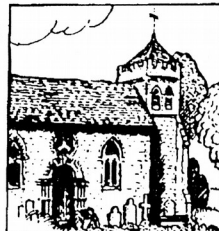


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| <b>CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2015</b>               | <b>St Mary NACKINGTON</b>                                    | <b>St Mary LOWER HARDRES</b>                                 | <b>St Peter BRIDGE</b>  | <b>St Mary PATRIBOURNE</b>                                   | <b>St Peter BEKESBOURNE</b>                   |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| <b>Second Sunday of Advent<br/>6 December</b>          | <b>8.00am</b><br>BCP Holy Communion                          | <b>11.00am</b><br>Family Communion                           | <b>6.00pm</b> Advent Evensong   | <b>9.30am</b><br>Sung Eucharist                              | <b>9.30am</b><br>Advent Family Service        |
| <b>Third Sunday of Advent<br/>13 December</b>          | <b>9.30am</b><br><b>Carol Service</b>                        | <b>4.00pm</b><br><b>Carol Service</b>                        | <b>11.00am</b><br>Family Communion  | <i>All welcome at the other services across the benefice</i> | <b>8.00am</b><br>BCP Holy Communion           |
| <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent<br/>20 December</b>         | <i>All welcome at the other services across the benefice</i> | <b>3.00pm</b><br><b>Crib Service</b>                         | <b>11.00am</b><br>Parish Eucharist<br><br><b>6.00pm</b> <b>Carol Service</b>  | <b>8.00am</b><br>BCP Holy Communion                          | <b>9.30am</b> Sung Eucharist                  |
| <b>Wednesday 23 December</b>                           |  |  |   | <b>7.00pm</b> <b>Carol Service</b>                           |   |
| <b>CHRISTMAS EVE<br/>24 December</b>                   | <b>11.30am</b><br><b>Midnight Mass</b>                       | <i>All welcome at the other services across the Benefice</i> | <b>3.00pm</b> <b>Christingle</b> (younger children)<br><b>5.00pm</b> <b>Christingle</b> (older children)<br><b>11.30pm</b> <b>Midnight Mass</b> | <i>All welcome at the other services across the benefice</i> | <b>11.30pm</b> <b>Midnight Mass</b>           |
| <b>CHRISTMAS DAY<br/>25 December</b>                   | <i>All welcome at the other services across the benefice</i> | <b>9.30am</b><br><b>Family Christmas Service</b>             | <b>8.00am</b> <b>Holy Communion</b><br>BCP  | <b>9.30am</b><br><b>Christmas Family Eucharist</b>           | <b>11.00am</b><br><b>Family Carol Service</b> |
| <b>St JOHN, Apostle and Evangelist<br/>27 December</b> |  |  | <b>11.00am</b><br><b>Benefice Eucharist</b>   |  |   |

Every Tuesday at 9.30am-10.00am Benefice Holy Communion at St Peter's Church Bridge.

### Invitation

All are warmly invited to the Farewell Evensong for our Archdeacon, the Venerable Dr Sheila Watson, on Sunday 13 December at 3.15pm at Canterbury Cathedral, followed by tea in the Chapter House.

| <b>CHURCH SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2016</b>        | <b>St Mary NACKINGTON</b>                                     | <b>St Mary LOWER HARDRES</b>                                 | <b>St Peter BRIDGE</b>  | <b>St Mary PATRIBOURNE</b>                                    | <b>St Peter BEKESBOURNE</b>                                  |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| <b>THE EPIPHANY</b><br>3 January               | <b>8.00am</b> BCP Holy Communion                              | <b>11.00am</b> Family Communion                              | <b>6.00pm</b> Epiphany Evensong                                     | <b>9.30am</b> Sung Eucharist                                  | <b>9.30am</b> Three Kings Family Service                     |
| <b>BAPTISM OF CHRIST</b><br>10 January         | <b>9.30am</b> Sung Eucharist<br><b>3.30pm</b> Evensong        | <b>3.30pm</b> Evensong at Nackington                         | <b>11.00am</b> Family Communion                                     | <i>All welcome at the other services across the Benefice.</i> | <b>8.00am</b> BCP Holy Communion                             |
| <b>Second Sunday of Epiphany</b><br>17 January | <i>All welcome at the other services across the Benefice.</i> | <b>9.30am</b> Family Service                                 | <b>11.00am</b> Choral Eucharist                                     | <b>8.00am</b> BCP Holy Communion                              | <b>9.30am</b> Sung Eucharist                                 |
| <b>Third Sunday of Epiphany</b><br>24 January  | <b>9.30am</b> Sung Eucharist                                  | <i>all welcome at the other services across the Benefice</i> | <b>8.00am</b> BCP Holy Communion<br><b>11.00am</b> Parish Eucharist | <b>9.30am</b> Mattins   | <i>All welcome at the other services across the benefice</i> |
| <b>Fourth Sunday of Epiphany</b><br>31 January |   | <b>11.00am</b> Benefice Service                              |   |   |  |

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SENIOR CITIZENS AFTERNOON OF ENTERTAINMENT We invite all Senior Citizens to an Afternoon of Entertainment On Tuesday 15th December 2015 at 1.30pm – 3.00pm in the School Hall Come along and listen to the children sing their Christmas songs Year 6 will serve refreshments during the afternoon If you would like to come please ring the school office on 830276 We can also arrange local transport if required

**You and your family are warmly invited to celebrate  
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**St Mary's Church, Nackington**

**Sunday 29 Nov at 9.30am** Advent Benefice Service

**Sunday 13 Dec at 9.30am** Carol Service

**Christmas Eve at 11.30pm** Midnight

Mass \*

**St Mary's Church, Lower Hardres**

**Sunday 29 Nov at 6.30pm** Advent Music & Readings with *Lees Court Music*  
(Tickets £7.50 from 01227 700533)

**Saturday 5 Dec 9.30am-12.00noon** Christmas Children's Workshop at John Baker  
White Hall #

**Sunday 13 Dec at 4.00pm** Carol Service \*

**Sunday 20 Dec at 3.00pm** Family Crib Service #

**Christmas Day at 9.30am** Family Christmas Service #

**Sunday 3 Jan at 11.00am** Epiphany Family Service #

**St Peter's Church, Bridge (T&L)**

**Sunday 6 Dec at 6.00pm** Advent Choral Evensong \*

**Thursday 17 Dec at 6.00pm** Carol Singing at *The Red Lion* (in support of Friends of  
St Peter's Bridge)

**Sunday 20 Dec at 6.00pm** Carol Service \*

**Christmas Eve at 3.00pm** Christingle Service (*for younger children*) #

**Christmas Eve at 5.00pm** Christingle Service (*for older children*) #

**Christmas Eve at 11.30pm** Midnight Mass \*

**Christmas Day at 8.00am** Christmas Eucharist \*

**Sunday 3 Jan at 6.00pm** Epiphany Choral Evensong \*

**St Mary's Church, Patrixbourne**

**Sunday 6 Dec at 3.00pm** Music for Advent by *Bourne Consort* (Tickets £8 from  
01227 830685)

**Wednesday 16 Dec at 10.30am** Songs and Carols conducted by Grenville Hancox

**Wednesday 23 Dec at 7.00pm** Carol Service \*

**Christmas Day at 9.30am** Christmas Family Eucharist

**St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne (T&L)**

**Sunday 6 Dec at 9.30am** Advent Family Service #

**Sunday 13 Dec at 2.00pm** Carols at Chalk Pit Farm #

**Christmas Eve at 11.30pm** Midnight Mass \*

**Christmas Day at 11.00am** Family Carol Service #

**Sunday 3 Jan at 9.30am** Three Kings Family Service at 9.30am #

# = especially for children

\* = traditional

T = church has a toilet

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Dear friends

The terrible attacks in Paris that killed so many young people have shaken us all. We are starkly reminded of the reality of evil in our world, and the need to be united across Europe in our responses to terror. We are praying for all those affected and those who grieve. It is understandable and easy to feel frightened. At that first Christmas a young refugee family on the run in a climate of political violence, also felt fear. So did the shepherds in the fields. Just at the point when the fear of the people was probably getting out of control, God sent angels to proclaim from the skies 'Fear not!'. My prayer is that the voices of the angels will be heard loudly across our skies of Europe, as we try to 'fear not'.

The weeks leading up to Christmas are a time of getting ready for Christmas. The first year I lived in Denmark I got caught out as they start Christmas celebrations a day early, and I found all the shops closed on 24th! My last minute man-shopping was thwarted! In the Christian Church we mark the season of Advent. In many ways it is a counter-cultural experience, as Advent aims to help us slow down at the very moment the world is speeding up. Over the four Sundays we focus on the foretellers of the Incarnation - John the Baptist, the Patriarchs & Matriarchs, the Prophets, and young Mary. All people that pointed to and enabled the birth of Jesus. Advent is a time of expectant waiting.

My prayer this Advent and Christmas is that we will hear the angels singing 'fear not', and that our celebration of the birth of the Prince of Peace will be a time of building peace in our community and world. The message of Christmas is that the light of Christ in the world is brighter than all the darkness and can never be extinguished.

There will be a warm welcome at your local church at all our special Advent and Christmas services - please come along with your family. See page 12 for the full list.

When the time comes, have a very Happy Christmas!  
Jonathan

**Dates For Your Diary December 2015**

|                                |             |       |  |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------|--|
| 01/12                          | 09.30       |       | Holy Communion at St Peter's, Bridge               |
| Haven                          |             | 15.00 | Holy Communion at Bridge                           |
|                                |             | 19.30 | After 8's at Mansfield Court                       |
| 05/12                          | 09.30-12.00 |       | Christmas Children's Workshop,<br>John Baker White |
| Hall, Lower Hardres            |             |       |  |
| 06/12                          | 09.30       |       | Advent Family Service at St                        |
| Peter's, Bekesbourne           |             | 18.00 | Advent Evensong at St                              |
| Peter's, Bridge                |             |       |  |
| 08/12                          | 09.30       |       | Holy Communion at St Peter's,                      |
| Bridge                         |             | 14.30 | Carol Service at Mansfield                         |
| Court                          |             |       |  |
| 09/12                          | 10.00       |       | FISH pop in at Bridge Village Hall                 |
|                                |             | 14.00 | Social afternoon at John                           |
| Baker White Hall Lower Hardres |             |       |  |
| 13/12                          | 09.30       |       | Carol Service at St Mary's,                        |
| Nackington                     |             | 14.00 | Carols at Chalk Pit Farm,                          |
| Bekesbourne                    |             | 16.00 | Carol Service at St Mary's,                        |
| Lower Hardres                  |             |       |  |
| 14/12                          | 19.30       |       | Caring and Sharing Christmas                       |
| Party                          |             |       |  |
| 15/12                          | 09.30       |       | Holy Communion at St Peter's,                      |
| Bridge                         |             | 15.00 | Carol Service at Saxon                             |
| Lodge                          |             |       |  |
| 18/12                          | 14.00       |       | Carol Service at Bridge Haven                      |
|                                |             |       |  |
| 20/12                          | 15.00       |       | Family Crib Service at St Mary's,                  |
| Lower Hardres                  |             | 18.00 | Carol Service at St Peter's,                       |
| Bridge                         |             | #     |  |
| 22/12                          | 09.30       |       | Holy Communion at St Peter's                       |

## Dates For Your Diary January 2016

|       |       |  |  |
|-------|-------|--|--|
| 03/01 | 09.30 |  | Epiphany Family Service at St Peter's, Bekesbourne       |
|       | 11.00 |  | Epiphany Family  |
|       | 18.00 |  | Epiphany Evensong at St Peter's, Bridge                  |
| 05/01 | 09.30 |  | Holy Communion at St Peter's, Bridge                     |
|       | 15.00 |  | Holy Communion at Bridge Haven                           |
|       | 19.30 |  | After 8's at Mansfield Court                             |
| 11/01 | 19.30 |  | Caring and Sharing                                       |
| 12/01 | 09.30 |  | Holy Communion at St Peter's, Bridge                     |
|       | 14.30 |  | Holy Communion at Mansfield Court                        |
| 13/01 | 10.00 |  | FISH pop in at Bridge Village Hall                       |
|       | 14.00 |  | Social afternoon at John Baker White Hall, Lower Hardres |
| 19/01 | 09.30 |  | Holy Communion at St Peter's, Bridge                     |
|       | 15.00 |  | Holy Communion at Saxon Lodge                            |
|       | 19.30 |  | After 8's at Mansfield Court                             |

20/0

25/0

Jona

# CHRISTMAS POST

Support

Nailbourne Scout Group

Use us for your Bridge card deliveries!

Post Boxes at:

Spar

Red Lion

Whitehorse

Plough and Harrow

Laurie Wakeham

Nicholas James the Hairdressers

Delivery Dates:

Saturday 12th December

Saturday 19th December

Donations for this excellent service gratefully received!!

## **BEKESBOURNE NEWS**

### **Bekesbourne Family Service 9.30am**

**December 6th:-** This is our Annual Gift Collection for British Humanitarian Aid and Phil Edmonds from BHA is joining us and will give an audio/visual presentation of their work. See separate notice for items they need.

**January 3rd:-** Feast of the Three Kings. This is our nativity service. The young people of the congregation will be performing a short drama involving the three kings. If there are any other young people who would like to be involved-acting or music, then please come to the rehearsal on Sat.2nd Jan. from 2.30pm-4.00pm in St.Peter's, Bekesbourne and/or give me, Pat Kusel, a ring on 01227 830272. We look forward to welcoming you to our All Age worship.

### **British Humanitarian Aid**

They no longer have the luxury of free lorries and desperately require cash to buy and run lorries for the existing 3 loads waiting in the warehouse. In addition they are looking for any of the following items;- ALL CLOTHING (including hand knitted items) ALL FOOTWEAR, BEDDING , HOUSEHOLD LINEN, EARLY LEARNING and TOYS, SOFT TOYS, GAMES and PUZZLES, FABRICS / CRAFTS (knitting, sewing and other craft items), BAGS, HOUSEHOLD (Crockery, Cutlery, Cookery and other items), SCHOOLS (Stationery, Art Materials, Sports Equipment and Classroom Furniture), COMPUTERS/MONITORS (In working order, running at least WinXP, with a CDrom), GARDEN, MECHANIC'S and WOODWORKING TOOLS, BICYCLES, BABY BUGGIES, WHEELCHAIRS, WALKERS, TOILETRIES, SANITARY GOODS, SCHOOL FURNITURE, FRIDGES, FRIDGE FREEZERS, ELECTRIC COOKERS, WASHING MACHINES, SPIN DRIERS, CD PLAYERS, DIGITAL CAMERAS, UNLOCKED MOBILE PHONES + CHARGERS.

Please contact Phil or Tony on 01227 453434 (warehouse) if you have goods that need collecting or for opening times for the warehouse for delivery. Please bear in mind that they are very busy at this time of the year out and about. All contact details and location map available on their website- [britishhumanitarianaid.co.uk](http://britishhumanitarianaid.co.uk).

Come and listen to an audio visual presentation by Phil at St.Peter's Bekesbourne on Sunday 6th Dec. at 9.30 during our all age worship.

The Charlton Park Singers Director Grenville Hancox At  
St Mary's Patrixbourne Wednesday 16th December at  
10.30am Come along and listen to us sing from our  
repertoire of world music and seasonal songs. Coffee  
and mince pies afterwards



LOWER HARDRES NEWS Harvest Gifts Sincere thanks for all the gifts you gave to AGE CONCERN . They were much appreciated. Christmas Bazaar

This goes to print before the Bazaar takes place ,but I do thank all who helped in any way . Benefice Workshop This takes place on Saturday 5th of December ,9-30 till 12 noon, in the John Baker White Hall , Lower Hardres.

Please book your place by contacting Julie Cox on 788316 or Margaret Clarke 765598 .Parents please stay with your pre-school child. it would be appreciated if each child could bring £1 towards materials. Do come along - it will be fun. Advent Carol Service St . Mary's ,Lower Hardres on Sunday December 13th at 4 o'clock ,followed by mulled wine and mince pies . Do come along to this service of Advent hymns, carols and readings. Crib service. Our crib service will be held on Sunday 20th December at 3.00pm. Please bring along any gifts of food for Canterbury Food Bank . It would be lovely if children dress up as a Nativity character . Family Service At 9-30 am on Christmas Day, so do come to praise God and meet friends.

Epiphany Family Communion Service January 3rd at 11am . We will celebrate the arrival of the 3 Kings. A very happy Christmas and a Blessed

New Year.

Margaret.

SALVATION ARMY AND BRIDGE SCHOOL CHOIR CAROL  
CONCERT This year it is to be held on Thursday 3rd December 2015 at  
7.30pm In Bridge School Hall Entrance £3.00 – pay on the door (school  
children free) Refreshments will be served after the concert Join us for  
an evening singing carols – all money raised will go to the Salvation  
Army Fund



# **Friends of St Peter's Bridge BEER AND CAROLS**

*THE RED LION  
BRIDGE HIGH STREET*

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 6.00pm – 7.15pm**



**Singing will be led by:**



**Dave Cutting  
(Piano/keyboard)**

**Stuart Field  
(Violin)**



Come along, bring all the family and join in –  
singing will start outside at 6pm and move inside  
at 6.30pm



*The Friends of St Peter's Bridge*

# The Canterbury Cathedral Choristers

Director of Music: Dr David Flood



## St Peter's Church, Bridge

Saturday 6th February 2016 at 7pm.

(Doors open 6.30pm)

Tickets £10 adults, children (8-14) £5,

Under 8's free.

*Tickets available from Georgie Bainbridge  
(georgiebainbridge@gmail.com) 07875 409036  
Charles Bainbridge Estate Agents 01227 780227 or  
Evelyn Andrews 01227 830960*

## **Fish Scheme (Neighbourly help) News Tel no: 07935 966 080**

The December Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday Dec 9th with carols to enjoy. The January one will be on 13th and the Winter Warmer Lunch will be on Wednesday January 27th.  
A very happy Christmas to us all.

## **Bridge & District History Society**

The annual Christmas evening will be held at the White Horse Inn, Bridge on Thursday 15th December, 7.00pm for 7.30pm. There will be a photo quiz and a raffle. Choice of menu and included drink on arrival. Members £20.00, non-members £25.00.

Details from John Cardy Tel:721360.

The first meeting of 2016 will be on Thursday 21st January in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm. Prof. Alan Chadwick will speak about the discovery of Henry VIII's ship The Mary Rose, the raising of the wreck and the challenges it has presented to the conservators. Members £4.00, non-members £5.00.

Details from David Gilmour, [Tel:832450](tel:832450).

## **Ride and Stride**

Many thanks to the Riders and Striders, Greeters and Sponsors who helped raise £288 on behalf of St. Peters Bridge on Saturday 12th September. 50% of these monies go the Church and the other half to The Friends of Kent Churches. Next years event will be held on the 10th September. Ann and David Edmonds.

## **Littlebourne & District Royal British Legion**

15 members attended the Branch AGM on 10th November. We are delighted to have a new Branch President - Mr John Hewett and also a Vice President - Mr Geof Welch. Other Branch officers and officials were re-elected as follows - Chairman - Ray Tupper, Vice Chairman - Barbara Hunt, Hon Secretary - Barbara Hunt, Hon Treasurer - John Hewett, Branch Committee - Ray Tupper, Bob Catt and Peter Murton, Standard Bearer - Tom Pett, Deputy Standard Bearer - Bob Catt, Service Committee Officer - Geof Welch, Poppy Appeal Organiser - Wendy Giles, Deputy Organiser - Nancy White.

Our next Branch meeting will be on Tuesday 8th December at 8pm at the Recreation Club, Littlebourne when the meeting will have a "Christmassy" theme to it. We look forward to seeing you. Our first meeting of the new year will be on ~~Tuesday 12th January 2016 - same time and same venue.~~

Dear friends, neighbours and OTN connections, After 30 years Eileen and Maurice Smith have moved from the delightful environs of The Close, Union Road to 45 Mansfield Court, same phone number 831075. If you would like to view our labour-saving home in The Close, please contact [Colebrooksturrock.com](http://Colebrooksturrock.com) – 01227 831999, 88 High Street, Bridge.

*You are warmly invited to*  
**Come and Sing Carols**  
*at St Peter's, Bridge*  
*on Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>*

and, more particularly, to join us in the **Bridge Choir**, which will be specially augmented as usual for the occasion of the Carol Service.

As in previous years, the choir will be supporting the congregational singing, and also adding another dimension to the familiar Christmas Readings with a varied, but not unfamiliar selection of short carols of their own. The present intention is to perform *Prophets, Teachers, True Recorders* (Chorale, arr. J. S. Bach), *I Saw Three Ships* (Trad., arr. Willcocks), *Lullay, My Little One* (Straßburger Gesangbuch, arr. Reger), *A Manger Carol* (Anthony Hedges), *The Holy Boy* (John Ireland) and *Go, Tell it on the Mountain!* (Trad., arr. Miles).

We are looking for all voices (SATB) from all age groups, and hope to welcome back many old friends as well as gain a few new enthusiasts. Some experience and/or ability to read music is necessary for the harmony parts, but not vital for the top line.

We will again keep rehearsals to a minimum, but for that reason it is crucial that most people can make *both* the main rehearsals as well as the Sunday! The rehearsals will almost certainly be held in Bridge Church as follows:

|                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Wednesday, December 16 <sup>th</sup> | 7–8.30 p.m.    |
| Friday, December 18 <sup>th</sup>    | 7–8.30 p.m.    |
| Sunday, December 20 <sup>th</sup>    | 3.45–5.30 p.m. |

Music will be available in advance and for private study!

If you are able to join us, please let me know as soon as possible on Canterbury 787994 or [mjm@kings-school.co.uk](mailto:mjm@kings-school.co.uk). I can then assess vocal balance and the viability of the programme!

With thanks & best wishes

Martin Miles

## **Patricbourne Carol Service**

Our Carol service at Patricbourne is on 23rd December this year at the usual time of 7pm. We are proposing to hold choir rehearsals on Monday 14th and Monday 21st at 7pm and Wednesday 23rd at 5pm. All of these will be in the church.

If you would like to join the choir for this festive occasion,  
you will be very welcome.

If choir is not quite your thing, you will still be very welcome to join us on  
23rd for a truly festive start to Christmas.

Further details from Pauline Pritchard (830685)



FOSM presents the welcome return of

# Bourne Consort

Performing Music for Advent

at

St Mary's Patrixbourne

on

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm

Tickets £8 from Pauline Pritchard (830685)



# BRIDGE FARMERS' MARKET



Candlelit Christmas Market  
3:30pm - 6:30pm

Red Lion Inn

## Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December



St Peter's Church Bokesbourne  
Invite you to a  
**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

Bokesbourne Village Hall  
Saturday  
5<sup>th</sup> December, 2015  
10.00 am

Stalls 🎁 Raffle ☕ Coffee

Proceeds for Bokesbourne Church and Bokesbourne Brownies



St Peter's Church Bokesbourne



Invite you to a



## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Bokesbourne Village Hall  
Saturday  
5<sup>th</sup> December, 2015  
10.00 am

Stalls 🎁 Raffle ☕ Coffee

Proceeds for Bokesbourne Church and Bokesbourne Brownies

## Nailbourne

We wind up the Society's activities Social Evening on Tuesday 1 D our **AGM** on **Tuesday 26 January** subscriptions for the year are due ( have an interesting programme of t our two shows for which sch And now a plea. We would be **committee** which is currently ope resignation pending. I can assure committee we usually meet no mor have some new (younger?) blood secretary, Brenda Wood, or make After the short business meeting, w collector **Phil Andrews** to give

## Bridge with Patrixbourne Women

For the final meeting of the year (Tu Village Hall) we have a presentation who will be giving us a short talk ab Cabaret of Magic. This will be follo Committee.

For our first meeting of 2016 on **Tue** in Bridge Village Hall, we have invit **Baby Unit** at the William Harvey Ho

there. If you are interested in this topic or in the wv generally please do come along to the meeting. You will be made most welcome.

NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



If you enjoy gardening then why not join the  
Nailbourne Horticultural Society?

Come along to our

# AGM

Tuesday 26 January

7.30 pm

Bridge Village Hall

followed by

# Cacti

talk by Local Resident & Keen Collector

# Phil Andrews





FRIENDS OF BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

# JUMBLE SALE

Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2016

Doors open at 10am

Bekesbourne Village Hall  
Bekesbourne

Admission 30p

Donations of jumble to the Hall on  
Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2016  
Between 4pm and 6pm

PLEASE ~ NOT ON THE DAY

NO ELECTRICAL ITEMS ~ THANK YOU

The villagers of Bekesbourne present:

## THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS

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and a show of live magic starring

**MR MYSTERY and BILLY THE MAGIC RABBIT**



**Sunday 20th December starting at 3.30pm  
in Bekesbourne Village Hall**

Tickets (including refreshments): Adults £5 each, Children (under 16) £3 each,  
Family of two adults and two children £15.

Proceeds will go to MSF (Medecins Sans Frontieres, who provide medical aid in stricken regions)

Buy tickets in advance to avoid disappointment: Pat and Paul Kusel Tel. 01227 830272

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## CHRISTMAS

at Chalkpit Farm Rural Shopping

Please join us

## CAROL SINGING

On Sunday 13th December 2015 2pm

Mulled wine & mince pies

Please help us to raise money for MND

Motor Neurone Disease is a progressive disease that attacks the motor neurones or nerves, in the brain and spinal cord. This means messages gradually stop reaching muscles and can affect speech and movement.

[www.chalkpitfarm.co.uk](http://www.chalkpitfarm.co.uk)  
Chalkpit Farm  
Bekesbourne, Canterbury CT4 5EU



Abbreviated Minutes: Bridge Parish Council

Thursday 12 November 2015 (full minutes on [www.bridgevillage.co.uk](http://www.bridgevillage.co.uk))

**Report from Canterbury City Councillor (Simon Cook)**

A thorough review of the conservation areas in the District will be undertaken over the next 2-3 years. He encouraged Bridge residents to be fully involved in the consultation which will form part of this review. The water table appears to be about 4 metres lower than the equivalent time last year.

**Report from Kent County Councillor Michael Northey.**

Villagers might consider the role of foster parenting? There is a great shortage at present in Kent. Go to Thanington Resource Centre on Tuesday 1 December at 7.00 p.m. to find out more. Also Kent County Council website.

**Recreation Ground**

Cllr Moon thanked the Parish Council for allowing the recreation grounds to be used for the firework display.

**Matters for discussion and action.**

**a. To review responses received to the Cantley development proposals, to plan for further consultation and next steps. (Cllr Atkinson)**

66 emails from 27 individuals and a further 8 formal letters from a total of 8 individuals received so far.

Members were reminded that the Parish Council's role is to consult with the village on the whole suite of the Cantley proposals and not to focus just on the proposed housing development on Conyngham Lane. The council agreed to set up a working group to consider how to canvass the opinions of the whole Parish in respect of the Cantley Proposals as currently phrased. The last scheduled public consultation event is on 28 November in the village hall from 9.30-11.00 a.m.

**b. To note the proposed housing development on the Brickfield Site and the proposed relocation of the Post Office.**

Cllr Cook spoke about the importance of the ownership of the land by Canterbury City Council. Canterbury would therefore control the scope and scale of the development. It would be of an appropriate size for a village such as Bridge and would take into account comments made by villagers once the formal 8-week consultation opens on November 25 2015.

Letters are to be sent by the Parish Council to the owners of the Chemist shop and to the Post Office asking for the reasoning behind the impending closure of the Post Office.

**To discuss the future status and management of the Mill Centre.**

The broad outlines of the lease to be granted to the Parish Council have been discussed and will be developed further on 10 December.

**Bridge needs a new footpath warden- contact the Clerk if interested.**

**To consider the report from KCC and decide on next steps for the Green Court area. (Cllr Atkinson)**

A consultation document on possible options for improvement to the area for completion by residents of the Western Avenue development will be drawn up. Christmas trees will be put up on Saturday December 5 starting at 9.30 am in the village hall. Volunteers are very welcome.

**Bridge Parish Council next meets: Thursday 10 December 2015 at 7.00pm in Bridge Village Hall.** #

## Notes from a Meeting of Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Parish Council

Residents from the Bekesbourne Road and Town Hill part of the Parish attended the meeting to discuss the problems caused by HGV's parking in the lay-by at the top of Bridge High Street. The lay-by was used extensively for HGV parking during 'Operation Stack' but continues to be heavily used since then. Noise from refrigeration units and lorries moving at all times of the day and night, the blocking of rear gates and the litter and other detritus left by the lorry drivers is of great concern to residents and other lay-by users. A suggested solution is to place bollards along the lay-by so only cars can enter the space. The council agreed to write to our KCC and City Councillors and propose that such bollards be installed.

Parish Councillors had attended the meetings about the proposals for the major housing development at Mountfield Park. The new A2 junction and the implications for traffic flow through the villages, and the changes to the junctions leading to Bridge and Bekesbourne were discussed with the traffic consultant at the meeting. Letters detailing our concerns about the proposals are to be sent to the developers and the City Council.

The skate board day to be held in conjunction with Bridge Parish Council had been cancelled due to concerns over the weather, but will be re-arranged for a day in the spring. Other items discussed at the meeting can be seen in the full minutes of the meeting on the Parish website.



### REFUGEE CRISIS

Refugees risking their lives to cross the Mediterranean in the aftermath of the Syrian civil war is a pressing reminder of the refugee crisis in the aftermath of the Syrian civil war that led to the founding of Christian Aid in 1945.

According to the UN, in the first half of 2015, a third of the people making the sea crossing to Italy and Greece were from Syria. More than 50% of the population are now displaced, with more than 4.1 million people forced to seek safety outside the country, in Lebanon, Iraq and Europe. Their needs will increase now winter is here, and the numbers of people seeking refuge will continue to grow as long as the conflict in Syria continues. As in 1945, Christian Aid is reaching out to those in need. As we approach Christmas and remember that the child Jesus was himself a refugee, could you help Christian Aid respond to the immediate and long-term needs of today's refugees by giving to its Refugee Crisis Appeal? Your donations could buy sleeping bags, food, water, baby kits, and also improve conditions in reception centres.

Christian Aid asks for donations of money rather than clothes or other goods, because it helps people more quickly, is more cost-effective, avoids damaging local economies and makes sure people get what they need most.

To donate go to [www.christianaid.org/refugees](http://www.christianaid.org/refugees) or send a cheque marked 'Refugees' to Christian Aid, 35 Lower Marsh, London, SE1 7RL.

Up until 5th February 2016 all donations will be doubled by UK Aid

Bridge Village Butcher As you may be aware, Laurie Wakeham, who has been in Bridge for the past 25 years, has decided it is time to hang up his meat cleaver, retire and sell the business. If you think it is important to preserve a butcher's shop in Bridge, would you be willing to invest in a Community-owned Enterprise that would purchase the premises, hire a butcher and also become a shareholder in an integral part of the Community? If you are interested to find out more please contact us:  
Email: [bridgecommunitybutcher@gmail.com](mailto:bridgecommunitybutcher@gmail.com) Phone: 01227 831740  
Laurie is in full agreement with this approach and will be giving

out these notes in his shop. Many thanks.

REFUGE Children's author, Anne Booth, (who lives in Bridge) has written a new book called Refuge. The Times newspaper named it the Children's Book of the Week at the end of last month. The book is a timely and timeless retelling of the Christmas story, inspired by refugee children everywhere. Children's Laureate, Chris Riddell, said it is "a book to share with a lump in your throat and an ache in your heart until the beauty and hope of the very last page." Anne has generously waived her author's fee, and £5 from the sale of each book is being given to War Child UK, assisting child refugees. The book is published by Nosy Crow Ltd., ISBN 978-0-85763-741-3, £7.95 and is available at Waterstones in Canterbury. Thank you and congratulations to Anne. Do buy a copy.

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01227 831737 or [info@saxonlodge.co.uk](mailto:info@saxonlodge.co.uk)

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