversary year.



A sponsored walk, starting and finishing at Harrietsham Village Hall, followed by a ploughman's lunch and live music. Choice of 1,3,6 and 9 mile routes.

50% of sponsorship money is donated to Cancer Research UK, and the other 50% to your choice of charity or good cause.

An opportunity for your own fundraising, with Rotary providing the organisation















Supporting

CANCER RESEARCH UK



#### Lenham WI

In February Kim White OBE came to give us a talk about the Gypsy Traveller Culture. The Romany Gypsies originally came from India and brought with them the bright coloured clothing and the gold and silver jewellery that they still identify with today. They travelled from India through Asia and Europe selling their wares, holding horse races and markets.

From the cradle to the grave the father is the dominant figure in the family. The men do not do women's work or take any interest in childbirth. When a child is born the boys are very often given the same name while the girls take their grandmother's name. Consequently there could be quite a few Johns in the same family. Some boys will change their surname to their mother's maiden name to keep that name going and very few travellers have birth certificates. They are unable to read or write so many babies are not registered and the families do not claim benefits. Boys go out to work with their fathers from the age of 15 or even younger whilst the girls learn about the cleanliness of the home. From the age of 8 they help with the babies and the younger children and they learn to cook. Whilst travelling they used to be able to stop on common land but since 1968 all common land now belongs to the crown. The second largest traveller community in the country is a council owned gypsy site in Kent, one of only 12, although there are 261 actual sites.

Wedding invitations are by word of mouth and now, with social media, people come from miles around to attend. When a traveller dies a cordon is placed around the place of death to ward off evil spirits. Kim has experienced a gathering in hospital where vehicles were parked around the public car park causing chaos and the visiting family were all crowded around the bed. The nurse in charge tried to speak to the next of kin, which was the wife, to tell her that only two visitors at a time were allowed. She did nothing about it because she was a woman and the men would have taken no notice of her. The nurse should have spoken to the head of the family, the father, the son or brother who would then tell the family that they would have to leave. Every gypsy family must be represented at the funeral and that is why so many women and children also attend.

This month we have Pamela Gillard who will be giving us a talk on Patchwork and Quilting. The WI was originally started to help women and girls to learn about the skills they need to run a home – cooking and sewing. Education has been a continued aim of the WI and still forms the basis of all the events and workshops.

If you want to join us we meet at Lenham Community Centre on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. Please come along and see what we get up to. If you want to find out more please contact me on <a href="mailto:rrgodden@btinternet.com">rrgodden@btinternet.com</a>

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Baghdad	.8	Clampett	3.	Answers
Sapphire	۲.	əniM	2.	
The Doldrums	.9	Queen Elizabeth II	Ţ.	Quiz Corner

### **Christian Message**

Hope, Expectation and Joy. A Christian message for Easter.

I was thrilled to see that this year I have been asked to write the Easter Christian Message – thrilled and a little overwhelmed at where to start and how best to talk about this important Christian festival.

In December my daughter sent me a photograph of a shelf in her local supermarket. "Outrageous!" I exclaimed, when I saw that they were selling crème eggs before we had even celebrated Christ's birth. "Yes indeed," she replied, "they have more than doubled in price this year!" Hey ho, I suppose everything depends on our own perspective.

As I sit here on a cold, wet, misty February morning, I feel a glimmer of hope as I think about April, sunny Spring weather, daffodils and bird song. From the perspective of a nature lover, April is full of hope, expectation and joy.

By 1 April, we will be half way through Lent. Many of us will have given something up or taken challenges on and will have failed, excelled, or a bit of both. Most of us will be looking forward to 20 April and the chance to relax and indulge in at least one 'over-priced' chocolate item. More <a href="https://example.com/hope.new/beta-ballenges/by-nc-nd/4">https://example.com/hope.new/beta-ballenges/by-nc-nd/4</a>.

For Christians, Lent is important. It is a time of reflecting on our own faith, the amazing example set by Jesus when he lived here on earth, the incredible sacrifice he made for us all by dying to save us from sin and his resurrection to show he had conquered death and was returning to his father in heaven. Yes, you guessed it, even more <a href="https://example.com/hope.com/ho

During this time, we have a chance to think about God's love for each of us, the chance to meet him, through Jesus, in this life, and the certainty of meeting him in the next. Jesus's ministry was very short but in about three years he packed in more teaching, healing and, ultimately, suffering, than many of us experience in a lifetime. His greatest message was one of Love. Love your family, friends, neighbours and even your enemies. That's a real challenge: It's hard enough for us to forgive those who hurt us, lie to us or betray us, but for those experiencing a war -torn environment with serious injury, multiple bereavements or continuing hunger, it must, at times, seem an unfathomable trial. Those who do manage to carry on and still show love, are heroes indeed, and reflect the love Christ had for us all.

Happy Easter!



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