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Oct 2018	St Mary NACKINGTON	St Mary LOWER HARDRES	St Peter BRIDGE	St Mary PATRIXBOURNE	St Peter BEKESBOURNE
7 Oct 2018	8:00am BCP Holy Communion EL	11.00am Harvest Family Communion EL	6.00pm Evensong MC / EL	9.30am Harvest Sung Eucharist EL	10.00am Harvest Songs of Praise Lay led
14 Oct 2018	9.30am  Morning Prayer with Hymns  DR & MC	6.00pm Evensong MC	9.30am Family Communion EL	All welcome at other service in the Benefice	8.00am BCP Holy Communion EL
21 Oct 2018	All welcome at the other services in the Benefice	9.30am Family Service MC	11.00am Choral Eucharist EL	8:00am BCP Holy Communion EL	9.30am Sung Eucharist EL
28 Oct 2018	9.30am Sung Eucharist RH	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	8.00am BCP Holy Communion RH 11.00am Community Worship BL	9.30am Matins MC	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice
4 Nov 2018  All Saints transferred from 01/11/18  All Souls transferred from 02/11/18	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	6.00pm All Souls Evensong MC	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	10.00am Benefice Service for All Saints Family Communion EL



The Vicarage 23 High Street Bridge

Tel: 01227 206272

E-mail: estellalast@gmail.com October 2018

#### Dear Friends

It seems a long time since I last wrote to you as we have had the whole summer in between. I am sure like me, you are grateful in equal measure for the glorious sunshine we have enjoyed and the welcome rain that has brought everything back to green again. By the time you read this we will be in the full swing of celebrating Harvest in our parishes, giving thanks for all that God has provided for us and reflecting his generosity by giving gifts ourselves in support of worthwhile causes.

This week I have been thinking about courage especially in the context of having the courage to stand up for what we believe in as Jesus asks his disciples to do. Churches often find themselves overwhelmed by large numbers of people seeking an appropriate place to respond with their grief when tragedy strikes a community or nation and rightly so. It is the privilege of every church to be able to support and serve its community in this way. But what about the rest of the time? When life is good and we don't 'need' the support of the church? It costs an estimated average of £8,000 per month to keep our 5 churches open, insured, maintained, lit, and ministered to. Every penny of which comes from donations and fundraising. The supposed 'wealth' of 'The Church' is I'm afraid rarely something from which the local church can benefit.

So here I am banging on about money again! Yes sorry but this is about more than money — this is about courage. If we do believe that the church is the place to go to when someone is ill, dying or has died; if we do believe the church is still the place we want to mark our life events at (weddings, baptisms etc); if we do want to celebrate Christmas with a traditional carol service; if we do think that we are 'Christian' as 65% of people admitted to hospital said they were in a recent survey, then we need to stop hedging our bets, pluck up our courage, stick up for what we believe in (even if it is flawed and we don't have all the answers) — and yes, we need to put our money where our mouth is. Otherwise the church won't be here for future generations (well the buildings might remain as ancient monuments to a bygone era) but the heart of the church, it's role in our communities won't.

I'm afraid I am going to keep saying it until everyone gets the message – the church can't subsist on thin air any more than the rest of us can and whilst it might be an imperfect institution, run by imperfect individuals in an imperfect world it's what we've got and in some of our villages it is the last remaining community space since the pubs, shops and post offices succumbed to financial unviability.

The Church is here for you whether you are a person of strong faith or none, and even if you just don't know. The Church represents something far bigger than our cultural and interfaith/interdenominational squabbles over doctrine or inclusivity, but the church is in financial deficit in spite of the hard work of all our faithful volunteers – something has got to give – maybe you could?

As well as giving money – there are so many ways you could help your local church. Volunteers do many things to help the life of the church and to keep costs down – everything from strimming the churchyards to arranging the flowers, singing in the choir to cleaning the pews - there are endless opportunities. Our services are open to everyone (even if you're not sure what you really believe) and are advertised on our web and Facebook pages as well as in this magazine. You are assured of a warm welcome and who knows you might meet some nice people and make some new friends.

Yours in Christ

OBJ

Rev. Estella Last, Vicar

#### Dates for the diary - October 2018

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>

9:30am - Holy Communion, St Peter Bridge 3:00pm - Holy Communion, Bridge Haven

7:30pm – After 8's, Mansfield Court

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7:00pm - Deanery Confirmation Service, St Peter Bridge

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> – 7:30pm - Caring & Sharing

Tuesday 9th

9:30am - Holy Communion, St Peter Bridge 2:30pm - Holy Communion, Mansfield Court

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>

10:00am - FISH pop-in coffee, Bridge Village Hall 2:00pm - Social Afternoon, Lower Hardres

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>

9:30am - Holy Communion, St Peter Bridge 3:00pm - Holy Communion, Saxon Lodge 7:30pm - After 8's, Mansfield Court

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> - 3:00pm - Hymns at Bridge Haven

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> - 7:30pm - Caring & Sharing

Friends of St Peter's Church, Bridge

**COFFEE & CAKE & CONCERT** 

20th October 10:30 to 11:30

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## **QUIZ NIGHT**

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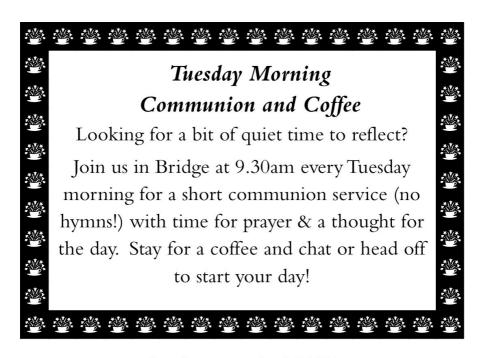
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 7.00 – 9.30pm St Stephen's Church Hall Hales Drive Canterbury CT2 7AB

Come as a team of 4 or 8 or just on your own Bring your own refreshments Raffle

Tickets £6 from 01227 831956

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### Coming soon in 2019!!



#### RIDE & STRIDE

A big thank you to all of this years Riders and Striders who have raised money for our Churches. We were lucky with the weather, and were thankful for the warm hospitality shown to us in many of the Churches visited. Many thanks to all of the sponsors who helped make this day so successful.

#### LOWER HARDRES NEWS

#### Reminder

On Sunday October 7th at 11.00am, there will be a Harvest Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's Lower Hardres. We will be collecting food e.g. tins and packets for Age Concern. There will be a competition for children, young people and adults - paintings, photography, drawings and vegetable animals, all connected to Harvest please. They can be brought to Church on the Saturday morning to be judged. Classes - age 8 years and under, age 9 - 18, and 18 onwards. Children can help to decorate the Church if they wish.

We would like to thank everyone who helped and contributed to the Harvest Lunch.

#### Fish news.

40 years ago three remarkable women set up the Fish Scheme in Bridge, Patrixbourne, Bekesbourne and Bishopsbourne. They were Ann Young, Muriel Packer and Joan Warren. Joan, the last of them, died during the summer. Based on the idea of a GP and a vicar in Headington, Oxford, the Scheme set out to provide help to fellow villagers. Friends provided transport to the surgery and hospital, a weekly lunch club at the old Close, a housebound library service and a chiropodist clinic. Over the years it changed to provide increasingly for lifts to Ashford and Margate hospitals, the weekly Coffee Pop-ins and an annual outing. Until recently Ann Medhurst manned the Fish phone alone to liaise hundreds of lifts each year. Now about 25 drivers are asked to give lifts when they can. But the needs are as great as ever. If you could - or know someone who might - please consider becoming a driver. In her last years Joan and her husband used the Scheme themselves. She left us a truly wonderful legacy.

The next Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday October 10th from 10 to 11.15. And thanks to all who helped Rosy's Macmillan Coffee Morning to raise £188 for a great cause.

#### Bridge and District History Society

The next meeting will be on Thursday October 18th at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. Geoff Downer's talk is entitled "Something Different", giving various links to Kent including three 16th century Arctic expeditions, probably the biggest financial scandal of Elizabeth I's reign and pirates!

Members: £4.00, non-members £5.00 to include refreshments.

### Recreation Ground Working Party Saturday 17th November 2018

There will be a working party on the recreation ground on the above date from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon. Everyone is welcome including children so long as accompanied by a responsible adult. Please bring warm clothes and gardening gloves. Refreshments in the pavilion as usual.

I look forward to seeing you.

Sue Hodges

#

Headteacher: James Tibbles

Tel: 01227 830276

Email: office@bridge.kent.sch.uk Web: <u>www.bridge.kent.sch.uk</u> Bridge & Patrixbourne C.E.P. School Conyngham Lane Bridge, Canterbury Kent CT4 5JX



#### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September

It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself as the new Headteacher of Bridge & Patrixbourne School. At the time of writing this, I have only been at the school for a week, but already I am struck by the sense of community that exists and feel very privileged that I have the opportunity to be a part of this.

You would all be familiar with the phrase that 'it takes a village to raise a child' and I certainly hold true to this. As members of the community we all have a responsibility to ensure that the next generation coming through our schools are prepared for the challenges that they will face as they grow up. We achieve this by focusing not solely on their academic achievement but also by developing their values and their talents (whatever they may be).

I am very keen to develop the school's links with the wider community and, in particular, the benefice and look forward to the opportunities for the children that these links will bring. It is a fact that the vast majority of our pupils are not regular church-attendees; herein lies an opportunity to reach the children through different means and Rev. Estella and I have already discussed plans which we hope to detail further in the near future.

In the meantime I would like to express my gratitude for the warm welcome I have received from those members of the community with whom I have already met and thank you in anticipation for your support for the children of Bridge & Patrixbourne CEP School.

Please do feel free to get in touch via the school office if you feel that you could support the school or even have an opportunity for the school to engage in the local community.

Yours sincerely.

JUMMY HOOKS

James Tibbles Headteacher











#### WE WILL REMEMBER THEM- the lost soldiers of Patrixbourne

November 11<sup>th</sup> this year, marks the centenary of the ending of the First World War and the signing of the Armistice. The Remembrance Day Service will be held at St Peter's Bridge this year, but at 4pm there will be a more informal event to remember the six lost soldiers named on the War Memorial at St Mary's Patrixbourne.

The soldiers named are Capt. J. McB. Ronald, The Buffs; Lieut. 5<sup>th</sup> Marquis Conyngham, South Irish Horse; C.S.M., D. Alexander, The Buffs; Sapper F.S. Brickenden R.E; Pte. C.H. Stevens K.R.R.C.; Pte. A.E. Stevens 3<sup>rd</sup> Dragoon Guards. They will be represented in the church by six bench top Perspex silhouettes. The six figures have been awarded to us by the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust and are part of the 'There but not there' project, and their presence in the church will demonstrate what a gap the loss of six young lives left in the church, and the community, of the small village of Patrixbourne, at the time.

The event will be an opportunity to hear the stories of the soldiers, and to remember all those lost, in words and music. There will be hymns and songs such as 'Keep the home fires burning'. Everyone is invited to attend and if you know any descendants of the men named they will be particularly welcome. (It would be good to hear from them in advance- please contact me at <a href="mailto:dr.andreanicholson@gmail.com">dr.andreanicholson@gmail.com</a>) Any former soldiers are particularly welcome as it is hoped that the event will help fulfil the project's aim of bringing community and veterans together. Tea and cake will be served afterwards.

The silhouettes themselves will be on display in the church on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> ,10am-4pm., and on the Sunday too. Please come and see the silhouettes, as the display is part of a nationwide display of silhouettes.

'There but not there' is a 2018 Armistice project hoping to raise funds for the charity 'Remembered', which supports six charities (The Royal Foundation; Walking with the Wounded; Combat Stress; Help for Heroes; Project Equinox- Housing Veterans and Medical Students; Commonwealth War Graves Commission). A collection for 'Remembered' will be made over the weekend. Later that Sunday, at 7.05pm, the bells at Patrixbourne will be rung and will join bells across the country, marking the signing of the Armistice which saw the end of the First World War.







## St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

# **SONGS OF PRAISE**

10am Sunday October 7th



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# **Baby and Toddler Group**

Every Thursday during term time from Thursday 6th September. 9-11am Little Lambs

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Suggested donation £1 per child.

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#### You are warmly invited to

# Come and Sing Carols

at St Peter's, Bridge

on Sunday, December 16th

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. Having performed over 100 different choir carols since 2001, I have decided that it is time to repeat the set from that first year, most of which are definitely 'old favourites' but I hope not now hackneyed: *The Truth from Above* (English trad., arr. Vaughan Williams), *The Holly and the Ivy* (English trad., arr. Walford Davies), *In the Bleak Mid-Winter* (Darke), *Break Forth* (J S Bach), *The Infant King* (Basque trad., arr. Willcocks), *In Dulci Jubilo* (Pearsall).

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:

Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

7-8.30 p.m.

Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

6-7.30 p.m.

Sunday, December 16<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 <a href="mijm@kings-school.co.uk">mjm@kings-school.co.uk</a>. I can then assess vocal balance and the viability of the programme!

With thanks & best wishes

Martin Miles

#### Canterbury Food Bank

A huge thank you to everyone for the bags and bags of food and non-food that was given in at Harvest Festival for the Canterbury Food Bank. It was very much appreciated, particularly the most needed items of that moment in time which were cleaning materials, pet food, potatoes either dried or in cans and pasta sauces, plus all the other items all gratefully received.

As I have written before there are 3 main bags that are put together from donations received and collated at the Collection Centre in Chestfield. These contain enough food (all UHT, tins and packet items) to sustain an adult, a 2nd adult or a child over 2, for 3 days. With care these can last longer and indeed have to as only 5 vouchers are given out in a 12 month period. Anyone needing further assistance, which helps with their own problem, is then referred on to one of many agencies in the area.

What is not included in these bags are:

Cleaning materials, toilet rolls, sanitary wear, pet food, confectionery, baby milks and foods, baby hygiene materials, toiletries for both male and female, toothbrushes/paste, and items from exotic larder clear outs!

These are displayed on the Bonus Table which extends over 3 very long tables. Having seen the representative from the Citizens Advice Bureau (unless a voucher has already been given by another agency) and signed in to receive the necessary number of food bags, the recipients are then invited to help themselves to whatever they require from the Bonus Table providing they can carry it home or have someone on hand to help them.

Being on the Bonus Table is my favourite of all roles I undertake at the Canterbury Food Bank. I get to hold the babies whilst their mothers look through and select what they need, to talk to the young and the old, the disabled and the homeless, and help them to select suitable things to take away. If you are camping out in a shop doorway or living in a car some items in the food bag are not of any use and these are sifted through and returned for more essential and suitable items.

Cleaning materials, sanitary wear and toiletries are vital to people without any money. It gives them self esteem on the outside whilst the food gives then nourishment on the in. A lot of homeless people and some families who come to us have pets — it is a major part of their lives and without money the pets go without too, adding to their owner's stress. Strange but true, we do need both types of items on a regular basis. If you are having a larder clearout please check the Sell by Dates on all food items. This is first done at the Collection Centre at Chestfield but our job is so much easier if it is received within a 3 month date. If the item is donated at a yellow bin at a supermarket then its SBD is guaranteed, but if it is donated elsewhere then it is checked carefully.

I always find it quite touching that people who come to the Distribution Café need to be persuaded to take anything in addition to the bags of food. They tend to say it should be left for someone else to take...

'Food For Thought'

#### Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

The WI are holding a couple of events in Bridge Village Hall this month. On **Tuesday 16 October** at 7.30 pm our speaker is **D Godden**, an ex-cruise manager, who has promised us a humorous talk on **Travel**. The competition is for an interesting item beginning with the letter "J". Guests and visitors are most welcome to come to our meetings.

Then, on **Thursday 25 October** at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, we will be hosting the **Nailbourne Group Meeting**. The theme we have chosen is Hallowe'en, with the competition being the best decorated pumpkin and there will also be a chance to try out armchair yoga.

#### Nailbourne Horticultural Society

Please note that there is a change of date for the October talk. **Roland Stevens** will now be giving his illustrated talk entitled **"The Greenhouse Story"** on **Tuesday 23 October** (not 9 October as published in the programme). The talk will be held as usual in the Village Hall, Bridge at 7.30 pm and, as with all our talks, everyone is welcome.

#### National Vegetable Society - Kent Association

For the final evening talk of this year's programme, **Philip Johnson**, a professional gardener, will be giving a talk on "**Sweet Peas**" (7.30 for 8.00 pm start) in Bridge Village Hall on **Wednesday 10 October**. There is a sales table and raffle and non-members are always welcome to come along to enjoy the talk.

#### Thank you / Goodbye

After such an emotional few days Mrs Pritchard and I are finally leaving Woodpeckers Nursery. Thank you to everyone for your kind wishes, cards, flowers and presents, we were overwhelmed.

You can imagine Woodpeckers has been an enormous part of my life for the past 21 years (28 years in all at Bridge /School), I would like to say thank you to my family for all their support.

It has been a team effort over the years and I couldn't have done it without all those lovely ladies who have worked so hard with me. Especially my right hand Mrs Pritchard, who has been with me from the beginning.

We would both like to say thank you to all the parents, families and friends who have given time, help and support over the years as Committee Members, at Fayres, painting faces, manning stalls and baking the yummiest cakes, especially Ninon Clark, Carla Long, The Dunderdales, Margaret Clarke, Margaret Hennessy, the staff at the school and so many more.

Most of all though I'll miss the main reason we are all here and that is the children, hundreds of whom have gone through Woodpeckers. I know I also speak for Mrs Pritchard when I say it's been a privilege to watch them all grow and blossom having so much fun and laughter on the way. Thank you.

It just leaves Teresa and I to wish Michelle and the team good luck for the very exciting times ahead of you.

If you go to Whitstable and see an old girl striding along or sketching on the slopes take a second look, it might be me so do come over and say hello.

Angie Sheppard and Teresa Pritchard

#### **FAIRTRADE**

Among the many pictures and plaques on the walls of Bridge Church is a small framed certificate over the kitchen worktop. It says 'We are a **Fairtrade Church**'. 2018 marks 10 years since we achieved that status.

People started thinking about fair trade as a way of reducing poverty in the developing world back in the 1970s and the Fairtrade Foundation was set up in the UK in 1992. The principle is that trading companies pay fair prices for the goods they buy and sell, enabling the producers to earn a living wage. This includes a premium which is invested in the local community to improve living and working conditions, health, education etc. It also gives an opportunity to small producers in the developing world to engage in international trade.

In order to be able to put the Fairtrade mark on their products, companies have to provide evidence that they are fulfilling these commitments.

Faith groups are key supporters of Fairtrade and more than 7,500 churches from a range of denominations are now making the connection between trade and poverty by committing to using Fairtrade products when they gather together.

On our certificate at Bridge it says - We have committed to: use Fairtrade tea and coffee for all meetings for which we have responsibility, move forward on using other Fairtrade products, such as sugar, chocolate and biscuits.

promote Fairtrade during Fairtrade Fortnight and through other activities where possible.

We all have the power to change the world every day. With simple shopping choices we can get farmers a better deal, so they can make their own decisions, control their future and lead the dignified life everyone deserves.

The annual Canterbury Fairtrade Fair is on Saturday 20th October between 10am and 3pm in St. Peter's Methodist Church Hall. There will be all kinds of Fairtrade foods and gifts to buy, as well as home-made soup and cheese lunches. Everyone welcome – do go along. Jean Barber

### **BARHAM POST OFFICE**

As Bridge are sadly currently without a Post Office, we thought it may be useful to let you know the services on offer at Barham, just a short bus ride away or a few minutes drive with plenty of parking.

The following is a comprehensive list of services offered:

#### Posting services

Posting letters/parcels standard first or second class post, with a signature on delivery (signed for) or via the trackable guaranteed service also with a signature on delivery (special delivery).

Posting letters/parcels abroad via standard airmail, surface mail or tracked/signed for services (services vary depending on destination country).

Posting larger/heavier UK parcels via Parcelforce.

Posting letters/parcels via "Drop & Go" suitable for frequent posters/companies.

Online shopping/catalogue returns

#### Banking services

Paying cash and cheques into your personal/business bank account using your debit card or pre-printed paying in slip.

Withdrawing cash from your bank account using your debit card.

Checking your account balance.

Purchasing postal orders.

Transferring money within minutes to another person within the UK or abroad via "Moneygram".

Collecting money that has been sent to you via "Moneygram".

#### Items we sell

Stamps, sold individually or in books.

One4All giftcards, which can be used in a range of high street stores as well as online.

Mobile phone top ups.

Fishing licences.

Health Lottery tickets £1 per line, draws Tues-Sun.

Phone cards.

**Bill Payment** 

Pay most utility bills using swipe cards/barcodes on the bottom of the bill.

Top up your Gas and Electric card/key via our paystation.

Vehicle Tax/Licences

Pay your vehicle tax by cheque/card/direct debit.

Collect a driving licence form.

Foreign Currency

Buy Euros from our stock held in branch.

Order foreign currency in branch by 2pm and collect the next working day after 1pm.

Top up travel moneycards.

#### Other

Parcelforce collection – if you aren't in when Parcelforce try to deliver, your parcel will be taken to Barham Post Office for you to collect at your convenience.

Local Collect – when ordering online check if the retailer offers to deliver your parcel direct to Barham Post Office so you don't have to wait at home for your delivery, there is no fee from the Post Office for this service.

Charitable donations: if you wish to support a charity you may be able to make the donation to it via Barham Post Office. Please ask which charities are available as this varies from time to time.

We can be contacted at <u>barhamstorepo@gmail.com</u> or on 01227 832191, we look forward to seeing you.

#### NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



# The Greenhouse Story

an illustrated talk by

### **Roland Stevens**

Tuesday 23 October
7.30 pm
Bridge Village Hall

All welcome

small charge to include refreshments Bring Along a Friend for Free!



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#### Hello.

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I am here to help with all things floral, with free local delivery & advice. I have recently been chosen as Broome Parks preferred florist. I hold a Saturday morning floral master class every week for all that want to learn the science behind excellent floral creations. These have already proved very popular, so booking is essential.

Open 7 days a week, the vintage style theme, Tearooms are here to offer a warm, friendly cosy place for you to meet friends, bring children for milkshake or come alone & snuggle in a corner with a book and a hot chocolate. We offer light lunches, delicious cream teas, fresh homemade cakes and a great range of Teas & Fresh Coffees served from teapots, side plates, bone china cups & saucers and even good old-fashioned sugar tongs & Tea cosies!

We have outside seating, highchairs, wheelchair access, a muddy boot store and a little side for dogs. we will serve you in a relaxed atmosphere with a warm smile.

Having lived in Bridge for 18 months, I noticed very quickly that this beautiful, vibrant village was crying out for a tearoom, somewhere for us all to meet and catch up on a regular basis. I have created the Tulip Tearooms for the good people of Bridge & surrounding villages to enjoy and look upon it as theirs. We have daily papers, books to read, a notice board, free Wi-Fi and usb charging stations. We offer buffets for small gatherings up to 20 people such as reunions, wakes and birthdays. Our after school "Milkshake" club has proven popular amongst the children. Come along and enjoy a milkshake straw for just £1.

We look forward to welcoming you here....

#### Littlebourne & District Royal British Legion

Our raffle at the Elvis in the Garden on 9th Sept raised £327 for the Poppy Appeal. Thank you to all who supported us and "Thank you Elvis"!

We still need more Poppy Appeal Collectors. Ring 01227 472023.

Our next two monthly meetings will be on Tues 9th Oct & 13th Nov (AGM), both at 8pm at the Recreation Club, Littlebourne.

On Remembrance Weekend (10th & 11th Nov) Littlebourne Church will have a programme of Flowers, Music & Words to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War I. If anyone wishes to make a donation towards the flowers in

memory of a loved one who died in the War, please call Jean Smith on 01227 721830.

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