Time to wonder.....

Take a moment to think about 'LOVE'. The writer of the letter to the Ephesians writes this:

"Even before the World was made......Because of his love ⁵ God had already decided that through Jesus Christ he would make us his children—this was his pleasure and purpose. ⁶ Let us praise God for his glorious grace, for the free gift he gave us in his dear Son!" (Ephesians 1:4-6 Good News Translation)

This is the mind-blowing truth of the Christian faith; that we are loved, before we are even formed in the womb, we are thought of and held in high regard and the gift of Jesus is all the evidence we need of this gracious love so freely given. Each and everyone of us destined for adoption as children of God.

Imagine the difference this could make to your life if you lived as if you believed this; that noone's approval is necessary, that no-one else's judgements define you, that you have no expectations to fulfil save those of an ever-loving God who loves you so completely that he
loved you and knew you before you were even made.

This is the love expressed in the passage from Ephesians – it is the most excessive, tender and richly abundant love that we can ever imagine – summed up in the words of St Hildegaard of Bingen thus:

"God hugs you. You are encircled by the arms of the mystery of God. You shine so finely, it surpasses understanding"

This offers a counter to the world's understanding of 'worth'. It isn't simply that we are somehow special or worthy but rather that we have been taken up into something extraordinary and offered this gift to receive as our own.

This is the invitation that is open to us all regardless of who we are, regardless of where we come from, regardless of whether we are religious or not. Like a pauper invited to take the place of a prince or princess – we are all invited to share in the riches of God's grace and to live as God's children.

Amen

Anne Mummery 1937-2018

The Mummery family would like to thank the village for their kind support and numerous condolences that they have received following Anne's death on 9th June 2018. Anne and Brian lived at Great Pett Farm from 1966 and brought up their children in the village. Anne threw herself into village life at Bridge School; she continued to be regularly involved in many activities there over a number of years through her grandchildren who also attended the school. She enjoyed many lasting friendships during her lifetime, and this was sincerely appreciated during the difficult times when her health was failing. Anne and Brian moved to Laughing Waters in Brewery Lane and she would take great pleasure observing from her armchair, the comings and goings of her fellow villagers in the Brickfield.

Anne was a proud wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She is survived by her husband Brian, children Claire, Alan, Jane, Sarah, granddaughters Jenny, Emily, Alice, Daisy Georgina and great grandson Finley.

Her funeral took place on July 11th, and the family were moved to see so many people attend to pay their respects.

Fish News

The Coffee Pop-ins will be on Wednesday August 8th and Wednesday September 12th in Bridge Village Hall with a Hi Kent helper at the September event. The number for lifts is 07935 966 080.

Bridge & District History Society

The first meeting of the Society will be on Thursday September 20th in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Following a short AGM Jackie Eales will give a talk entitled 'Witchcraft in Early Modern Canterbury and Kent'. She will examine how witchcraft accusations in Tudor and Stuart Canterbury and Kent can be interpreted in the light of recent research.

Members £4.00, non-members £5.00.

Littlebourne & District Royal British Legion

We held an enjoyable July branch meeting attended by 14 members.

It seems a long way off but we will soon be seeking extra collectors for the autumn Poppy Appeal. Could we ask if anyone feels that they could spare some time to help with this valuable work, that they contact the branch on 01227 472023. We will need help in Littlebourne, Adisham and Bekesbourne especially.

Our next two monthly branch meetings will be on Tuesdays 14 August and 11

Baby and Toddler Group

Every Thursday until 9th August when we will have a celebration picnic—older siblings welcome if the weather is fine.

Then every week from Thursday 6th September.



Bridge Recreation Ground Pavilion

Open to all pre-school age babies and toddlers (with parent / guardian). Come and enjoy a cuppa and a chat in a relaxed safe atmosphere while your children play with others. Sessions include free-play, drinks & snacks, craft activity.

Suggested donation £1 per child.

For more information contact estellalast@gmail.com



St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

SONGS OF PRAISE

10am Sunday 2nd September









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11am Sunday 30th September Benefice Family Communion at Bridge Church Celebrating



Gifts of food items for the Canterbury Foodbank will be warmly received and welcome. Please ensure a minimum 3 month shelf life on all items.

The service will be followed by a Benefice Harvest Lunch at Lower Hardres Village Hall. All Welcome.

FRIEND of KENT CHURCHES

RIDE & STRIDE. SATURDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 10am – 6pm.

Each of the churches in our Benefice will be participating in this event.

It is important because Friends of Kent Churches have in the recent past (and hopefully in the future) made donations to our churches for the repair/upkeep of the buildings.

All monies raised on the day are split equally between Friend of Kent Churches and your local (or your choice) church.

Riders/Striders plan their own route around the churches locally/Canterbury/Countywide. A list of participating churches/chapels will be available.

Each of our churches are looking for:-

- (A) Riders/Striders to take part
- (B) Sponsors for the Riders/Striders, and the volunteers at churches.
- (C) Volunteers to provide a welcome and refreshment at our churches (1 hour stints normally).

If you feel you could participate/sponsor/greet please contact our church co-ordinators:-

Bridge	David Edmonds	830795		
Patrixbourne	Pauline Pritchard	830685		
Bekesbourne	Jill Gillanders	830894		
Lower Hardres	Anne Nicholls	700533 or Margaret Clarke 765598		
Nackington	Scilla Wright	463265		





Back to School Service

Sunday 9th September 9.30am At St Peter's Church, Bridge



As a community we will be praying for all teachers and pupils as they return to school and especially for those starting new schools.

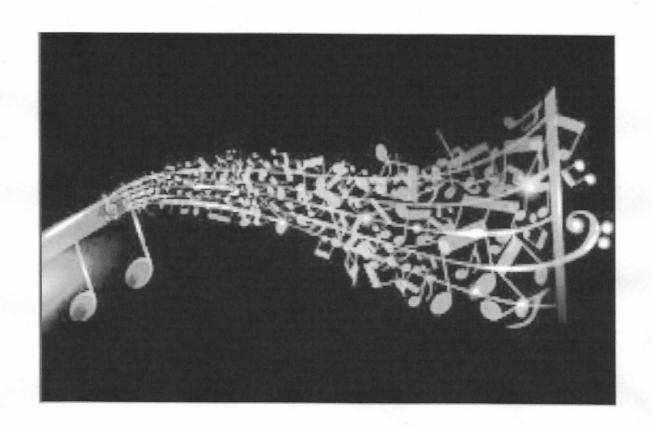
Children bring your school bags for a special blessing.

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Suggested donation £3, children free All proceeds are for repairs to the church building

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

Instead of an evening meeting in August, we have decided to have a **gentle stroll** on the morning of **Tuesday 21st** through Bourne Park and across to "Tadpoles" in Bishopsbourne for coffee. We will start off from the Western Avenue/Green Court area at 10.00 am, meeting those joining from Bridge Down at Bridge Church. For those who do not want to walk there will be transport from Western Avenue at 10.15 am.

Our guest speaker at our meeting on **Tuesday 18 September** (7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall) is **PJ Wellspring** from Whitstable. PJ Wellspring is an ex RAF pilot, then RAF and civil Air Traffic Controller and in his illustrated talk, he will be posing the question "**How Safe are our Skies?**" If this subject interests you or you would like to find out more generally about the WI do remember that we are always delighted to welcome guests and visitors to our meetings.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

After the summer break, our programme of talks recommences on **Tuesday 11 September**, 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall, when our own local **Simpsons Wine Estate** based at Barham are to give a presentation entitled "**From Grape to Glass**".

The presentation will cover the expertise needed in the vineyard and winery to create elegant English wine and will include **tasting** of two of their wines - most probably a Roman Road Chardonnay 2017 and one of their Southern French Sparkling wines. There will also be the opportunity to purchase wine. The charge will be £5 per person, to include two wine tastings. As always everyone is welcome.

National Vegetable Society - Kent Association

The Society has a full schedule for August and September

On **Wednesday 8 August**, 7.30 for 8.00 pm start in Bridge Village Hall, the Society has invited **Dr Sarah Arnold**, behavioural entomologist at the University of Greenwich and an expert in pollination, to give a talk on "**Pollinators and Pollination**".

Then towards the end of the month on 26 and 27 August, the Society will have their stand at the Edenbridge Show, should anyone be venturing out of East Kent on the Bank Holiday weekend.

Over the weekend of 8 and 9 September, the Society is holding its Annual Show, again this year in Wingham Village Hall. The Show will be open to the public from 2.00 pm until 4.00 pm on Saturday 8th and from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm on Sunday 9th.

This will be closely followed by an evening talk, back in Bridge Village Hall and at the usual time of 7.30 for 8.00 pm, on **Wednesday 12 September**. The title for this talk by **Chris Spree** is "**A Walled Garden and Sex**!" It could be interesting

There is a sales table and raffle at all meetings and non-members will be made most welcome.

K&CH League of Friends Summer Fair...and Fun Dog Show

The League of Friends of the Kent & Canterbury Hospital will be holding its annual fair on Saturday 18th August in the Outpatients' car park at the hospital.

The fair will be opened by the Lord Mayor of Canterbury, Cllr Colin Spooner, at 11am and will run until 2pm when the grand draw with a top prize of £1,000 will take place.

This year, the fair will again include the fun dog show with lots of entry categories including 'the waggiest tail' as well as a children's art competition with entries from three local primary schools.

In addition to the familiar stalls selling books, DVDs, local produce, etc., there will be a wide range of other entertainments, including a brass band, a coconut shy, Punch and Judy and, especially for the children, a bouncy castle and face painting. Food from the barbeque, refreshments and ice cream will also be available.

All funds raised by the fair will be used by the K&CH League of Friends to buy equipment and other gifts benefitting patients and staff at the hospital. For further information, please call Lynne Bannon on 01227 864030 or email: tr.leagueoffriends@nhs.net

FUN DOG SHOW

In conjunction with the Summer Fair held by

THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS **Kent & Canterbury Hospital**

In the hospital grounds, adjacent to the Outpatients Department

Saturday 18th August 2018



Judging commences 11.30 am Entries taken from 11.00 am



- Best puppy/youngster (up to 15 months) 1.
- Best rescued or re-homed dog or bitch 2.
- Most handsome dog 3.
- Prettiest bitch 4.
- 5. Best veteran (over 6 years)
- 6. Most appealing expression
- 7. Dog/bitch in best condition
- 8. Waggiest tail
- 9. Best small dog/bitch under 18 inches at shoulder
- Best large dog/bitch over 18 inches at shoulder 10.
- 11. Best 6 legs
- 12. Dog/bitch the Judge would most like to take home

Rosettes in each class to 4th place

Entries £1 each class

Enquiries Pauline Osborne: 01843 225801



NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



From Grape to Glass

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£5 entry, to include wine tasting

All welcome



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Christine Dutfield on 01 227 830828 or Graham Duplock on 01 227 830271

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Register to Vote

Household Enquiry Forms for electoral registration are now being delivered to every property in the district.

Please check the form carefully when it arrives.

The city council needs to know whether all the details are correct or if any changes are required. The details of how to respond are on the form. It will save us money if you respond by telephone or internet rather than returning your form by post. If you do not respond we are required to issue reminders and possibly visit your property which would incur further costs.

It is important to make sure you are registered to vote. If you are not, you will not be able to vote at elections and it could put your credit rating at risk, which means you may find it difficult to get a loan or mortgage.

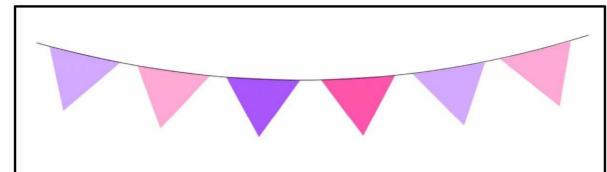


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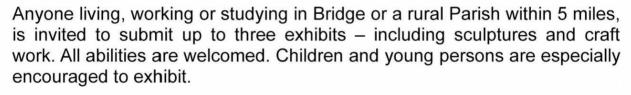
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Bridge Village Hall, 6th & 7th October 2018



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Further information on the web site and from John Corfield, tel: 01227 830976

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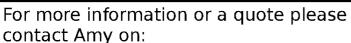
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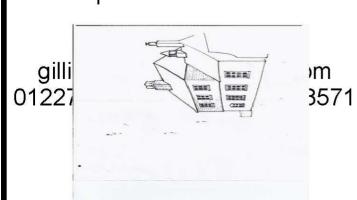
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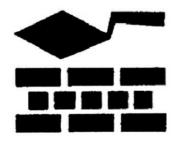
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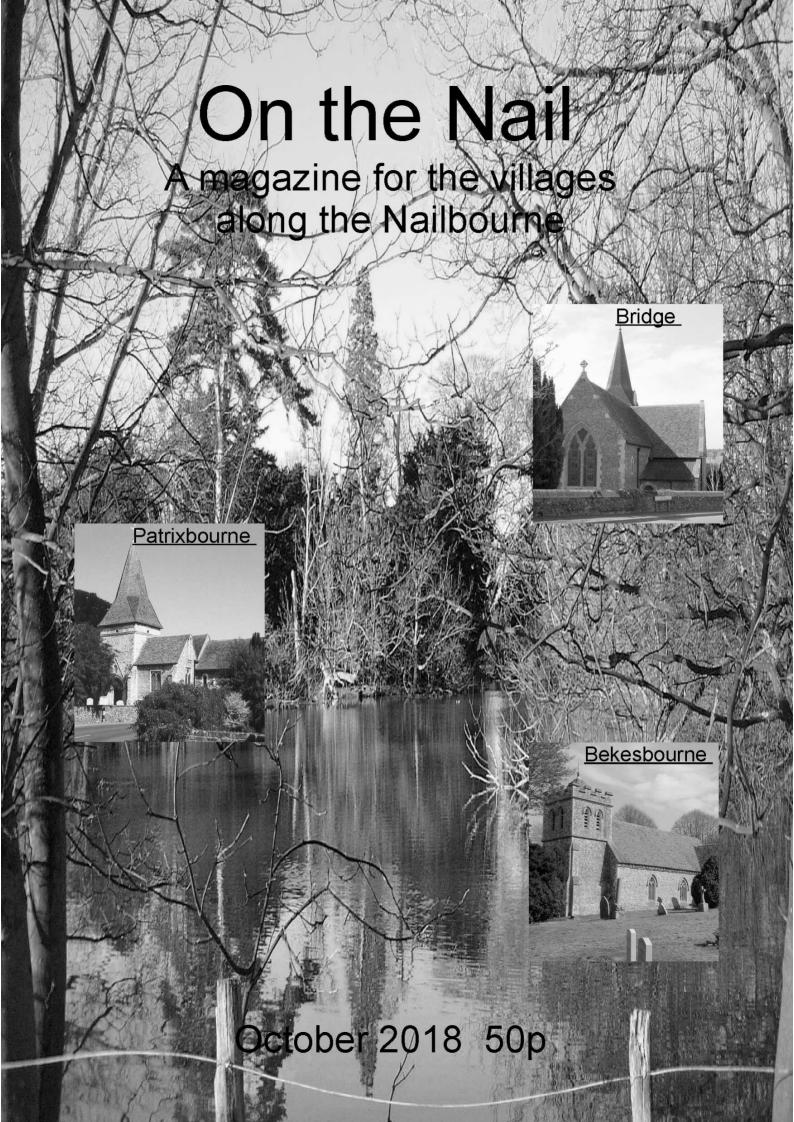
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Oct 2018	St Mary NACKINGTON	St Mary LOWER HARDRES	St Peter BRIDGE	St Mary PATRIXBOURNE	St Peter BEKESBOURNE
7 Oct 2018	8:00am BCP Holy Communion EL	11.00am Harvest Family Communion EL	6.00pm Evensong MC / EL	9.30am Harvest Sung Eucharist EL	10.00am 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 2nd

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

7:30pm – After 8's, Mansfield Court

Wednesday 3rd – 7:00pm – Deanery Confirmation Service, St Peter Bridge

Monday 8th – 7:30pm - Caring & Sharing

Tuesday 9th

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

Wednesday 10th

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

Tuesday 16th

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

7:30pm – After 8's, Mansfield Court

Wednesday 17th - 3:00pm - Hymns at Bridge Haven

Monday 22nd - 7:30pm - Caring & Sharing

Friends of St Peter's Church, Bridge

COFFEE & CAKE & CONCERT

20th October 10:30 to 11:30

Allan Richardson

Lyricist vocalist humourist guitarist



Established Kent Folk Singer Allan will perform a variety of modern songs and music in the English folk tradition to delight, amuse and join in (and since he's the Vicar's Dad she'll make an appearance too!)

Suggested donation £3, children free All proceeds are for upkeep of the church



QUIZ NIGHT

????????????????????????????????

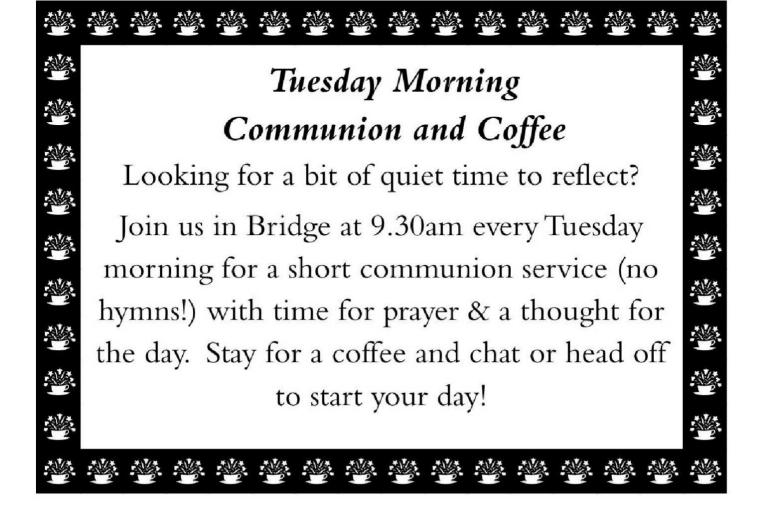
Saturday 13th October 7.00 – 9.30pm St Stephen's Church Hall Hales Drive Canterbury CT2 7AB

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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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: www.bridge.kent.sch.uk Bridge & Patrixbourne C.E.P. School Conyngham Lane Bridge, Canterbury Kent CT4 5JX



Monday 10th 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,

James Tibbles Headteacher











WE WILL REMEMBER THEM- the lost soldiers of Patrixbourne

November 11th 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. 5th 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 3rd 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.

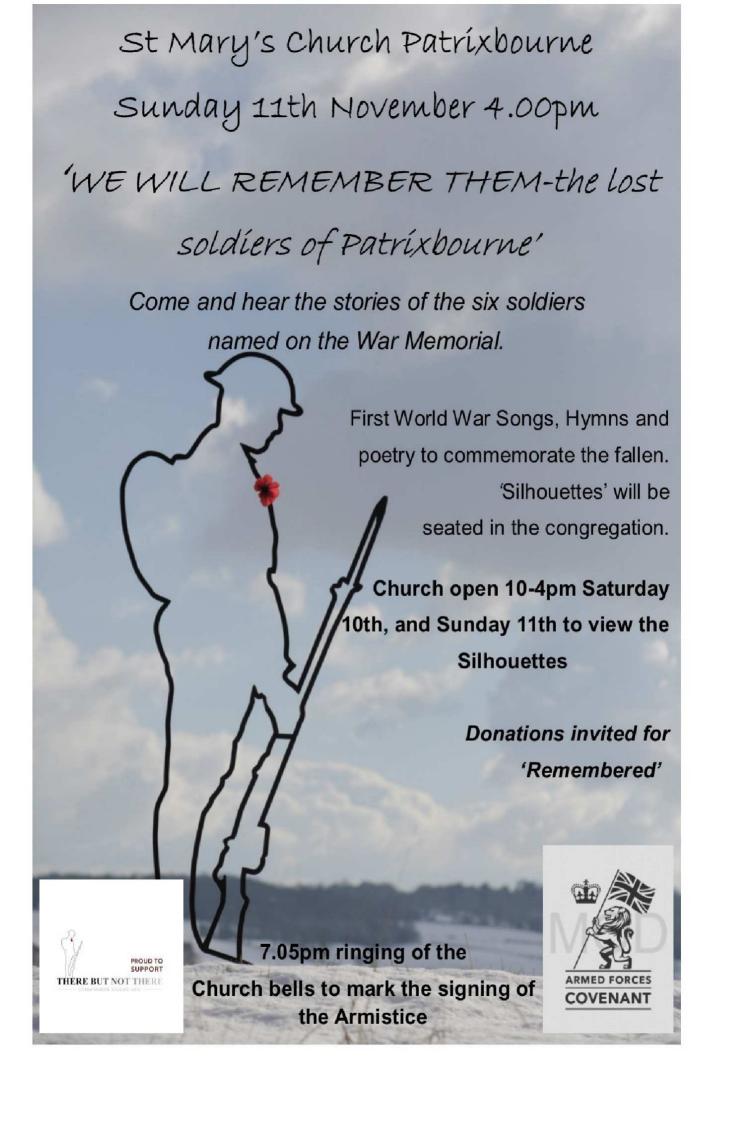
The event will be an opportunity to hear the stories of the soldiers, and to remember all those lost, in words and music. There will be hymns and songs such as 'Keep the home fires burning'. Everyone is invited to attend and if you know any descendants of the men named they will be particularly welcome. (It would be good to hear from them in advance- please contact me at dr.andreanicholson@gmail.com) 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 10th ,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.

Andrea Nicholson, Churchwarden St Mary's Patrixbourne





St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

SONGS OF PRAISE

10am Sunday October 7th



EVERYONE WELCOME – GIFTS TO THE WOMEN'S REFUGE

Please bring bedding – *single* duvets (new or cleaned), single duvet covers & sheets and food - dried, tinned, packaged and fresh – thank you.

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Baby and Toddler Group

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



Bridge Recreation Ground Pavilion

Open to all pre-school age babies and toddlers (with parent / guardian). Come and enjoy a cuppa and a chat in a relaxed safe atmosphere while your children play with others. Sessions include free-play, drinks & snacks, craft activity.

Suggested donation £1 per child.

For more information contact estellalast@gmail.com



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 13th

7-8.30 p.m.

Friday, December 14th 6–7.30 p.m.

Sunday, December 16th

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. 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

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'

on hand to help them.

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 nonmembers 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

OBJ

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 Cantarbury Edirtrada Edir is an Satu

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).

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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

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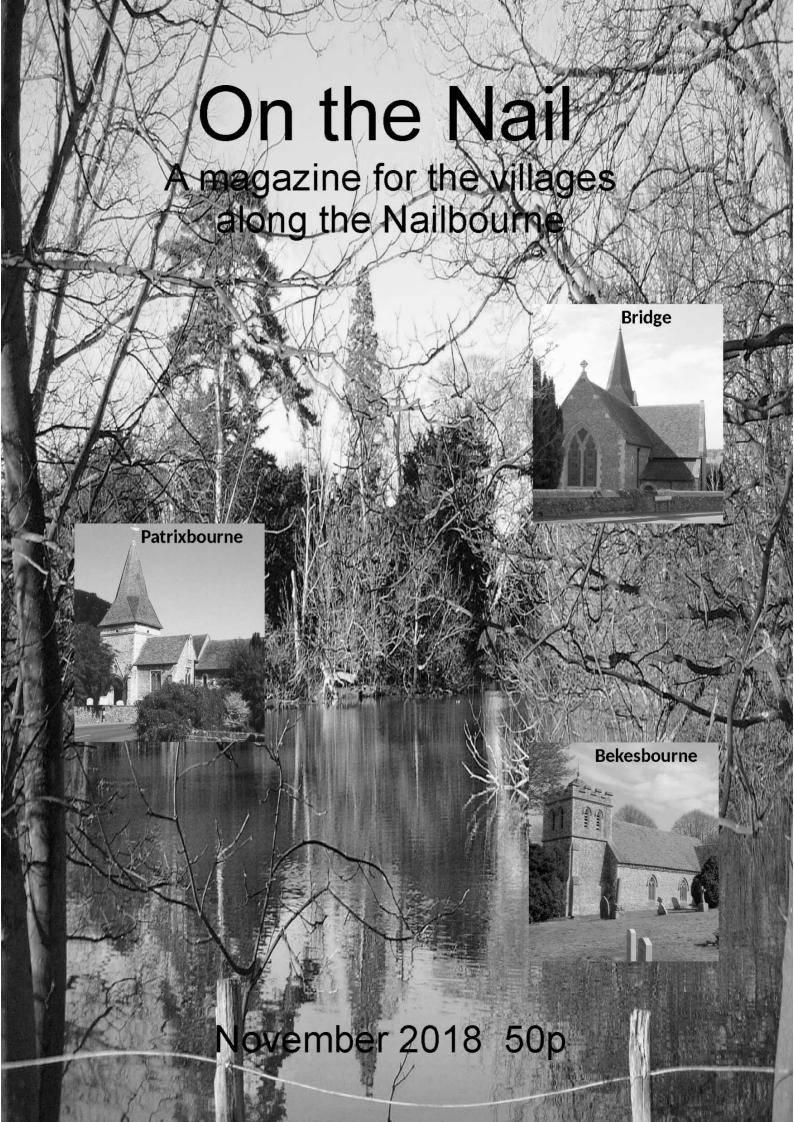
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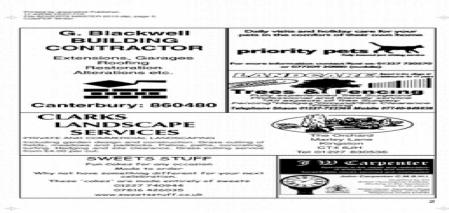
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Nov 2018 4 Nov 2018 All Saints from 01/11/18. Isaiah 25:6-9; Rev. 21:1-6a; John 11:32-44 All Souls from 02/11/18. Lam. 3:17-27;31-33; John 5:19-25	St Mary NACKINGTON All welcome at the of the Be		St Peter BRIDGE 6.00pm Evensong Commemoration of the faithful departed (All Souls) MC	St Mary PATRIXBOURNE All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	St Peter BEKESBOURNE 10.00am Benefice Service for All Saints Songs of Praise + Communion EL
11 Nov 2018 Remembrance Readings tba	9.30am Morning Prayer with Hymns DR & MC Followed by wreath laying at Nackington War Memorial at 10.15	10.45am Act of Remembrance at War Memorial MC	10.50 Act of Remembrance at War Memorial followed by Service of Remembrance in church EL	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	8.00am BCP Holy Communion followed by short Act of Remembrance EL
	Bells to be ru	ing for WWI Cent	enary 12.30pm whe	ere possible	<u></u>
18 Nov 2018 2 nd Sunday before Advent Dan 12: 1-3; Heb 10: 11-25; Mark 13: 1-8	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	9.30am Family Service MC	11.00am Choral Eucharist EL	8.00am BCP Holy Communion EL	9.30am Sung Eucharist EL
25 Nov 2018 Christ the King Dan 7:9-10, 13-14: Rev 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37	9.30am Sung Eucharist EL	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	8am BCP Holy Communion 11.00am Community Worship with Baptism EL & BL	9.30am Matins MC	All welcome at the other services in the Benefice
2 Dec 2018 Advent Sunday Jer 33:14-16; 1 Thess. 3:9-end, Luke	8am BCP Holy Communion EL	11.00am Family Communion EL	6.00pm Evensong MC	9.30am Sung Eucharist EL	10.00am Songs of Praise Lay led

There is Holy Communion every Tuesday at 9:30am at St Peter Bridge. Everyone is welcome to attend.



The Vicarage 23 High Street Bridge

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E-mail: estellalast@gmail.com November 2018

Dear Friends

Remember, remember..... but not just the 5th of November. For me, the whole month of November epitomises remembrance. As October ends we remember All Hallows Eve, more commonly known as Halloween, a time when traditionally bonfires were lit, and lanterns processed into Church to dispel the darkness in readiness to celebrate, as November begins, one of the most special of the Christian festivals, All Saints. This is a day when we remember all the famous Saints that have gone before us and celebrate the light they shone in the world. This is swiftly followed by the commemoration of All Souls when we remember specifically those people who have been 'saints' in our lives and who we want to remember before God and give thanks for. We will fittingly be celebrating All Saints and All Souls on the same day (Sunday 4th November) with a joy filled Songs of Praise for All Saints at 10am in Bekesbourne and an Evensong commemorating all those we love but see no longer at 6pm at Bridge. Everyone is welcome to attend these services.

Memories of 5th November for me always conjure up happy times spent as a child bundling up in warm clothes and heading down to the meadow in the village where we lived to see the Bonfire and watch the fireworks. The perfect exciting combination of walking out in the darkness and seeking out the light as the fire crackled into life and the fireworks whizzed above our heads. I am very much looking forward to being at the Bridge and Patrixbourne CEP School PTA's firework event on the Rec on 3rd November.

Then of course, we come to Remembrance Sunday, a time when we remember all those who fought for our freedom, and who continue to do so. This year the Commemoration on Remembrance Sunday is more significant as it marks 100 years since the signing of the armistice agreement at the end of the 1st World War. It is tempting perhaps to think that maybe after 100 years its time we stopped remembering - in a recent interview Film Director Danny Boyle said as much but having worked on a project for a National Commemoration called 'Pages of the Sea' he went on to say "But I have changed.....I think we should go on [remembering]. When you make that personal connection ... and you see their faces and hear their backgrounds, when you see them in colour, if feels new. It feels timeless. I felt that connection to them. It felt like it would be wrong to forget them." We will be joining in the national commemoration with an installation of silhouettes in Patrixbourne Church as part of the 'There but not there' nationwide exhibition. This is just one of many Remembrance events and activities taking place in all the villages of the Benefice over the 10th and 11th – details of which can be found throughout this magazine so please do take the time to join in and remember if you can.

Yours in Christ

ОВЈ

Rev. Estella Last, Vicar October 2018 ¹The Guardian 5th

Dates for the diary – November 2018

Sunday 4th – 6:00pm All Souls Evensong, St Peter Bridge

Tuesday 6th

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

7:30pm – After 8's, Mansfield Court

Sunday 11th - Please see service grid for remembrance services in the

Benefice

Monday 12th – 7:30pm - Caring & Sharing

Tuesday 13th

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

Wednesday 14th

10:00am - FISH pop-in coffee, Bridge Village Hall

2:00pm - Social Afternoon, Lower Hardres

Tuesday 20th

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

7:30pm – After 8's, Mansfield Court

Wednesday 21st - 3:00pm - Hymns at Bridge Haven

Monday 26th – 7:30pm - Caring & Sharing

Tuesday 27th - 9:30am - Holy Communion, St Peter Bridge

Editor's Note Will all contributors please note that the next edition will be the combined December2018/January2019 one. Please may I have all items for this by teatime on Thursday 15th November. Preferably by email:-laurence.dunderdale@gmail.com Thanks in anticipation, Laurence Dunderdale.

FISH SCHEME NEWS The Annual General Meeting of the Fish Scheme will take place at the monthly

Coffee -Pop - In on Wednesday November 14th in Bridge village hall at 10 am. Everybody is most welcome.

PATRIXBOURNE NEWS

CHRISTMAS IS COMING...

...which means we need recruits for the Patrixbourne Carol Choir.

Our Carol Service is at 7pm on Friday 21st December but, if you would like to sing in the Carol Choir, there are a few rehearsal dates before that and it would help if you could come to some of them at least. Rehearsals are at

7pm in Patrixbourne church on Wednesday 12th, Monday 17th and Wednesday 19thand at 5pm on 21st. I normally offer a soup and loo break to those who cannot get home easily rehearsal and service.

If you would like to join us for what is always a lovely occasion, please let me or John Harris know. Our contact details are on the back of the magazine.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Pauline Pritchard

LOWER HARDRES AND NACKINGTON NEWS

HARVEST PRODUCE

Just to say that the folks at Age Concern were delighted to receive our Harvest Produce. A big thank-you to all who generously gave.

NOVEMBER 11th ARMISTICE DAY SERVICE

Please take note of what is happening on this special day. There will be a service at Nackington, at 9.30am, followed at 10.15 when where will be a laying of the wreath at Nackington War Memorial. At 10.50am there will be a short service at Lower Hardres War Memorial, with a laying of the wreath. At 11.30 there will be a finger buffet and glass of wine at J.B.W. Hall. Everyone is welcome, please support this 100th Anniversary of the Armistice.

CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

This will take place at J.B.W. Hall on Saturday, 1st December at 9.30am till noon. there will be lots of activities for Children and refreshments for all. For a place, please ring Julie on 788316 or Margaret on 765598. Please book early.

CAROL SERVICE

This will be at 16.00 on Sunday 9th December. We will enjoy mince pies and mulled wine afterwards.

CRIB SERVICE

To take place on Sunday 23rd December at 15.00, at Lower Hardres.

ST. PETER'S BRIDGE FLOWER ARRANGERS

A meeting will be held at The Archways, Conyngham Lane on Friday 16th November to discuss Christmas decorations and next year's rota. All welcome for a cuppa. If you are thinking about helping us continue to make St.Peter's church welcoming and attractive, please do come along for chat. It only means a commitment of a couple of

hours per YEAR. Viv 830981.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM- the lost soldiers of Patrixbourne

Please come and join us for this event at 4pm on 11th November at St Mary's Patrixbourne. We especially welcome any veterans, members of the armed services, or family members of the six named soldiers on the War Memorial. The six men will be represented by bench top silhouettes which we will be on display in the church over the weekend.

At 12.30pm on the 11th the church bells will be rung, as part of the national ringing of bells. This new time (previously advertised as 7.05pm) is timed to coincide with the March Past at the Cenotaph of 10.000 members of the public. This is part of the 'A Nations Thank you- The People's Procession'. Bells will be rung around the world to replicate the spontaneous outpouring of relief that took place in 1918. When news of the Armistice spread, church bells, which had fallen silent across the UK during the First World War, rang out in celebration. Listen out for the bells across our villages. As part of the bigger national events to mark the Armistice, about 3pm on Thursday 8th November, 100 veterans will be stopping at St Mary's Patrixbourne, for refreshments, as they walk the North Downs Way from Dover. Haig Housing are conducting a fundraising pilgrimage from Ypres to Whitehall (to arrive at 11am on the 11th). It is called The Long Walk Home, www.tlwh.org.uk. 100 Veterans will be walking 100 miles to mark the 100 years since the Armistice. Please come and cheer them on their way. Our weekend events at St Mary's are to commemorate the six local men who died during the First World War and to honour their sacrifice. A collection will be taken for 'There but not there' a charity supporting present day veterans of more recent wars. Andrea Nicholson

Bridge & District History Society

The next meeting will be on Thursday November 15th in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30. Steve Norris, the owner and skipper of the Thames sailing barge "Greta" will tell us about his iconic vessel.

Built in 1892 to transport cargo on the Thames she still works, providing sailing barge day trips.

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

DOG WALKER SOUGHT

Dr Ann Shirley is hoping to find somebody to walk her dog "Mr Bark-Alot", hopefully daily.

Please contact her on (01227) 831810 to discuss if you might be able to assist.



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

Come and hear the stories of the six soldiers named on the War Memorial.

First World War Songs, Hymns and poetry to commemorate the fallen.

'Silhouettes' will be seated in the congregation.

Church open 10-4pm Saturday

10th, and Sunday 11th to view the

Silhouettes

Donations invited for 'Remembered'



12.30pm ringing of the

church bells; this is happening across the country



SALVATION ARMY AND BRIDGE and PATRIXBOURNE SCHOOL CHOIR CAROL CONCERT

This Annual Event is to be held in Bridge School Hall on Thursday 6th December 2018 at 7.30pm Entrance £3.00, pay on the door, (children free) Refreshments will be served after the concert All proceeds go to Salvation Army Funds

SENIOR CITIZENS AFTERNOON OF ENTERTAINMENT

Senior Citizens are invited to an Afternoon of Entertainment On Monday 17th December 2018, 1.30pm – 3.00pm Listen to the school children sing and Year 6 will serve refreshments

Please contact the School Office on 830276 if you wish to come, transport can be arranged if required

Tulip Tearooms Hi everyone!! Leigh-Anne here, owner of Tulip Tearooms, 6, western Avenue, Bridge, CT4 5LS 01227 832555 or mobile 07727 057 065 I wanted to just take this moment to let you know that we will open on CHRISTMAS MORNING 10-12 for CAKE, SOUP, CAROLS & COMPANY. More details to follow in your December edition. We don't want anyone alone this Christmas . xx

Bekesbourne Harvest Songs of Praise

What a lovely service! One of our young mums, Emily, led the worship. She was very ably supported by the whole family. It was delightful. Well done to all of them! The church looked beautiful. The altar, font and window ledges were all decorated with the flowers and fruits of autumn. It was a wonderful way to thank God for the harvest. The gifts of food and bedding were donated to The Women's Refuge. This was an example of how we can share what we have with others less fortunate, which was the message we received from the bible reading.

The next Songs of Praise is on 4th November when we will be celebrating All Saints. It is a benefice service, so it will include a short family communion. We hope to see you there. Nicky

Ringing For Peace at Bekesbourne Church

The bells will ring out at Bekesbourne Church Sunday 11th November at 12.30pm in unison with churches and cathedrals in villages and towns across the country to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War.

When the bells rang out on the 11th November 1918 they announced the end of the war. At that time bells were at the heart of the community, marking events and communicating to people long before modern technology connected us. Bell ringing has always had a much wider function than its role in the church, but most of us today are not aware of its broad and inclusive service.

More than 1400 bell ringers lost their lives in the Great War. They came from all walks of life like bell ringers do today. The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers aims to recruit 1400 new ringers to commemorate the 1400 ringers that died.

Bekesbourne church has a lovely ring of 6 bells and now we also have a trained instructor to teach the art of bell ringing. We practice on Monday evenings and our aim is to ring for Sunday church services, weddings and special events. If you want more information speak to Gill Moon 832134.

The Quiet View So many people were unable to come on the night we showed the film Mary Magdalene so we're offering it again on Tuesday 20th November at 7pm. Essential to book as it was very popular. Suggested donation £5 Here are the dates of some regular events: November 2nd Taizé prayer at 7pm 4th Silent Retreat with Caroline Armstrong 10.30-3.30 £20-£40 (depending on what you can afford) book at mindzone14@gmail.com 12th Taiji Qigong at 7.30pm and 22nd at 2.30 with Melanie French £6 book at m.s.french00@btinternet.com 16th Red Tent Kent at 7.30 with Karalyne Howes. Donations invited Please check for dates of our deeply relaxing Gong Baths with Euphony Sound Therapy euphonysoundtherapy@gmal.com We hope to welcome you some time soon. Lizzie Hopthrow The Quiet View 146 The Street, Kingston, 01227 830070 lizziehopthrow@gmail.com www.quietview.co.uk

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

SONGS OF PRAISE

10am Sunday November 4th

REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

FOR ALL AGES - EVERYONE WELCOME

COME AND JOIN IN YOUR FAVOURITE HYMNS







Benefice Service with family communion

FOLLOWED BY TEA, COFFEE OR JUICE AND BISCUITS And lots of chatting!



St Peter's Church

Bekesbourne





Invite you to our



Bekesbourne Village Hall 10.00 am Saturday 1st December, 2018









Refreshments



Proceeds for Bekesbourne Church and Bekesbourne Brownies

Patrixbourne with Bridge PCC



Autumn Coffee Morning

Bridge Village Hall Saturday 17th November 10 am—11.30am

Cake stall, puzzles,
Christmas gifts
Traidcraft stall
Christmas Hamper raffle

Come and enjoy a Mince Pie with your Coffee

Any donations for the stalls that can't be brought to the Hall on the day, can be collected, in advance, by calling 01227 830947 or 01227 830960

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 13th

ber 13th 7-8.30 p.m. Friday, December 14th

7.30 p.m. Sunday, December 16th

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. I can then assess vocal balance and the viability of the programme! With thanks & best wishes Martin Miles

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

There is no meeting arranged for November, but to round off this year's programme and to help us prepare for the festive season, on Tuesday 4 December at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall, Leigh-Anne, our local florist at Majestic Flowers (and the very popular Tulip Tearooms), has kindly agreed to entertain and inspire us with a demonstration (accompanied by step-by-step written instructions) on how to make a Christmas wreath. Leigh-Anne will also have available a number of packs to purchase with all the basics you need to get started and the wreath she demonstrates will be the star raffle prize.

The demonstration will be followed by light festive refreshments and there will be a charge for the evening of £5 (£7 for non-members) to include refreshments. Do make a note of the date and come along to start the festive season off in fine style. Everyone is most welcome.

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

Our Annual Meeting when reports, including a resume of the year's activities, are given and when officers and the committee are elected for the coming year will be held on Tuesday 20 November at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall. After the business part of the evening, we shall have a social time when members will have the chance to catch up and chat with friends. The competition for November is for an interesting item beginning with the letter "K".

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 H

Christmas Wreaths & Decorations

From the traditional and natural to the contemporary and sparkly, we have a wide selection of Christmas trees, wreaths, garlands, gifts and decorations!

Hop Plants - Pre-order now!

Order your new hop plant now for delivery mid-December. Choose from over 40 varieties, including English & Foreign favourites!



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BRIDGE FARMERS MARKET

P.Small & Son's butchery-

We are a local butcher based in Canterbury, we supply local meats and homemade pies to local farmers markets around the Kent area. A family based business with a 5* hygiene rating.

Chantilly's bakery-

Chantilly's bakery is a Kent based family run bakery, whose origins were inspired by the passion and drive of master baker Paul Usherwood. The business is a realisation of his vision, creating and sharing affordable breads, patisserie and confectionary that are freshly baked daily.

Summerfield Nurseries-

A long established family run traditional nursery for over 60 years, situated in an idyllic position in Staple, Kent. We are specialists in flowering pot and bedding plants.

Putwain Apiary Honey-

Based in Kent, Roger runs his stalls all over Kent, products such as clear and soft set honey, honey marmalade, honey mustard, various beeswax and candles, also providing furniture polish and hand creams.

CCA Designs-

CCA is a small company based in Kent that specialises in Handmade greeting cards, these include cross stitch designs as well as hand decorated candles.

Walmestone Growers-

Walmestone is a local grower who supply fruit and veg goods in the local area. A well established business with Paul and his team who have been running many a year providing a great service.

"Thanks to everyone for your continued support of the market 2nd and 4th Saterdays each month in the Red Lion car park"

Luke Small

CALLING ALL SLEUTHS!

Do you enjoy a good whodunnit? Then you will not want to miss the opportunity to prove your detective skills to a wider audience on Saturday 1st December 2018 at 7 pm in Bekesbourne Village Hall. That will be the venue for the welcome return of your local drama group T.O.P.S. (The Occasional Performance Society) who will be staging an intriguing Murder Mystery play entitled 'Sudden Death at Thornbury Manor'. The scene is a lovely country house, the year 1954 and the plot unfolds to reveal many hidden secrets among the family members and entourage after one of them meets a sudden end! It will then be up to the audience to decide who is the baddie and there will be a reward for the correct solution.

In spite of the dastardly deed in the play, the evening promises to be light-hearted and most enjoyable. You are invited to bring a picnic (with suitable liquid refreshment) with friends or form a team with other like-minded sleuths for a happy and relaxing evening. For more details please read the poster which appears in this magazine. We look forward to seeing you on the night!

#

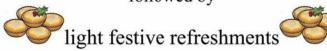
NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Christmas Wreath



A Demonstration by Leigh-Anne of Majestic Flowers

followed by



Tuesday 4 Dec 7.30 pm Bridge Village Hall

Christmas Raffle All welcome Admission £5 (£7 for non-members), including refreshments

T.O.P.S. PRESENTS A MURDER MYSTERY

"SUDDEN DEATH AT THORNBURY MANOR"

(A "BBC Radio" Play}
TAKING PLACE ON SATURDAY 1ST DECEMBER
AT 7-00PM IN BEKESBOURNE VILLAGE HALL.

YOU decide WHO DONE IT!

Prizes for the best - and worst- solutions

Bring a picnic and something to drink.

Free tea and coffee in the interval

Profits in aid of the village hall refurbishment

Tickets £8.00- Box Office: Sheila 01227 831788

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We stock your everyday essentials but we LOVE local! You can find locally baked bread, eggs, honey, juices, wine from around the corner, yogurts and cream from the Elham Valley and cards and gifts from Barham's crafty businesses. We're open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, Saturday 9am to 4pm and Sunday 9am to 12pm.

Our Post Office is open Monday to Friday 9am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 12pm. As well as general post there are so many services available such as banking, topping up phone cards, car tax, foreign currency (order for next day or Euros held in stock), click&collect and One4all gift cards.

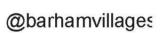
See our website for more details.



Celebrate in local style this Christmas. Order your turkey, sausages and joints of meat. We have fresh veg and all your festive essentials from crackers to Christmas puds. Stock up on lovingly made cards and gifts then finish the season off with bubbly from Barham. Meat order forms can be found on our website or in store from the middle of November.

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Songs & Stories from WW1



An illustrated commemoration of the Great War in popular songs & poems with family sagas village life Bridge war memorial & graves and the Cenotaph & poppy stories

Suggested donation £3, children free Proceeds shared between the Royal British Legion and the upkeep of our church

IN REMEMBRANCE A VISUAL-AUDIO DISPLAY OF WAR AND PEACE IN BRIDGE

BRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 10 November 12noon – 5pm

- Bettina Sings
- Guest speakers

Sunday 11 November 12noon – 4pm

Music and poetry

Tea, coffee and cakes



Free entry



Photo: courtesy of Steve Fawke. Painting: "Gassed" by John Singer Sargent, Imperial War Museum.

Condensed Draft Minutes of a meeting of Bridge Parish Council Thursday 13 September

Before the meeting began 3 villagers spoke about (a) the results of a village wide survey (based on 57 replies) following the closure of the Post Office which show a clear and pressing need for a post office in the village (b) the proposed purchase of brackets for Christmas Trees on High St houses (c) latest news on the proposed Highland Court development. The new Headteacher of the village primary school, Mr Tibbles, introduced himself and reaffirmed his commitment to good community links.

- Mountfield development in south Canterbury: Council agreed to make a further donation of £500 towards the legal costs of the campaign to question the legality of the Mountfield development on air quality grounds. 3 councillors voted in favour; one voted against and 3 abstained.
- Green Court. Cllr Fawke reported that Cllr Davies is to do some hedge cutting, Pam Dobson continues to advise on planting shrubs and weeding; the Holm Oak needs to have a spot identified on the Recreation ground for planting. 2 more trees are to be bought and planted in Green Ct. by Cllrs Fawke and Davies.

Report from Nailbourne Ward City Councillor Simon Cook:

- 1. The Highland Court planning application is likely to be available for consultation for weeks-longer than the minimum of 3 weeks.
- 2. Canterbury City Council advises villagers to respond to the Kent County Council consultat ion on waste management, since it believes that the problem of fly -tipping will be aggra vated by the new proposals in the consultation
- 3. The parking enforcement team will visit Riverside Close at times when parking is especially inconsiderate. Cllr Cook is investigating whether illegal parking on the pavement can be reported and sanctioned by a simple photograph sent to the enforcement team.
- **4.** Canterbury officers will contact the Parish Council shortly about the number and location of litter bins in the village.

Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Atkinson noted that regulation 16 consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan ended on 7 September. Canterbury City Council are in the process of appointing a government examiner/inspector to review the plan. Corrections may need to be made after this process with the referendum (if allowed) to be held shortly afterwards.

- 1. Cllr Fawke provided an update on the armistice weekend (Nov 10-11) and requested help—from more volunteers. He will contact the Womens' Institute shortly regarding refreshments—and publish a programme of activities soon.
- **2.** Council agreed to a grant request for £120 towards children's activities in Bridge.
- 3. The Chair provided an update on the future of the Post Office, with the current sticking point being the nomination of a postmaster to take responsibility for a village outreach service.
- **4.** Council agreed to two proposed changes to road markings in the vicinity of Dering Rd.
- **5.** Consideration of access to the Higham Lane bus stop was deferred until after a meeting with Highways officials on 17 September.

Condensed Minutes of a meeting of Bridge Parish Council Thursday 11 October 2018 in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

The latest update from the Regional organiser of the Post Office was read out: "Things came to a halt with the proposed outreach service due to having a positive lead for a full local replacement. This meant the potential core branch for the outreach service that we were working with was told we were no longer looking for that type of solution. Unfortunately the full local replacement dropped out at the application stage and no longer wishes to continue. The Post Office will try again to arrange a core branch to run an outreach at Bridge."

A Parish Capital grant application for £1,800 has been submitted to Canterbury City Council for a **replacement bus shelter opposite Higham Lane.**

Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Alan Atkinson said a government inspector has been appointed and her correspondence with the Parish Council is available on the village website. Responses to her requests will also be published there.

Council agreed to the setting up of High St **Christmas trees** on December 1 and their removal on January 5 2019 and to the immediate purchase of 50 Christmas trees brackets for £492 (inclusive of VAT). Grant funding for another 50 will be sought in the course of 2019.

Council voted to purchase a **new bench for use in Western Ave** which is to be reimbursed by an anonymous village donor. Thanks were expressed for this donation. Contact will be made with Kent Highways about the siting of another proposed new bench for Union Rd.

Council resolved to invite adjoining parish councils and their clerks to a meeting to be hosted in Bridge to coordinate responses to the planned development at Highland Court.

In the course of discussing traffic movement in the area of Aunt Betsy's Hill Council resolved to purchase a **Speed Indicator Device** for the village at a cost of approx. £6,880. Concerns about **traffic movement in the Aunt Betsy's Hill/ Union Rd** area of the village require a consultation with villagers before proposals are put to the Joint Transportation Board in March 2019.

Councillors received an update on latest developments in **Green Court** and on proposed fencing works in **Western Avenue** which could cost up to approx.. £3,000.

Points of information:

Working Party on the Recreation Ground on Saturday 17th November from 9 am to 12 noon. Refreshments in the pavilion as usual

KCC Waste disposal consultation live until 1 November 2018 (www.kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation)

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council is on Thursday, 8 November at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall



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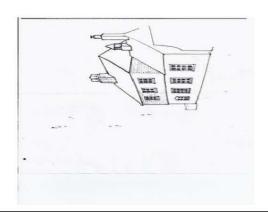


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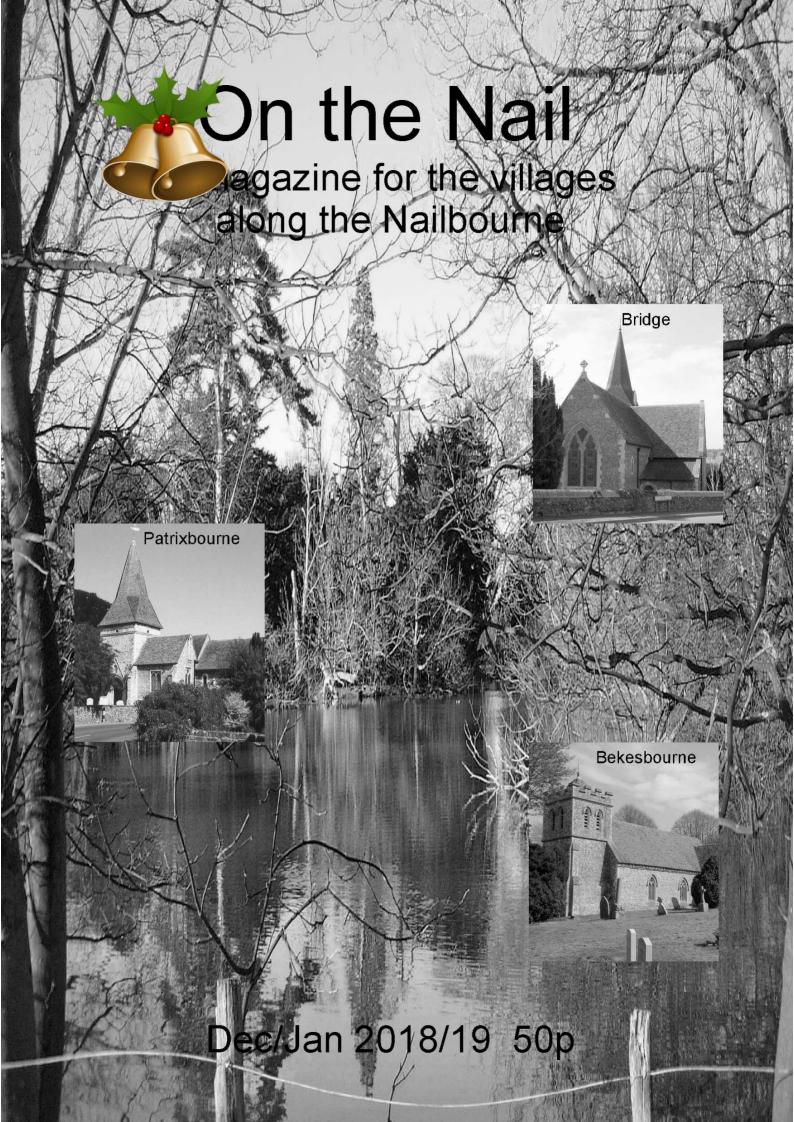
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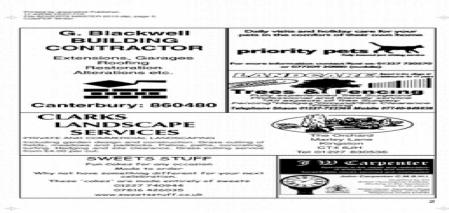
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2018	NACKINGTON	HARDRES	BRIDGE	PATRIXBOURNE	BEKESBOURNE
2 Dec Advent Sunday	8am BCP Holy Communion Service	11.00am Family Communion	6.00pm Evensong	9.30am Sung Eucharist	10.00am Songs of Praise
9 th Dec The second Sunday of Advent	9.30am Advent Carol Service	4.00pm Carol Service	9.30am Family Communion	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	8.00am BCP Holy Communion
16 th Dec The third Sunday of Advent	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	3.00pm Crib Service	6.00pm Carol Service	8.00am BCP Holy Communion	9.30am Sung Eucharist
21 st Dec	All welcome at Patrixbourne			7.00pm Carol Service Lay led + EL	All welcome at Patrixbourne
23 rd Dec The fourth Sunday of Advent	9.30am Sung Eucharist	All welcome at other services in the Benefice	8am BCP Holy Communion	All welcome at other services in the Benefice	
24 th Dec Christmas Eve	10.00pm Christmas Eucharist	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	3.00pm Christingle 5.00pm Christingle 11.30pm Christmas Eucharist	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	
25 th Dec Christmas Day	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	9.30am Family Service	All welcome at the other services of the Benefice	9.30am Christmas Sung Eucharist	11.00am Carol Service
30 Dec 2018 The First Sunday of Christmas	All welcome at Patrixbourne			10am Benefice Communion Service	All welcome at Patrixbourne

CHURCH SERVICES FOR Jan 2019	St Mary NACKINGTON	St Mary LOWER HARDRES	St Peter BRIDGE	St Mary PATRIXBOURNE	St Peter BEKESBOURNE		
6 Jan 2019 The Epiphany	All welcome at Bekesbourne All welcome at Bekesbourne with Family Communion						
13 Jan 2019 The Baptism of Christ	All welcome at Bridge		10am Benefice Communion Service	All welcome at Bridge			
Saturday 19 th January		Messy Chur	ch 4-6pm at Bridge a	nd Patrixbourne CEP			
20 Jan 2019 The third Sunday of Epiphany	All welcome at Lower Hardres	10am Benefice Communion Service	All welcome at Lower Hardres				
27th Jan 2019 The fourth Sunday of Epiphany	10am Benefice Communion Service	All welcome at Nackington					
3 Feb 2019 Candlemas – The Presentation of Christ in the Temple	8am BCP Holy Communion	11.00am Family Communion	6.00pm Evensong	9.30am Sung Eucharist	10.00am Songs of Praise		

There is Holy Communion every Tuesday at 9.30am to 10.00am at Bridge Church, followed by coffee. All welcome.

Dates for the diary - December 2018 Saturday 1st December 9.30-12 noon Children's Workshop, Lower Hardres Village Hall 10am Bekesbourne Christmas Bazaar, Bekesbourne Village Hall Tuesday 4th 9:30am Holy Communion, St Peter Bridge 3:00pm Holy Communion, Bridge Haven 6-7.30pm Nailbourne Scout Group Christmas event, Bridge Church 7:30pm After 8's, Mansfield Court Thursday 6th 9.00am Little Lambs Christmas Party 7.30pm Salvation Army Carols at Bridge School Monday 10th Caring and Sharing Christmas Lunch (Pre-booked) Tuesday 11th 9:30am Holy Communion, St Peter Bridge 2:30pm Carol Service, Mansfield Court Wednesday 12th 9.30am Bridge School Nativity in Church 10:00am FISH pop-in coffee, Bridge Village Hall 10.30am Charlton Park Larks Carols at Patrixbourne 2:00pm Social Afternoon, Lower Hardres Thursday 13th 9.30am Bridge School Nativity in Church Monday 17th 1.30pm Annual Afternoon Entertainment for Senior Citizens at Bridge School. Tuesday 18th 9:30am Holy Communion, St Peter Bridge 3:00pm Carol Service, Saxon Lodge 7:30pm After 8's, Mansfield Court

6:00pm Carols at The Red Lion **Tuesday 27**th

9:30am - Holy Communion, St Dater Bridge

2.30pm - Carols at Bridge Haven

Wednesday 19th

Thursday 20th

#



The Vicarage 23 High Street Bridge

Tel: 01227 206272

E-mail: estellalast@gmail.com December 2018

Dear Friends

Well here we are - December 2018 is upon us! I wonder what you were thinking as the 1st of this month approached. Did you get to Saturday 1st and think – yes its finally December we can get started with Christmas or did you get there and think of my goodness its December already that means it will soon be Christmas? Whether you are a 'let's get the tree up its December' kind of person or a 'hang on a minute calm down everybody it's still nearly a month away' kind of person - there is something about the beginning of December / the season of Advent which marks the transition as we turn our faces to the celebration we all look forward to at the end of the month - full of hope and expectation. I wonder what that hope looks like for you? In our churches this is the time of waiting and preparation for the celebration of Christmas which for us doesn't begin until Christmas Eve when we celebrate not simply the birth of a baby in a stable but the momentous act of God, coming to earth as a human to reconcile all humans to Him. December will be a busy bustling glorious time when we join together across our Benefice, in the churches, the pubs, the school to celebrate and sing - remembering I hope that Christmas, the coming of Christ, is the means through which we are drawn into relationship with God and reconciled to him. And in remembering this, now is a good time to seek to restore lost or broken relationships, to reach out with kindness and forgiveness to those from whom we have become estranged, to seek to share light in our homes, our families and our community even as God sought to bring his light to us.

Then, after the glorious busyness of Advent and Christmas itself, I hope we will have time to be quiet, to rest and reflect, to take a sabbath from the busy world and to seek the deep peace of God. In January you will see from the schedule of services that we are taking a 'sabbath' of our own and we will be worshipping all together at 10am each Sunday post-Christmas and throughout January giving us all the opportunity to worship as one Benefice family and giving all our valued volunteers a bit of respite from the work they do for our churches every week.

Wherever you live in our Benefice you are welcome in any of our churches and at any of our services and I am very much looking forward to my first Christmas here with you all. Lastly if you know of anyone who needs support at this or any other time of year please do get in touch.

With blessings for Christmas and the New Year.

Yours in Christ

OBJ

Rev. Estella Last, Vicar

Canterbury Food Bank at Christmas

I am writing this to meet the deadline for the magazine, having just completed the busiest session I have experienced all year at the Distribution Café. We gave away every single bag we had on the van and the Bonus Table was seriously depleted. This was good news for all concerned and although we overran by 40 minutes and made the van late for its next commitment it was a very satisfactory session.

The response to the crisis in the Canterbury area for Food Banks has been excellent and we have Christmas approaching very fast. As Christmas Day and New Year's Day both fall on a Tuesday the All Saints' Distribution Café will not be operating on these two days.

This means that the Distribution Café at All Saints on Tuesday 18th will be the last one before the New Year and several of us have volunteered to attend the St Dunstan's Distribution Café on Friday 21st December to help make up the shortfall. This Centre will also not open on the following week either.

To this end, donations must be received in good time before these dates to allow the Collection Centre to process them into the Adults' bags (2 types) and children's bags plus fill the boxes with the items for the Bonus Table (excess items to those in the bags, plus additional items).

I shall be at the Café on Tuesday 11th December and will be collecting the bags from Evelyn the night before. This should give adequate time for the sorters and packers to process them in time for the following week. I shall then not be collecting donations until the New Year.

If you want ideas for items suitable for the season then the following may help, but please bear in mind that UHT milk, canned vegetables, Smash, baby foods, nappies, cereals, meat products in tins are still in demand.

Men's and Ladies' toiletries (deodorant, shower, hair etc), Children's confectionery, Household items, things you might treat yourself to (eg chocolates, chocolate biscuits), non-basic breakfast cereals, UHT cream, luxury jam etc. Try to avoid Christmas puddings, as I remember we still had these on the Bonus Table at Easter and mince pies in boxes are not suitable for storing at the Collection Centre. Think outside the box and come up with something simple but tasty and different. It could make all the difference at this time of the year for a family with little to look forward to. Thank you and Happy Christmas to everyone who has donated items during the year. They have all been much appreciated.

Food For Thou



Patrixbourne News

Thank you- what an amazing community response.

Thank you to everyone who turned out on Thursday 8th November, at Patrixbourne Church or Bekesbourne Recreation Ground, to welcome the 100 veterans and serving military personnel, walking the 100 miles 'Long Walk Home' from Ypres to the Cenotaph, to mark 100 years since the signing of the Armistice. Helping to put up the field kitchen, serving food, cake, tea or coffee, talking to the walkers: the organisers from Haig Housing were overwhelmed by the numbers of people who came out to help, and for the warmth of the community response to them during their short stop here. I hope we cheered them on their way!

Thank you to Year 6 pupils and staff from Bridge and Patrixbourne C.E.P. School who came to Patrixbourne Church on Friday 9th, to visit the six silhouettes representing the soldiers named on the War Memorial, and to hear their stories. The children brought poppies to decorate the church and laid wreaths at the war memorial. The pulpit was decorated with wool poppies made by ladies from Bekesbourne.

Thank you to everyone who visited the church over the weekend, the stewards who greeted them and the children who rang the bells at lunchtime on the 11th. At 4pm on the 11th we commemorated the six soldiers by listening to their stories and hearing poems, by singing hymns and war time songs, and by taking a collection for the charity 'Remembered', which encompasses six charities, supporting modern day Veterans and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Thank you to everyone who took part; over £230 was raised for the charity and it was a fitting way to say 'We Will Remember Them' about the six lost soldiers of Patrixbourne.

The Churchwardens, St Mary's Patrixbourne

Lower Hardres News

1 would like to helpers.

By the time you read this magazine, the workshop will be over, so I say thankyou to the children, the parents and the

2 Christmas services at Lower Hardres

Carols at Evensong

Our annual Carol Service will take place on Sunday 9th December at

4 pm

5

followed be mince pies and mulled wine.

3 Lower Hardres Crib Service

On the 16th of December at 3 pm we have our Crib Service. It is a special service of Celebration when the children will assemble our crib, in preparation for

Christmas. Our charity this year will be the Canterbury Food Bank.

Please bring along your festive food gifts to our Christmas Crib
service and make Christmas 2018 special for others.

It would be lovely if the children could dress in Nativity character.

4 Christmas Day Service

Lower Hardres at 9:30 am. A short friendly service and a chance to meet friends and worship on Christmas Day.

On Sunday 20th January 2019 at 10 am we will hold a Benefice Holy

Christmas can be a lonely time

Samaritans are here for our callers every day of the year but we do know that there are some times more difficult than others. For whatever reason, finding yourself on your own having lost contact with friends and family, Christmas can be a particularly hard and stressful period for many people.

Samaritans offer a safe place to talk; at any time you like, in your own way. You needn't feel alone, we are here to talk through whatever is troubling you, 24/7. You don't have to be suicidal to talk to us.

Please contact us on our free to call phone line 116 123 or email us at jo@samaritans.org If you would like to talk face to face, visit us at 32 Northgate, Canterbury CT1 1BL. To make sure there will be a volunteer available, before you visit please ring 01227 457 777.

Canterbury & District Samaritans Registered Charity no 1166874



STMAS APPEAL 'Blessed are the peacemakers' In 2016 more ent conflict than at any time in nearly 30 years, and today one in 6 conflict zones. If this trend continues, by 2030 more than half the live in countries affected by high levels of violence. Christian Aid ajor cause of poverty, capable of wiping out years of development. cen every day around the world, it is also being built every day by

Trontiine peacemakers, determined to heal and transform their communities. People like Diana Abbas, a psychologist in a Children's Centre at Nahr al-Bared refugee camp in Lebanon, run by Christian Aid's partner organisation, Association Najdeh. Through counselling, psychotherapy, art therapy and literacy classes, she is helping young Palestinian refugees to overcome the trauma they have experienced and improve their well-being. Diana Abbas and other partners worldwide need more resources so that they can help more people find security and peace. If you are considering making a gift to charity this Christmas, please support Christian Aid's Christmas Appeal and help them bring 'peace on earth'. You can donate at caid.org/Christmas-appeal or if you prefer, give your donation to me and I will make sure it gets to Christian Aid. You can also stand with the peacemakers by using #WeAreThePeacemakers on social media. Jean Barber (Adapted from an article by Tomilola Ajayi in the Christian Aid magazine). Many thanks to those of you who supported the Christian Aid Quiz Night at St Stephen's Church in October, which raised £700 for the Indonesia Tsunami Appeal.

SALVATION ARMY AND BRIDGE and PATRIXBOURNE SCHOOL CHOIR CAROL CONCERT

This Annual Event is to be held in Bridge School Hall on Thursday 6th December 2018 at 7.30pm Entrance £3.00, pay on the door, (children free) Refreshments will be served after the concert All proceeds go to Salvation Army Funds

SENIOR CITIZENS AFTERNOON OF ENTERTAINMENT

Senior Citizens are invited to an Afternoon of Entertainment
On Monday 17th December 2018, 1.30pm – 3.00pm
Listen to the school children sing and Year 6 will serve refreshments
Please contact the School Office on 830276 if you
wish to come, transport can be arranged if required

Fish News. (Tel no: 07935 966 080) The December Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday 12th complete with carols. Do come.

The League of Friends of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital

Nailbourne Group held a very successful Talk and Supper in Bridge Village Hall on 17^{th} October raising £595 for the benefit of the hospital. Dick Bolton presented a very interesting and informative talk about Oman entitled "Oman, land of forts and frankincense" Thanks to everyone who supported the event. We would also like to thank all our 'Friends' who have kindly subscribed £1140 following delivery of our 2018 newesletter.

Tulip Tearooms 6, western Avenue, Bridge, CT45LA 01227 832555 / 07727057065 CHRISTMAS MORNING. 10-12pm We will be opening our doors on Christmas morning for cake, soup, companionship and a sing along. A warm, friendly welcome awaits you. Bring along a friend, we don't want anyone alone this Christmas time. Call to book a table in advance We look forward to seeing you



Launch Date: Saturday 19th January 4-6pm

Location: Bridge School Hall

Creative fun for everyone and a hot meal to enjoy together. All Welcome

For more information contact: Rev. Estella Last t: 01227 206272

Baby and Toddler Group Every Thursday during term time 9-11am



Bridge Recreation Ground Pavilion

Open to all pre-school age babies and toddlers (with parent / guardian). Come and enjoy a cuppa and a chat in a relaxed safe atmosphere while your children play with others. Sessions include free-play, drinks & snacks, craft activity.

Suggested donation £1 per child.

For more information contact estellalast@gmail.com



With thanks to Bridge Parish Council

Friends of St Peter's Church, Bridge

COFFEE & CAKE & CONCERT

2nd Anniversary - 15th Dec 10:15 to 11:30

The stories behind more of our



Where do they come from? Who wrote them?



A glimpse into the origins of our Christmas Carols in words and music

Jean Barber (Piano) Stuart Field (Violin)

Suggested donation £3, children free

All proceeds are for upkeep of the church





Stuart Field

BRIDGE & PATRIXBOURNE CEP SCHOOL NEWS

I would first like to express my gratitude and appreciation for all the support that I, and the school, have received over the past few months. I have done my best to be involved in the Bridge community from attending the Parish Council meeting to introduce myself to keeping an eye on the Bridge Village Facebook Group (no-one mention the parking! J)

Estella and Margaret continue to support the school and we are incredibly grateful to both of them for their time and commitment. We have enjoyed our Harvest Festival services at St Peter's Church and I was especially humbled by the sheer number of community members that attended the school's Act of Remembrance on Friday 9th November.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the small time that I have already spent at Bridge and, as I show prospective parents around the school, I am reminded of how special a place it is; the children are a credit to the school, their parents and their community. We have plenty more events in the near future: our annual Salvation Army Concert, we will be welcoming the residents of Bridge Haven for an afternoon tea and we will also be holding a Carol Concert around the Tree on the last day of term, Wednesday 19th December.

You can keep up to date with these events by 'liking' our new Bridge & Patrixbourne CEP School Facebook page and I look forward to welcoming you to the school. Yours sincerely, James Tibbles Headteacher.

BEKESBOURNE ALL SAINTS SONGS OF PRAISE

St Peters Bekesbourne was packed on the 4th November for our first combined Songs of Praise/Benefice Service with Family Communion. A particularly pleasing aspect was that there were no less than 13 children present. Very ably lay lead by Nicky Fry the format was similar to the usual Songs of Praise Service but with a simplified family communion service added. Nicky produced a gasp from the congregation when she produced a 'Saints Shirt' (that of Southampton Football Club) as she introduced the theme of 'All Saints Day". Estella explained the reading about the raising of Lazarus from the dead in a way that was simple to understand both for the adults and children present. A particularly moving and poignant highlight for me was the simple, but highly effective act of bringing forward all the children present, separately, inside the altar rail before the formal communion, so they could see close up where the act of communion took place and then receive a very personal blessing from Estella. Another unique feature was the presence of a separate small table at the chancel steps where subsequently the children could eat bread and drink red fruit juice supervised by Church Warden Jill Gillanders, to emulate the adults taking communion. As always the bells rang beforehand, popular hymns were sung with gusto accompanied by the violin and John Harris on the organ. Everyone I spoke to afterwards agreed that this was a fantastic 'first' and a real chance to take a leap forward in the worship in our benefice with a totally "all inclusive" service. Well done to everyone concerned.

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

ADVENT SONGS OF PRAISE









FOR ALL AGES - EVERYONE WELCOME CHOOSE AND JOIN IN YOUR FAVOURITE CAROLS

FOLLOWED BY TEA, COFFEE OR JUICE AND BISCUITS

And lots of chatting!



Carol choices to Jill Gillanders please

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne SONGS OF PRAISE

Benefice Service with Family Communion







FOR ALL AGES - EVERYONE WELCOME COME AND JOIN IN YOUR FAVOURITE HYMNS



FOLLOWED BY TEA, COFFEE OR JUICE AND BISCUITS
And lots of chatting!

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

A quick reminder of our meeting on Tuesday 4 December at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall when Leigh-Anne, of Majestic Flowers and Tulip Tearooms fame, will be inspiring and entertaining us with her demonstration on how to make a Christmas wreath. The demonstration will be followed by light festive refreshments and there will be a charge for the evening of £5 (£7 for non-members) to include refreshments. Moving on into the New Year, we have our AGM in Bridge Village Hall on Tuesday 22 January at 7.30 pm. This is the time when subscriptions are due for renewal (still held at £6 for single and £10 for joint/family membership). We have a full programme of interesting talks and an outing arranged for the coming year as well as our Spring and Summer Shows, the schedules for which will be available at the AGM. At the AGM we would also like to take time to consider the future of the Society. Just as other clubs and societies are finding it hard to recruit members to serve on committees, we too need more members in general as well as people who are willing to take on a little additional responsibility as one of the officers. This is a plea to everyone. If you would like this long-standing village society to carry on, it is now the time at the AGM to come forward and make your views known. After the business is completed, the committee will be serving wine and cheese.

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

Our December meeting will be held on the second Tuesday of December, namely **Tuesday 11**th (7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall). This year we are fortunate to have **Jennifer Roording** as our guest speaker and she will be showing us how to make **Christmas boxes** in time for the approaching festive season. There will also be the chance to purchase items. The demonstration will be followed by a light supper and the chance to chat with friends.

The competition for the month is for an interesting item beginning with the letter "L". We start our 2019 programme on **Tuesday 15 January** (usual time and place) with guest speaker **Mary Smith** who will be giving her much acclaimed illustrated talk on "**A Schoolgirl's War**" and, still working our way through the alphabet, the competition for January is for an interesting item beginning with the letter "M".

Please remember that the annual subscription (£42) is payable then and preferably by cheque.

We are always delighted to welcome guests and visitors to all our meetings. (The WI has its own noticeboard outside the village hall with details of all our events and contacts.)

Bridge Farmer's Market

CHRISTMAS MARKET. Tuesday 18th December from 3pm. Please support if possible.

Bridge & District History Society

The first meeting of 2019 will be on Thursday January 17th at 7.30 in Bridge Village Hall. Dick Bolton's talk is entitled "Windows, Walls and Weather Vanes", showing how our buildings have evolved over nine hundred years under a variety of influences. Members £4.00, non-members £5.00

BOURNE VETS NEWS



All this cold weather is making us dream of summer holidays! Please be aware though that you may need to plan ahead if you want to take your pets away with you next summer.

The government has issued advice for pet owners outlining how pet travel arrangements may change if the UK leaves the EU with no deal. In a no deal situation, pet owners would still be able to travel to Europe with their pet after Brexit, but they could need to take additional steps and start preparations at least four months ahead of their planned departure date. If you are looking to travel to the EU with your pet after March 2019, then you should speak to your vet as soon as possible, ideally before the end of November 2018, to give enough time for health checks, vaccination and testing to be carried out. With the Easter holidays falling soon after EU exit day, it's essential that pet owners know to start planning ahead now to avoid disappointment.

At the moment if your pet is at least 12 weeks old and has a microchip, they can have a rabies vaccination, be issued a passport and travel 3 weeks after the vaccination date, with the rabies vaccine needing boosters within 3 years. If the UK leaves the EU with no deal we could be treated as an unlisted country and in this situation your pet will need a blood sample taken at least 30 days after the rabies vaccine and the results the blood test must show that the vaccination was successful. You must then wait 3 months from the date the successful blood sample was taken before you can travel. You will also need to take your pet to an Official Veterinarian (OV) no more than 10 days before travel to get a health certificate. This health certificate will be valid for 10 days after the date of issue for entry into the EU, for 4 months of onward travel within the EU and for re-entry to the UK for 4 months after the date of issue. On arrival in the EU, pet owners travelling with their pets will be required to enter through a designated Travellers' Point of Entry (TPE) where they may be asked to present proof of microchip, rabies vaccine and the blood test result alongside their pet's health certificate. In order to return to the UK your pet will need either an existing EU pet passport, an EU health certificate or a UK pet health certificate.

As we don't yet know what will be happening in March it's important to plan ahead and be prepared for the worst case scenario if you want to ensure that your pet doesn't miss their summer holiday!

Everyone at Bourne Vet Practice would also like to take this opportunity to wish you and your amazing pets a very Happy Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2019 and thank you all for your support during 2018. We are lucky to have such a great job and really love meeting all your wonderful pets!

Bridge Recreation Ground

November has been a busy month. Thank you to the children of Bridge and Patrixbourne Primary School for planting Narcissi bulbs along the banks of the Nailbourne. We had a lot of fun. A big thank you also to the adults who came to prune some shrubs, clear the weeds and dig the flower beds ready for the winter. Your on - going help is much appreciated.



rday essentials but we LOVE local! You can fire from around the corner, yogurts and cream n Barham's crafty businesses. We're open Mom to 4pm and Sunday 9am to 12pm. Our Posom and Saturday 9am to 12pm. As well as ger such as banking, topping up phone cards, car os held in stock), click&collect and One4all gif



meat. We have fresh veg and all your festive essentials from crackers to Christmas puds.

Stock up on lovingly made cards and gifts then finish the season off with bubbly from Barham.

Meat order forms can be found on our website or in store from the middle of November. Find us online at www.barhamvillagestore.com

barhamvillagestore

Email:

barhamvillagestore barhamstore@gmail.com Telephone:

01227 832991 Barham Village Store,

Valley Road, Barham, CT4 6NX











The Quiet View

Christmas is coming! And at whatever level we may enjoy the Christmas story it does mention the appearance of angels! Mary was surprised when the Angel Gabriel appeared to her, and I was surprised when Gailelaine visited the Quiet View, out of the blue. She has the gift of channelling the love, light and comfort from the angel realm and at her first Gathering last month, many people who came did experience an extraordinary sense of love and comfort. **Gailelaine's** next **Gathering** will be from **1.30 – 3.30 on Sunday 9th December.** There'll be snacks and drinks and Gailelaine will play her crystal harp. Suggested donation £15 and please book with Lizzie Another knew initiative coming to the Quiet View is **Spirit Dance –** led by experienced shamanic practitioner Natasha Quinn, the evening will potentially increase self-esteem and confidence, awaken inner creativity and expression and will provide a space to shake off tension, relax and release. **Sunday 16th December 6pm – 8pm.** £10 please book with <u>quinnnatasha@yahoo.co.uk</u> Here are the dates of some regular events:

7th Dec Taizé prayer at 7pm

10th Dec Taiji Qigong and 14th Jan at 7.30pm with Melanie French £6 book at m.s.french00@btinternet.com

Please check for dates of our deeply relaxing Gong Baths with Euphony Sound Therapy euphonysoundtherapy@gmal.com

We hope to welcome you some time soon.

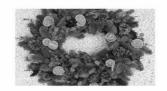
Lizzie Hopthrow

The Quiet View, 146 The Street, Kingston
01227 830070

lizziehopthrow@gmail.com

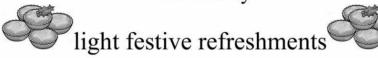
www.quietview.co.uk

NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



Christmas Wreath - a Demonstration by Leigh-Anne of Majestic Flowers

followed by



Tuesday 4 December at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall

Christmas Raffle All welcome Admission £5 (£7 for non-members), including refreshments

NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



Come along to our

AGM

with a chance to air your views on the future of the Society

Tuesday 22 January 7.30 pm Bridge Village Hall

with Wine and Cheese and Social Time

Annual Subscriptions Payable

New members needed

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 1st Dec. 10 am - 12 noon The Conrad Hall Bishopsbourne Raffle - Gifts - Cakes +

Please join your friends & neighbours for coffee and a chat! In aid of The Church of St. Mary the Virgin



Theatre & Cabaret at Charlton Park 'Christmas Cabaret' Preview by Shoo Shoo Baby

Friday 30th Nov, 7:30pm. Water-tight harmonies, flamboyant costumes & terrible Christmas jumpers. Re-worked Songs from 1920-2018. Incl. complimentary arrival drink. Ages 9+, Regular Tickets: £17.50, Concs/Groups £12.50, Family (2x2) £45.

'Land of Nod' by Moon On A Stick

Friday 28th Dec, 2:30pm. Puppetry, Soundscapes & Storytelling explore restlessness & wonder using Hans Christian Andersen's classic tale of the Sandman - spreading colourful dreams with every twirl of his umbrella. For Ages 3+ Tickets: £10 (Adult), £6 (Child), £26 (Family 2 x 2). Free for babes in arms.

All Bookings or Enquiries: 01227 831355 info@charlton-park.org CT4 5JA

Christmas Wreaths & Decorations

From the traditional and natural to the contemporary and sparkly, we have a wide selection of Christmas trees, wreaths, garlands, gifts and decorations!

Hop Plants - Pre-order now!

Order your new hop plant now for delivery mid-December. Choose from over 40 varieties, including English & Foreign favourites!



Chalkpit Farm Rural Shopping Bekesbourne, Nr Canterbury, CT4 5EU

www.essentiallyhops.co.uk Email: shop@essentiallyhops.co.uk Tel: 01227 830 666

Friends of St Giles Carol Concert The annual Carol Concert, hosted by the Friends, will be held on Saturday, December 22 in St Giles Church at 6pm. Choir members from the prize winning Elham Valley Voices, led by Jackie and Rod Spencer, will perform a variety of pieces for your enjoyment. There will also be the opportunity to join in with traditional carols, and maybe some fun items. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served during the interval to encourage you to take part in the second half. As this is a fundraising event all adult tickets are £5 (but you can enjoy the mulled wine and mince pies), and are available from Maureen Taylor on 01227 831738 (maureen_taylor3@sky.com) or John Morgan 01227 831047. Any funds raised will be put towards the maintenance of St Giles Church.

Condensed Minutes of a meeting of Bridge Parish Council Thursday 8 November 2018 in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

(Full minutes are posted on the noticeboards by the White Horse and on Bridge Down and on the village website)

- Council decided to limit the parking restrictions on Riverside Close to all properties from Mansfield Court towards Patrixbourne Rd.
- A new bench for Western Avenue has been ordered and should arrive within the next few weeks thanks to a generous donation from a villager.
- The external noticeboard for the pavilion has been purchased and affixed.
- The meeting was updated on the latest funding and engineering developments in the plans to replace the bus stop opposite Higham Lane.
- Cllr Fawke said that **Green Court** was now effectively completed. Residents close to the proposed new fencing in Western Avenue have been consulted and given their approval. Council resolved to spend up to £3,000 on the necessary works.
- Villager Martyn Vye, CHEK committee member, outlined the current nature of plans and consultations for **hospital provision in Canterbury and East Kent** more widely. He encouraged as many people as possible to participate in the current "listening events" due to close on 25 November. They can be accessed at www.Kentandmedway.nhs.uk/where-you-live/plans-east-kent/ekjccg and www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/EastKentNHS2018

Council resolved to work in partnership with Ash Parish Council in dealing with the ongoing failure of the **Post Office** to open an outreach branch in the village.

VACANCY—PARISH CLERK—BRIDGE, CANTERBURY There is a vacancy for the position of Parish Clerk in the village of Bridge near Canterbury. Previous experience is not necessary but good administrative skills, a reasonable level of numeracy and the ability to maintain accounts are essential. Applicants must be computer literate. There is a national pay scale. Training is available. Applicants would be expected to work from their own home and be available for some evening meetings. A job description is available. The post involves working for 15 hours per week at times to be agreed with the Parish Council. Applicants should provide a CV with the names of two referees and contact the Chairman Alan Atkinson on 01227 830629 or email clerk@bridgevillage.org.uk by 12.00 noon on the closing date: Thursday 6 December 2018