On the Nail

A magazine for the villages along the Nailbourne

February 2022

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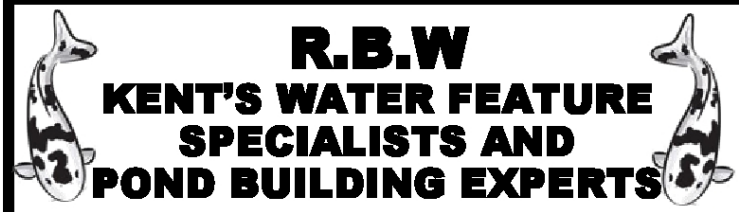

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February 2022

Dear Friends

And just like that…….it is February already! Personally, I love February, it's a short month (unlike January which always seems interminably long!), it usually has both Valentine's day, my birthday and quite often Pancake day in it- Love, Cake **and** Pancakes whoohoo! (although not pancakes this year as a late-ish Easter means Lent holds off until March but only just!). I'm beginning to feel optimistic, there are some brave little Snowdrops pushing their way up even in the harsh January frosts we are experiencing just now, and the days are lengthening ever so gradually, so there are just one or two little signs of the transformation that will come with Spring, even though we perhaps have a bit more winter to enjoy first.

Signs of transformation have been our theme in church over the past few weeks as we have celebrated 'The Epiphany', a season in the church when, beginning with the account of the visit to the infant Jesus by the magi, we recall various episodes in the life of Jesus which point to his identity and provide us with the opportunity to have our own 'aha!' moments as we discover afresh what the celebration of Christmas was all about. That the baby whose birth we celebrate, becomes a man who is; the promised Messiah, the Son of God and God incarnate. On Sunday we heard again the story of the Wedding at Cana, the first of Jesus' miracles, turning water into wine, reminding us of the power of God to transform the ordinary into the extraordinary. In my childhood we used to sing 'What a Friend we have in Jesus' – wouldn't we all love to have a friend like that? One who can produce fabulous wine at the turning on of a tap? Today I read with the children at Bridge School, the story of the Woman at the Well who on encountering Jesus's friendship, love, understanding and acceptance is convinced of his Messiahship and transformed by what he offers her, becoming the first evangelist, the first person to go and tell a whole town the good news.

Over the past two years many of us have experienced transformations of our own as we have encountered new ways of being and new ways of living and perhaps there are some aspects of our society that may never go back to being as they were, as some of these transformations have been positive and have taught us new things about how we live, how we work and how we interact with one another.

My prayer for us this February as we continue to learn to live with Covid amongst us, is that we hold onto those things which have transformed us in positive ways and lean deeply into the consoling love of God to help us daily to be transformed into patient, caring and loving people who seek the best for each other always.

Yours in Christ

Service details and readings for February 2022

Date	Known as	Readings	Church Service
6th February	4th Sunday before Lent	Isaiah 6:1-8, [9-end] 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11 (Candlemas) Malachi 3:1-5 Hebrews 2:14-end Luke 2:22-40	**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne** **6pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Lower Hardres**
13th February	3rd Sunday before Lent	Jeremiah 17.5-10; 1 Corinthians 15.12-20; **Luke 6.17-26**	**10am Parish Communion St Peter's Bridge**
20th February	2nd Sunday before Lent	Genesis 2:4b-9,15-end; Revelation 4; **Luke 8:22-25**	**10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne** **4pm Family Service at St Peter's Bridge**
27th February	Next before Lent	Exodus 34.29-35; 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2; **Luke 9.28-36,(37-43a)**	**10am Parish Communion St Peter's Bridge**
2nd March	Ash Wednesday	Tba	**7pm St Peter's Bridge Holy Communion with imposition of Ashes**
4th March	(Women's) World Day of Prayer	Theme: 'I know the plans I have for you'	**10am St Peter's Bridge**
6th March	1st Sunday of Lent	Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Romans 10.8b-13; **Luke 4.1-13** Psalm 119:73-88 Jonah 3 Luke 18:9-14	**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne** **6pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Lower Hardres**

Covid Safe Church

At the time of printing, the advice around church attendance remains the same so, if you are coming to a church service, please:

Wear a mask if you can

Expect to be seated in a socially distanced way

Take a lateral flow test before you come if you can

Don't come if you are feeling unwell

Wrap up warmly as we will ventilate the building

Thank you!

Diary Dates – February

Thurs 3rd -9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 4th – 8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Sat 5th – 10.15- 11.30 Coffee, Cake & Concert at St Peter's Bridge

Mon 7th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 8th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

- 10.15-11.30 Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Bridge Village Hall

Fri 11th – 8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Mon 14th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Wed 16th - 10.am Bekesbourne village coffee morning, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Mon 21st - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 24th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Mon 28th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Bridge with Patrixbourne Womens Institute

First of all, the Committee wish all members a very happy, safe and positive year ahead.

A full programme has been arranged for 2022, but the committee are keeping a close eye on Government guidelines regarding Covid , and will act accordingly as to whether meetings will take place, or not. All members will be kept informed, either by email or phone.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, 18th February at 2pm in the Village Hall, when Jeff Wagner will be giving as talk on 'Chateaux and Gardens of the Loire'. We hope that as many members as possible will attend, and guests are also welcomed.

Our President, Avril, is unfortunately hobbling around on crutches (at the time of writing in mid January), as she has torn a tendon in her leg. We wish her a speedy recovery.

We were very sad to hear that Beryl Heap, a past President and long-standing member of WI, died shortly before Christmas.

Meanwhile, we hopefully look forward to a bright, and fulfilling year ahead.

Joan Hill

Jan.22

Little Lambs

Toddler Group

Every Thursday

9am-11am (during term time) at Bridge sports pavilion.

Suggested donation £1.50 per child.

For more information call Estella on 01227 206272

'February'
Songs of Praise
Sunday 6th February
10am St Peter's Bekesbourne
A service of music and song to celebrate the beginning of new life.
Mask wearing essential. All welcome.

'LENT'
Songs of Praise
Sunday 6th March
10am St Peter's Bekesbourne
A service of music and song to celebrate lent.
Mask wearing essential. All welcome.

Littlebourne & District Royal British Legion

The Branch held its first meeting of the year on Tuesday 11 January and we had a good attendance. The Chairman welcomed everyone and wished them a happy and healthy new year despite the restrictions that we are all experiencing

We are soon to welcome in a new Branch Treasurer and are looking forward to being able to continue holding our monthly Branch meetings in the coming months

Our next meeting is scheduled to be on Tuesday 8 February at 8pm in the Recreation Club Littlebourne

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

By the time you read this, we should have had our AGM and enjoyed our talk on Container Gardening by Susan Scrivens. We are hoping that this year we will be able to proceed with events as normal and are pleased to announce that our **Spring Show** has been arranged for **Saturday 26th March** at **Bridge Village Hall**. If you would like a schedule then please contact the Show Secretary, Kathy Walder on 830057/07791 656539, email: kath@askwalder.com.

Please note that those wishing to enter any exhibits for the Show, **(other than the open classes),** will need to be paid up members. Anyone who was unable to attend the AGM and wishes to renew membership or join the Society please contact, Ann Edmonds Tel 01227 830795.

Spring Show - Open Classes

There are three open classes which both members and non-members can enter:

The first, to tempt everyone, is 6 chitted seed potatoes in an egg box

Then, to appeal to those who have an artistic flair, we have a flower arranging class entitled "An Easter Basket"– an exhibit, space allowed 61x61cm/24x24 inches, height unrestricted (accessories allowed)

The third for the photographers among you: “A Natural Winter Sculpture". Please note that photographs are to be ***emailed*** to Kathy Walder by Saturday 12th March. The three winning photographs will be printed and displayed at the Show. (NB photos not to be digitally enhanced and all entries to be produced within the last 12 months).

Please do have a go as it's free to enter, will be fun and you have a chance of winning a prize! If you would like any further information, then please contact Kathy (details above).

Bekesbourne 100 Club
Latest prize winners are;

December

£50 Andrea Nicholson
£25 Jeni Skinner
£15 Rosi Mount

January

£50 Faye Gilmour
£25 Andrea Nicholson
£15 David Farbrace

Special Xmas prize winner - £250 – Phyl Denne

New participants for the monthly draw are always welcomed, providing much needed funds for The Friends of Bekesbourne Church. Membership remains at £24 for the year, with monthly prizes of £50, £25 and £15. There are additional mid-summer and Christmas prizes of £100 and £250 respectively. If you'd like to join in, please contact Steve Thomas at stevelthomas91@gmail.com"

Friends of St Peter's Church, Bridge and St Mary's Church, Patrixbourne

COFFEE & CAKE & CONCERT at BRIDGE CHURCH

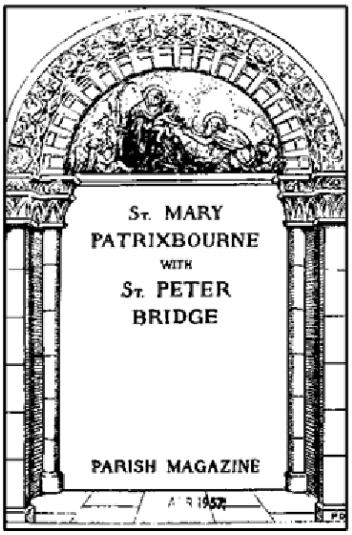
Saturday 5th February 10:15 to 11:30

'To be a Pilgrim'

In words and music, the story of pilgrimage past, present and future

Suggested donation £4, children free
All proceeds towards the new extension at St Mary's Patrixbourne

Patrixbourne, Bridge & Bekesbourne
Parish Magazine - February 1960



This series of articles continues by leaping forward to February 1960 as the Bridge & District History Society's Archive, is currently short of a good many editions for the two previous years. Further details are available by visiting its website info@bridgehistory.org.uk.The key event in that period was the Institution and Induction of the Rev Robert A Penny to the newly united benefices of Patrixbourne with Bridge and Bekesbourne by the Bishop of Dover and the Archdeacon of Canterbury on Monday 21 April 1958 at 7pm. It was held in St Peter's Bridge as it could accommodate the largest congregation from the 3 churches. Afterwards an informal gathering was held in the Reading Room (now called the Village Hall).

In addition to the monthly list of services and meetings the vicar quoted from a letter received from the British Council of Churches Joint Aid & Refugee Service *"Thank you so much for your generous gift of £64:4:0d. We appreciate this is a splendid achievement reached from your three small churches."* The vicar summarised the facts that over 10 million Refugees are re-settled in their own countries and 700,000 are settled by emigration. Yet many refugees are still living in *"frightful conditions of squalor, and hunger."* The vicar believed *"having reached our target we must now continue to £100."* **AB**

The Bridge Group Parish

Family Service

with

Rev Estella, Rev Miriam and Mr Luck!

Sunday 20th February
& Sunday 20th March

4pm at St Peter's Bridge

A family friendly service for all ages.

For more information contact estella-last@gmail.com

Socially distanced seating available

Bridge Recreation Ground Park Improvements

You may have noticed some new additions to the park in Bridge recently. The old slide has been replaced with a combination slide and climbing frame and the old roundabout has been replaced with a wheelchair accessible one! The hoppers have also had new safety mating added around them.

Inner Wheel GB & NI

You may well ask "WHO ARE THEY?"

Inner Wheel is a universal organisation and is recognised all over the world. The Canterbury club was founded in 1925, almost 100 years ago, by the wife of a Canterbury Rotarian, Mrs Gladys Young.

Originally the members were all wives of Rotarians. Their main function was to form friendships and to support their husbands when required.

The club has evolved and over the years it has been brought up to date in keeping with modern trends and welcomes ladies who would like to be part of this friendly group. Canterbury Inner Wheel meets twice a month, on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, normally at 10am at Littlebourne Village Hall Lounge.

Apart from being a thriving social club, members are enthusiastic Fund Raisers for local charitable organisations as well as National and International causes. This year we are supporting MACMILLAN NURSES, SIGHT SAVERS, and THE STROKE ASSOCIATION amongst others.

We have fun enjoying sociable coffee mornings, Quiz nights, and occasional Bingo sessions to raise funds for these worthwhile charities. We also have interesting speakers and outings to local well-known places.

The objects of Inner Wheel are

"TO PROMOTE TRUE FRIENDSHIP" "TO ENCOURAGE THE IDEALS OF PERSONAL SERVICE" and "TO FOSTER INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING "

If you would like to learn more, please contact www.innerwheeldistrict12.org.uk or find us at Littlebourne Village Hall.

FAIRTRADE NEWS

Saturday 5th February 10.15-11.30 am

Coffee and Cake Concert

at St Peter's, Bridge. Andrea Nicholson's presention 'Pilgrimage' (see advert) There will be a Fairtrade stall in the church and a Fairtrade prize for the raffle.

Fairtrade Fortnight is Sunday 27th February to Sunday 13th March

More information about what is happening in Canterbury and Bridge in next month's 'On the Nail'. Look out for extra Fairtrade goods In your usual supermarkets.

Joy Sharman sadly passed away suddenly shortly after Christmas. Joy was the local representative for Fairtrade in Canterbury over many years and the organiser of many Fairtrade Fairs in the district, as well as the local supplier for individuals, churches and schools. She cared passionately about the importance of Fairtrade in supporting producers in poor countries and she will be greatly missed.

The Eco Church Team

Bridge Village Playgroup

The Playgroup has had a very busy and enjoyable Christmas term. During Gruffalo Week the children baked 'Gruffalo (Apple) Crumble' and Gruffalo biscuits, which challenged them to use maths, language and listening skills. For Christmas the children made baubles and Christmas cards for their parents. They put on a truly magical Nativity performance, and thoroughly enjoyed a party on the last day of term. They were even lucky enough to have a visit from Father Christmas himself!

As the weather improves in the New Year, we will be spending more time outside. We have been fortunate to secure grant funding to purchase new toys and resources for outdoor play, and will re-start the use of the allotment so that the children can help to grow fruit and vegetables.

In December we held our '12 Days of Christmas' Raffle and were overwhelmed by everyone's support. We raised an incredible £2,100! Many thanks to all of the local businesses and individuals who donated prizes, and to everyone who bought tickets.

We are almost full to capacity with children, but do contact the Manager, Sarah, if you are interested in a place for your child in September 2022 as we have a few spaces available. We are always happy to arrange a visit, subject to Covid restrictions.

Finally, we are looking to expand the committee that runs the Playgroup. As a charity, we rely on those from the local community getting involved and helping to make decisions for the running of this fantastic resource. We already have a friendly team in place but are looking particularly to bring in people who have different skills, experience and knowledge. We want the Playgroup to respond to and represent the whole Bridge community. In that vein, we would love to hear from any individual who is interested in giving a few hours a month: in particular, we are rather short of men and those in older age groups who could share their skills and wisdom. Those interested are welcome to contact Holly (hgbroadley@hotmail.co.uk) for an initial chat and introduction to the charity.

Bridge Village Playgroup takes children aged from 2 to 4. We are based in the Bridge Village Hall and operate in term-time as follows:

Monday to Wednesday: 9am to 3.30pm

Thursday and Friday: 9am to 12 noon

We accept Government Early Years Funding from age 2 including 30 hours' funding.

For more information, please contact the Manager, Sarah Pinnington, on 07790 096325 or email bridgeplaygroup@hotmail.com. Keep up to date with us at www.facebook.com/bridgevillageplaygroup and check out our new website at https://sites.google.com/view/bridgepreschool/home.

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In the interests of using up those remaining Christmas leftovers, I thought I'd try something warming containing chocolate! Well, why not? This is a variation of Delia Smith's wonderful chocolate B&B pudding, but I used a plain panettone instead, and it is definitely better than her already wonderful original. When just out of the oven it is deliciously squishy, especially after one of my sons was overgenerous with the cream... So, it uses up leftovers, it is warming and chocolate is one of your five a day. What's not to like?

Chocolate Panettone pudding
8 thick slices of panettone (plain or with fruit)
4oz/110g dark chocolate
10 fl oz/300ml double or whipping cream
3 tablespoons rum
3oz/75g soft brown sugar
2oz/50g butter
1/3 teaspoon cinnamon
2 large eggs

Butter a dish approx 10" x 6" (or wait until you see how much mixture you make). Cut the panettone slices into halves or triangles. In a large bowl, put the chocolate, cream, rum, sugar, butter and cinnamon and stick it into the microwave. Heat until the chocolate is melted and the sugar has dissolved. Stir thoroughly. If you're using the microwave, don't overheat the mixture – the chocolate melts more slowly, and will mostly dissolve when you are stirring it prior to adding the eggs. Whisk the eggs in another bowl, add the chocolate mixture and whisk again until it is smooth (ish).

Pour a layer of chocolate mixture into the dish, and then put the bread over the top, overlapping the pieces slightly – I aim for two layers. After the first layer, pour on half of the remaining liquid, then put the last bread pieces on top. Pour on the last of the mix and cover all the bread, gently squidging it into the gooey chocolate.... cover with cling film and leave it to rest for a day (if you can, but half an hour is a minimum). Preheat oven to 180deg C. Remove the clingfilm and bake for about half an hour until crisp (not burned) on top yet still soft inside. This reheats well in the microwave.

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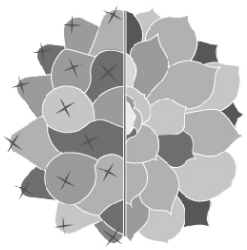

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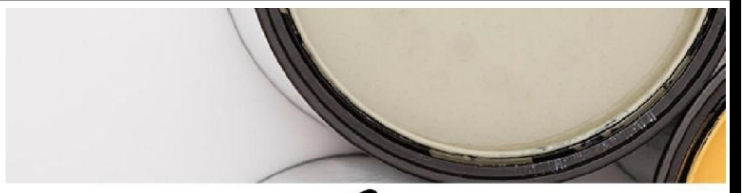

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Dear Friends

As I sit at my desk writing my letter to you for the March editions of our magazines, storm Eunice is raging around outside. We've rescued the garden chairs and secured the trampoline, are watching to see whether the fence will hold and hoping the loose tiles on the Vicarage roof manage to hang on! And most of all praying that all the warnings are well heeded, and people remain safe and unhurt.

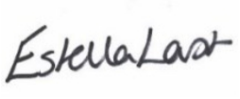
There's a certain irony about the fact that our passage for Sunday this week is the narrative of Jesus calming the storm. In a few short verses from Luke Chapter 8 we hear that Jesus sleeps peacefully in the boat as a storm whips up and frightens the disciples who cry out to him in their fear. Jesus steps up and commands the storm to cease. When we reflect on this passage in our Family Service on Sunday, our Curate Miriam will lead us in thinking about how this relates to us in our own journey of faith. Encouraging us to think that sometimes when we cry out to Jesus for help, he does indeed calm whatever storm we are facing but more often, he works in us to bring us a sense of peace and help keep us calm and steady as we live through it. This, at the very least, is one of the things that a regular practice of prayer and worship does for us. If you have a moment you might like to look up the song 'Sometimes he calms the Storm' on You Tube and have a listen.

As we head towards the second anniversary of the first Covid Lockdown, I wonder what storms you have lived through and where you have found your sense of calm? Anniversaries can be happy occasions to be celebrated, some anniversaries, however, bring sadness, grief and darkness. During the last 2 years, many of us will have had a brush with the virus or know someone who has, and almost all of us are practiced at regularly self-testing! Sadly, there will be some reading this who will have experienced the terrible grief of losing a loved one as a result of infection.

It started out as something that was happening in another country, to other people, not something that was impacting on us at all. Then, at what seemed lightning speed, we were engulfed in as much viral infection as fear. The world stopped, everything we knew and relied on was changed. The artist Charlie Mackesy put it so well when he drew a cartoon reading, "Everything is cancelled, said the boy. Love isn't cancelled, said the horse!"

How do we recover from the last two years? How do we move on after over 138,000 deaths from covid in our country alone? These questions need to be asked but are very difficult to answer, especially as we prepare to end all Covid regulations (*preparations are being made for March as I write this*). So, we will just take one day at a time, one step at a time. Knowing that Jesus us is with us as we weather this particular storm and seeking always the peace that comes from knowing him.

Yours in Christ



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Service details and readings for March 2022

Date	Known as	Readings	Church Service
Wed 2nd March	Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 2 Corinthians 5: 20b-6: 10; John 8:1-11	**7pm St Peter's Bridge Holy Communion with imposition of Ashes**
Friday 4th March	(Women's) World Day of Prayer	Theme: Hope for the Future	**10am St Peter's Bridge Service led by the Friday Prayer Group**
6th March	1st Sunday of Lent	Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Romans 10.8b-13; **Luke 4.1-13** Psalm 119:73-88 Jonah 3 Luke 18:9-14	**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne** **6pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Lower Hardres**
Sat 12th March			**4-6pm Messy Church at Bridge School (with hot meal)**
13th March	2nd Sunday of Lent	Genesis 15.1-12,17-18; Philippians 3.17-4.1; **Luke 13.31-35**	**10am Parish Communion St Peter's Bridge**
20th March	3rd Sunday of Lent	Isaiah 55.1-9; 1 Corinthians 10.1-13; **Luke 13.1-9**	**10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne** **4pm Family Service**
27th March	**Mothering Sunday** (4th Sunday of Lent)	1 Samuel 1:20-end; Colossians 3:12-17; **Luke 2:33-35** (Joshua 5.9-12; 2 Corinthians 5.16-21; Luke 15.1-3,11b-32)	**9.30am Morning Prayer at Nackington** **10am Parish Communion St Peter's Bridge** **10am Songs of Praise at Bekesbourne**
3rd April	5th Sunday of Lent		**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **6pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Lower Hardres**

Diary Dates – March

Thurs 3rd -9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 4th – 10.am World Day of Prayer Service at Bridge Church

Mon 7th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Wed 9th – 10 am village coffee morning, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 10th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

-10.15-11.30 Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Bridge Village Hall

-7.30-9pm Live Lent Talk at St Peter's Bridge

Fri 11th – 8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Sat 12th – 4 -6pm Messy Church, Bridge and Patrixbourne School

Mon 14th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Wed 16th -7.30-9pm Live Lent Talk at St Peter's Bridge

Thurs 17th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 18th – 8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Mon 21st - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Wed 23rd -7.30-9pm Live Lent Talk at St Peter's Bridge

Thurs 24th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

-7pm Deanery Synod Meeting at Adisham Church

Mon 28th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

-2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Thurs 31st - 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

-7.30-9pm Live Lent Talk at St Peter's Bridge

Bridge with Patrixbourne Womens Institute

We are glad to be back again in the Village Hall, and holding our meetings on Friday afternoons has proved very popular. We shall continue this until April, when we shall revert to evening meetings on a Tuesday, as the days get lighter.

So far we have enjoyed a talk on 'Fascinating Flowers', which tool us on an exciting journey to far flung countries and their amazing flowers. Our February meeting was unfortunately cancelled at the last minute, as hurricane winds had arrived; causing a lot of damage to trees, roof tiles and fences, etc. and the committee felt it was unwise for anyone to venture outdoors! We hope that Jeff Wagner's talk on 'Chateaux and Gardens of the Loire, will take place at a future date, which will be something to look forward to.

On Friday, 18th March at 2pm in the Village Hall, we are scheduled to have a talk on 'Chocolate'. We hope this will appeal to many members, and guests are cordially invited to come along.

Last month we heard with great sadness, the loss of two members: Rosie Turner and Bickie Denne. Rosie was a longstanding member of WI, who was also our pianist, and played 'Jerusalem' at the beginning of every meeting. Bickie was a loyal and dedicated committee member. They will be much missed.

Joan Hill

Feb.22

Little Lambs

Toddler Group

Every Thursday

9am-11am (during term time) at Bridge sports pavilion.

Suggested donation £1.50 per child.

For more information call Estella on 01227 206272

Bridge FISH scheme

The next FISH scheme Coffee Morning is on Thursday March 10th at the village hall at 10am. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you haven't been before, why don't you give us a try? We're always on the second Thursday of the month at 10am in the village hall. Coffee ,tea and biscuits are only 50p, and friendly banter and smiles are always free. We hope to see you soon.

Our postponed Winter Warmer lunch is now on Thursday March 17th at 12 o'clock, again at the village hall. If you are interested in coming along. and haven't already put your name on the list, please call the FISH phone or drop a note in at number 48 on the High Street. We will be serving warming soup and bread followed by a delicious array of desserts and coffee.

A reminder also that our friendly telephone team are always there to co-ordinate transport, with our lovely volunteer drivers, to your medical appointments , for a small donation. Our number is 07935 966080.

FISH- Friendship,Independence,Support and help

St Peter's, Bridge - Churchyard Project

VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!

The Churchyard Project started in Spring 2021 when the Churchwarden,

Mark Esdale and a team of volunteers including the gardening staff from the

PIG Hotel met weekly to clear the overgrown vegetation and generally improving the churchyard.

We are returning to our weekly sessions in the churchyard of St Peter's, Bridge, starting on **Tuesday 22 February** and will continue to meet **every Tuesday, 12 midday to 4pm** until late Autumn.

We welcome new volunteers!

Do come and meet and join us on any Tuesday afternoon for an hour or so, we would be delighted to see you. All you need to bring are gardening gloves and tools as we will continue, weeding, planting and pruning.

We look forward to meeting you.

The Volunteer Team

Supported by the Eco Church Team, Silver Level Award

Nailbourne Scout Group news

After a little break for Christmas, Nailbourne Scouts have had a busy first term back. Our Beavers have been learning and practising first aid and pioneering skills. They have also been learning about birds and took part in the RSPB's Big Bird Watch. Cubs celebrated Australia Day, have taken part in an adventurous night hike and have been learning how to build shelters and build and light fires. They have also been learning new games from Scouts, who have been regularly helping at sessions as part of our youth-led agenda. Scouts have been learning advanced rope work skills (splices) and have begun work on their circus skills badge, with juggling and plate spinning, along with lots of team challenges. They have also had a visit from Porchlight as part of our ongoing work with the charity. The whole group is also currently preparing and practising for our 'Nailbourne's Got Talent' show, which will be performed before Easter!

In future news, several of our Scouts will be attending the Kent International Jamboree in July. This is a week-long camp on the theme of 'Our Celestial World', where our Scouts will have the opportunity to mix with over 5,000 other Scouts and Guides from across the world, as well as take part in lots of exciting activities!

We always welcome volunteers, but it is particularly important that we find (a) new Cub leader(s) to join the team. If we are unable to find someone by September, our Cubs unit will sadly have to fold. If you might be interested (or know someone who might), please contact us on the email address below. No experience necessary and training will be given – along with a free necker! We are also hoping to get an Explorers group set up in the near future – again, we would be very grateful for any volunteers who might be willing to help with this. Please get in touch!

Nailbourne Scout Group welcomes both boys AND girls and meets during term time as follows:

Beavers (6–8 years) – Wednesdays, 5.30–6.30pm, Barham Village Hall

Cubs (8–10 years) – Wednesdays, 6.30–7.30pm, Barham Village Hall

Scouts (10–14 years) – Fridays, 6.30–8.00pm, Denton Village Hall

For more information on joining or volunteering, please email Nick Gore at skipnailbourne@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/Nailbourne-Scout-Group-public-108853207216429).

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Organ Recital by Adrian Bawtree
Many people have requested if we could organise another Organ Recital by Adrian Bawtree in St.Peter's Church, Bekesbourne. Adrian will be performing an evening recital, Friday, 22nd April, 2022.
Timings and ticket prices will be confirmed in April's issue of the magazine.
Look forward to seeing you all there.
Christine Dutfield, Friends of Bekesbourne Church

The Bridge Group Parish

Mothering Sunday Services

Sunday 27th March

Services during which we celebrate motherhood in all its forms. With gifts of posies and time to pray and light candles for our loved ones. Everyone is welcome!

9.30am St Mary's Nackington Morning Prayer

10am St Peter's Bekesbourne 'Songs of Praise' Service

10am St Peter's Bridge All Age Communion
with Rev'd Estella Last

3-5pm St Mary's Lower Hardres will be open and welcoming families with tea and cake!

Friends of St Peter's Church, Bridge and St Mary's Church, Patrixbourne

COFFEE & CAKE & CONCERT at BRIDGE CHURCH

Saturday 2nd April 10:15 to 11:30

'Konrad and the Lion'

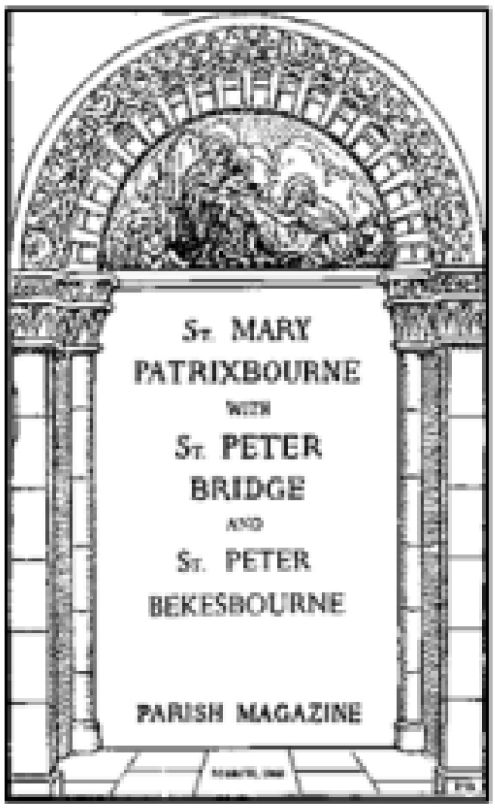
Young Konrad in Berlin Zoo with a lion cub 1940

Words & music from Sir Konrad Schiemann's life in Berlin, London, Luxembourg & Kent.

Suggested donation £4, children free
All proceeds towards the new extension at St Mary's Patrixbourne

Patrixbourne, Bridge & Bekesbourne
Parish Magazine - March 1960

This series of articles continues with details extracted from the Bridge & District History Society's Archive for March 1960. For further information please visit its website info@bridgehistory.org.uk. Ash Wednesday fell on 2nd March and a full list of Lent Sunday services was given for the three churches plus 6pm on Wednesdays at the Chapel in the Close (open to all). The monthly diary included meetings of the Sunday School, Mothers Union, Young Wives and the Youth Fellowship.



The Vicar's Letter announced that the subject for the Lent Study was Christian Stewardship. He wrote *"There will be a consecutive series of addresses which will enable us to review, revalue and re-possess the riches of our faith as Christian Stewards. That phrase is already familiar as the whole church is experiencing a vigorous revival in Biblical belief that* 'All things come from God' *and so we should offer back to God all that we are, and all that we have. Our Lent Course is concerned with religious instruction. However our Deanery is seeking to increase the standard of Alms-giving in all our churches:"* Your vicar, Robert Penny. **AB**

Bekesbourne 100 Club
Latest prize winners are;

February

£50 Linda Ellis
£25 Joy Smith
£15 Elizabeth Johnston

March

£50 Jane Langridge
£25 Katrina Walters
£15 James Thompson

New participants for the monthly draw are always welcomed, providing much needed funds for The Friends of Bekesbourne Church. Membership remains at £24 for the year, with monthly prizes of £50, £25 and £15. There are additional mid-summer and Christmas prizes of £100 and £250 respectively. If you'd like to join in, please contact Steve Thomas at stevelthomas91@gmail.com"

The Bridge Group Parish

Family Service

with

Rev Estella, Rev Miriam and Mr Luck!

Sunday 20th March

4pm at St Peter's Bridge

A family friendly service for all ages.

For more information contact estella-last@gmail.com

Socially distanced seating available

'LENT'

Songs of Praise

Sunday 6th March

10am St Peter's Bekesbourne

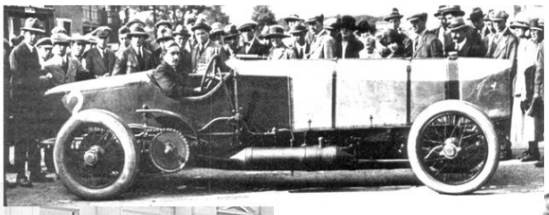
A service of music and song to celebrate lent.

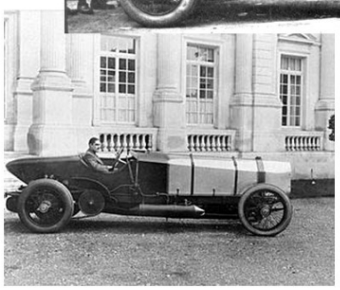
Mask wearing essential. All welcome.

Count Zborowski

The Pursuit of Speed on Road & Rail

The League of Friends OF THE KENT & CANTERBURY HOSPITAL





A Talk by
Alan Walton

Louis Zborowski lived in **Bridge** for 20 years until his death, aged 29, in 1924. During his short life, he built and drove some of the fastest cars of the era - whilst developing an interest in miniature steam locomotives designed to travel at speed.

Alan Walton's talk will illustrate Louis' history, his "rock and roll" lifestyle and his achievements on the race track — leading to his early demise.

7.30pm
Thursday
3rd March
Bridge Village Hall
£8 (to include a glass of wine)

Our Delicious Dinner is back!

Messy Church

12th March 2022

Bridge and Patrixbourne School

4.00pm-6.00pm

Crafts, story, worship and hot dinner for all the family! (Covid Permitting)

For more information contact estellalast@gmail.com

People are starving in Afghanistan, with more than 8 million on the brink of famine

Drought, the war in Afghanistan and the Covid-19 pandemic are causing a catastrophic rise in hunger. Children are dying today, and a million more under the age of five are at risk of dying over the next three months. We need to act now to save lives.

Decades of conflict, poverty, and the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic were already taking their toll on the people of Afghanistan.

The recent conflict and change of government, coupled with the worst drought in 27 years, have tipped the country over the edge into humanitarian crisis. Economic collapse has sent food prices soaring. Afghanistan's health care system has reached the brink of collapse.

More than 22 million people face going hungry as the freezing winter sets in, with children amongst those most vulnerable.

Christian Aid's partners are on the ground scaling up their operations, and are able to reach the people most in need. With help from donors they and their local partners are:

- providing emergency food and nutrition support for children
- supporting healthcare facilities
- providing winter kits to help displaced families stay warm
- supplying clean drinking water

protecting women and girls

People in the UK are very generous and many have already donated to Christian Aid and other aid agencies. If you would like to give please visit: www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/afghanistan-crisis-appeal or hand to one of the Churchwardens.

On-line Silent Auction In aid of Extension at St Mary's, Patrixbourne

I would like to thank everyone who supported the On-line Auction. It has now closed and £2046.46 was raised through the auction, via extra donations and in a coin collection pot in Londis.
So, thank you if you donated items, offered services, bid for items or contributed in any way. It was lovely to have the support of the wider community and generous support from some local businesses.
There will be more fund-raising activities soon, so please look out for notices and more ways to support St Mary's.

Sarah Wetherell

Saturday 5th March Womenswold Church 'Finding Eanswythe by Rev Dr Lesley Hardy

In Jan 2020, a small group of archaeologists, historians, conservators spent three days huddled in the freezing weather around the bones of a young girl. That girl was St Eanswythe, an Anglo-Saxon royal princess whose relics had been preserved, hidden in the walls of the church dedicated to her in Folkestone.

Rev Dr Lesley Hardy played a leading role in the 'finding' project that explored the life, ultimately verifying these relics.

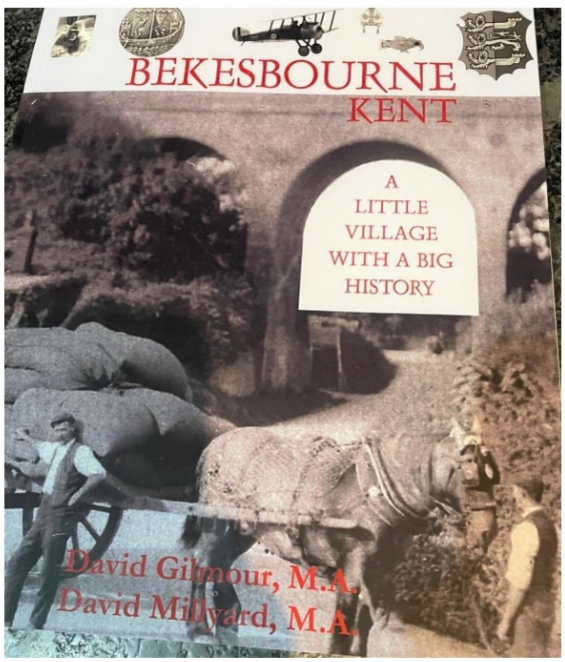
She will be talking about the project 'Finding Eanswythe' and reflecting on the meaning of this extraordinary discovery.

2.30pm Womenswold Church, followed by tea and cake. In aid of Friends of St Margaret's toilet project. **Please ring Marilyn Lewis 01227 831208 to reserve your place, tickets are £5.**

This promises to be a fascinating afternoon for which we look forward to you joining us.

Bekesbourne - A Little Village with a Big History

This popular book by David Gilmour, and David Millyard (with contributions from Jill Thomas and Pam Rees) has just been reprinted. 230 pages of interesting articles, with lots of archive and coloured photos, maps and drawings. Price £25, with profits being donated to the Bridge Group of Churches and to the Friends of Bekesbourne Church.



Contact Steve Thomas (Bekesbourne) on 01227 832573 or Jane Millyard (Bridge) on 01227 830256

LiVE LENT

Embracing JUSTICE

Lent Talks at St Peter's Bridge 7.30-9pm

Thursday 10th March

Wednesday 16th March

Wednesday 23rd March

Thursday 31st March

Thursday 7th April

Based on The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2022 'Embracing Justice' by Isabelle Hamley and the 'Live Lent' Embracing Justice 40 Day Challenge

Sessions will include group discussions but no pressure to join in, time for prayer and reflection and refreshments.

Led by: Rev'd Estella Last, Rev'd Miriam Bier Hinksman and Miriam Westendarp (Lay Chaplain)

National Vegetable Society – Kent Association

The Society are pleased to be returning to Bridge Village Hall for this year's programme of talks, starting on Wednesday 9 March, 7.30 for 8.00 pm, with the AGM followed by a presentation from Fargro on the company's extensive product range across every horticultural sector. Everyone is welcome.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society – Spring Show

Our Spring Show will be on **Saturday 26th March** in **Bridge Village Hall**. If you would like a schedule then please contact the Show Secretary, Kathy Walder on 830057/07791 656539, email: kath@askwalder.com.

There are three open classes which both members and non-members can enter for free!

1. The easiest: 6 chitted seed potatoes presented in an egg box

2. A flower arrangement: 'An Easter Basket', space allowed 61x61cm/24x24ins, height unrestricted (accessories allowed)

3. For the photographers: "A Natural Winter Sculpture", a photo **to be emailed** to the Shows secretary by **12 March**.

Please do have a go. It will be fun and you have a chance of winning a prize! If you would like any further information, please contact Kathy (details above).

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

Spring Show

Saturday 26 March, Bridge Village Hall

Show open to public 11.00 am to 1.00 pm

Presentation of Prizes 12.45 pm

Includes 3 Open Classes (for all to enter):

- 6 chitted seed potatoes in an egg box
- for flower arrangers: "An Easter Basket"
  an exhibit, space allowed 61x61cm/24x24ins, height unrestricted (accessories allowed)
- a photo entitled "A Natural Winter Sculpture"
  (to be submitted by email to Show Secretary by 12 March)

Plant/Bring and Buy Stall Raffle

For Show Schedule and more details, contact Kathy on 830057/07791 656539/kath@askwalder.com

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Curate:	Rev. Miriam Hinksman	01227 206272 bridgecurate@gmail.com
Reader:	Mrs Margaret Clarke	01227-765598 mrsmaclarke@yahoo.co.uk
Chaplain:	Mrs Miriam Westendarp	01227 206272
Administrator:	Mrs Megan Shirley	bridgeoffice23@gmail.com
Safeguarding Officer:	Rosemary Whatley	01227-206272

St Mary's Patrixbourne with St Peter's Bridge

Churchwardens:	Dr Andrea Nicholson	01227-830947
	Mrs Pauline Pritchard	01227-830685
	Mr Laurence Dunderdale laurence.dunderdale@gmail.com	01227-830668
(Gift Aid Officer)	Mrs Evelyn Andrews evepurlins@btinternet.com	01227-830960
PCC Secretary:	Mr Rory Wetherell	01227-830318
PCC Treasurer:	Mr Devin Brougham dwbrougham@aol.com	
Christian Aid/Organist	Mrs Jean Barber	01227-831956

St Peter's Bekesbourne

Churchwarden	Mrs Nicky Fry nicolafry@cscope.co.uk	01227-830319
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To offer items for publication in this magazine, including event information, please contact Mrs Megan Shirley bridgeoffice23@gmail.com by the 15th day of the preceding month, ensuring that any emails and attachments are clearly titled to identify their content. Files should be submitted in .doc .pub or .jpg format. Posters should be A5 in size and both portrait and landscape versions provided.

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On the Nail

Nackington | Lower Hardres | Bridge | Patrixbourne | Bekesbourne

The Bridge Group Parish

A magazine for the villages along the Nailbourne

April 2022

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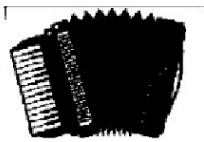

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April 2022

Dear Friends

We are fast approaching Easter which falls in the middle of April this year. Easter is a season all about hope and I really wanted to find some hopeful words to share with you this month. The trouble is that I am writing this in the middle of March, just over two weeks since the invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces, and I am not feeling very hopeful.

We have watched with disbelief and horror as the Russian invasion of Ukraine has unfolded. We have seen through the extensive news coverage the brutal destruction of Ukraine's homes, hospitals, schools and towns and the human suffering wrought on innocent civilians, many of them women and children. We see bewilderment and fear on the faces of the displaced and our hearts are broken for what is lost and threatened. We are uncertain how best we can help as refugees in their millions pour out of Ukraine into neighbouring countries and thousands of others prepare to flee taking only what they can carry to safety. Others remain trapped praying that invading Russian forces will open humanitarian corridors to provide a safe way out. The plight of the Ukrainian people is part of the ongoing story of humanity's inhumanity as people of power and tyranny battle to keep the upper hand. Every time this situation happens in our world we cry out with horror and vow that it must never happen again and yet, even with the refugee crises in Syria and Afghanistan still fresh in our minds we find another humanitarian disaster unfolding.

How can we respond to what is happening?

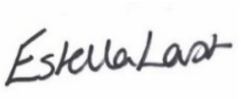
We can, of course give generously of our money and practical help to send supplies of humanitarian aid to Ukraine and countries receiving refugees. We may soon be in the situation of being able to open our homes to displaced individuals and families but sometimes all we can do is pray. But prayer can be hard. Sometimes it is hard to see where a loving God is in all of this. I believe, though, that God hears our prayers and weeps with the people of Ukraine because God has seen humanity inflict suffering so many times before.

The Bible is full of the stories of people fleeing into exile in foreign lands. Even Jesus' parents knew the fear of being a refugee as they fled with their special baby to Egypt from the despot king Herod. And Jesus knew what it was like to be tortured and killed by those who thought he was a threat. Perhaps Jesus is closer than we think.

The Easter story is one of suffering and death for Jesus, a man of peace and love and because Jesus trod that road to the cross, he understands the human suffering of each Ukrainian soul and walks beside them today. Each Easter we remember that Jesus, despite his suffering and death rose from the dead to new life. Ultimately the Easter story ends with triumph that love and hope prevails, that good conquers evil.

The Easter story tells us that hope is stronger than despair, that love is stronger than hate, that peace is stronger than war and that life is stronger than death. This Easter I pray that this will be true for the people of Ukraine and for a world that longs for hope, love, peace and life.

Easter blessings



Rev. Estella Last, Vicar
The Bridge Group Parish

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

of the Bridge Group Parish

Representing the Churches of St Peter's Bridge, St Mary's Patrixbourne, St Peter's Bekesbourne, St Mary's, Lower Hardres and St Mary's, Nackington

Will take place from 7pm on Wednesday 27th April 2022 at Bridge and Patrixbourne School

Details of the business of these meetings can be found on notices displayed in the Parish Churches. The Annual meeting will be preceded by the Annual Meeting of Parishioners at which the Churchwardens for each Church are elected and appointed.

Everyone is invited to join us to celebrate our achievements over the past 12 months and hear about our plans for the future.

The evening will begin with wine and nibbles.

For further details, to let us know you are coming or to give your apologies please email bridgeoffice23@gmail.com

Service details and readings for April 2022

Date	Known as	Readings	Church Service
3rd April	5th Sunday of Lent	Isaiah 43.16-21; Philippians 3.4b-14; **John 12.1-8** Psalm 35 2 Chronicles 35:1-6, 10-16 Luke 22:1-13	**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **6pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Lower Hardres**
10th April	Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50.4-9a; Psalm 118.1-2,19-29; Philippians 2.5-11; **Luke 19.28-40**	**9.30am Procession with Donkey from Bridge School** **10am Parish Communion St Peter's Bridge**
14th April	Maundy Thursday	Service of light and darkness with appropriate seasonal readings.	**Tenbrae Service 7.30pm St Peter's Bridge**
15th April	Good Friday	**Messy Church at Bridge School 10.00-11.30**	**Good Friday Pilgrimage** **1.30pm St Peter's Bekesbourne Commissioning hymn & Prayers** **2-3pm St Mary's Patrixbourne Service of Readings and Music** **3.30pm St Peter's Bridge Fellowship Tea and Hot Cross Buns**
17th April	Easter Sunday	Acts 10.34-43; Psalm 118.1-2,14-24; 1 Corinthians 15.19-26; **Luke 24.1-12**	**8am Communion St Mary's Nackington** (Order One Trad Language) **10am Parish Communion St Peter's Bridge** **10am Songs of Praise with Easter Egg Hunt at Bekesbourne**
24th April	2nd of Easter	Acts 5.27-32; Psalm 118.14-29; Revelation 1.4-8; **John 20.19-31**	**10am Easter Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne** **4pm Family Service St Peter's Bridge**
1st May	3rd Sunday Of Easter	Acts 9.1-6,(7-20); Psalm 30; Revelation 5.11-14; **John 21.1-19** 1st EP for Philip and James, Apostles Psalm 25 Isaiah 40:27-end John 12: 20-26	**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne** **6pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Lower Hardres**

Diary Dates – April

Fri 1st – 8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Sat 2nd – 10.15- 11.30 Coffee, Cake & Concert at St Peter's Bridge

Sun 3rd - 2.30-4.30pm Community Tea and Cake for Ukraine, Bridge Village Hall

Mon 4th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Mon 11th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Wed 13th – 10 am village coffee morning, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 14th 10.15-11.30 Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Bridge Village Hall

Fri 15th – 10-11.30am Messy Easter at Bridge and Patrixbourne School

Tues 19th—7pm Friends of Nackington Event at St Mary's Nackington

Thurs 21st – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 22nd – 8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

18.30 Bekesbourne Friends Organ Recital

Mon 25th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Weds 27th —7pm Bridge Group Parish APCM, Bridge School

Thurs 28th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 29th – 8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Nailbourne Scout Group news

The focus for our Cubs and Scouts this month has been on preparing for our forthcoming Easter camp, which everyone is looking forward to. They have also been learning and practising knife skills, making utensils, tent pegs and more – sure to come in very handy at our camp!

After our visit from Georgina from Porchlight, Kent's largest charity for homeless and vulnerable people, Beavers took part in a 10km relay run to raise money. They have so far raised almost £700 for Porchlight – an amazing achievement! If you would like to donate in recognition of their efforts, please visit: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/nailbournebeavers?fbclid=IwAR1S0AJjfNy7HVEl21HiHkIPbWDBfy9HIfpRIyaBnezWQti7Zj8LErzoXQg

Of course, all our sections have also been busy with our usual games and challenges – plus continuing to practise and prepare for our upcoming 'Nailbourne's Got Talent' show!

We always welcome volunteers, but we are particularly looking for new Cub leaders to join the team. If you might be interested (or know someone who might), please contact us on the email address below. No experience necessary and training will be given – along with a free necker! We are also hoping to get an Explorers group set up in the near future – again, we would be very grateful for any volunteers who might be willing to help with this. Please get in touch! Finally, if you fancy helping but don't want to become a leader, we are always grateful for help 'behind the scenes' or on our Executive Committee. If you can help in any way, please contact us.

Nailbourne Scout Group welcomes both boys AND girls and meets during term time as follows:

Beavers (6–8 years) – Wednesdays, 5.30–6.30pm, Barham Village Hall

Cubs (8–10 years) – Wednesdays, 6.30–7.30pm, Barham Village Hall

Scouts (10–14 years) – Fridays, 6.30–8.00pm, Denton Village Hall

For more information on joining or volunteering, please email Nick Gore at skipnailbourne@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/Nailbourne-Scout-Group-public-108853207216429).

National Vegetable Society – Kent Association

At the Society's meeting on Wednesday 13 April, 7.30 for 8.00 pm, Harry James will be giving a talk on 'No-Dig Market Gardening – Principles, Techniques and Getting Started'. If you want to find out more about this modern and popular method of cultivation, do come along on the 13th. Everyone is welcome. There is always a raffle and a produce/plant stall to raise money for the Society.

Palm Sunday in the Bridge Group Parish Sunday 10th April

9.30am Meet at Bridge School to process to Bridge Church

(led by a real donkey!)

10am Palm Sunday Service with Communion at Bridge Church.

All Welcome

Come to Bridge school to meet our lovely donkey and then walk with us to Church. If you would prefer not to join the walk simply go to church as normal for the 10am service and we will see you there!

Little Lambs

Toddler Group

Every Thursday

9am-11am (during term time) at Bridge sports pavilion.

Suggested donation £1.50 per child.

For more information call Estella on 01227 206272

Community Tea Party

Sunday 3rd April 2.30 - 4.30

Bridge Village Hall

An opportunity to discuss how our community can get involved with supporting Ukrainian people here.

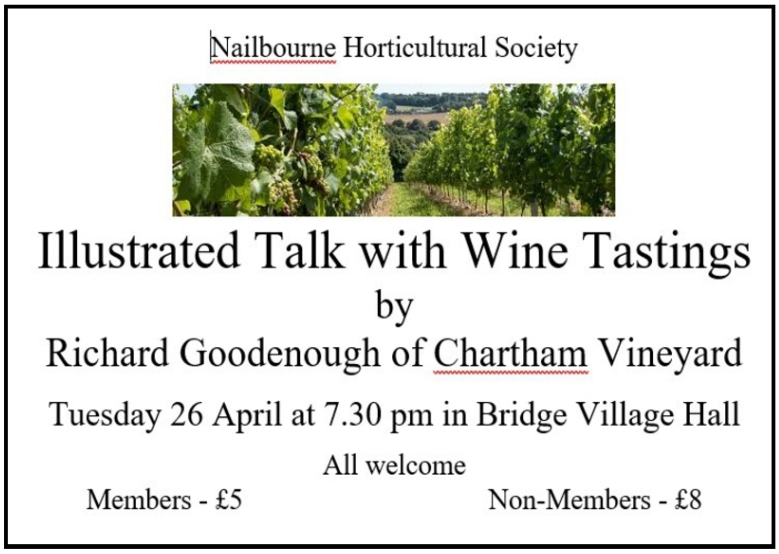
Tea, cakes and sunflower planting to raise funds for the people of Ukraine.

Donations of cakes gratefully received.

Email estellalast@gmail.com for more information

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

The Society have invited Richard Goodenough of Chartham Vineyard to give a talk on Tuesday 26 April at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall. Richard will be giving an illustrated talk about the production of wines at his vineyard with the opportunity, too, for us to taste some of the wines he produces there. Everyone is welcome. There will be a charge of £5 for members and £8 for non-members.



Bridge & District History Society

The next meeting will be on Thursday April 21st at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. James Dickinson's talk "The In-laws" is the story of Joan the Fair Maid of Kent and her brother-in-law, John of Gaunt, who was called the most hated man in England. No membership fee. £4.00 at the door to include refreshments.

THE UMBRELLA CENTRE

If you are in Canterbury why not have a coffee(or a snack or a meal) at the Umbrella Centre in St Peter's Place? It is easily reachable from the Westgate Towers through the Westgate Gardens. The Social Kitchen there is run by two professional chefs,Robert and Kim, and they will make you very welcome.

The Centre was set up almost forty years ago, as a haven for people who find life difficult. The then Government had published a policy called 'Care in the Community' , which said that the overwhelming majority of people suffering from mental health problems should be able to live a life in the community , rather than in institutions. The Umbrella has developed from that beginning into a place where everyone can find a welcome , and seek help if they need it. Managed by Anna, it does a phenomenal job in boosting the self-confidence of people who have felt ignored, and marginalised, and giving them a warm, safe place to have a meal, engage in activities , and socialise.

The Umbrella though also seeks to break down the barrier which still exists between those with mental problems,such as severe anxiety or depression and the rest of us. By just coming into the Centre, and enjoying a drink or a meal in the bright, comfortable surroundings of the Social Kitchen , you help to break that barrier. Also , even buying a coffee(it sells one of the best lattes in Canterbury…) helps to keep the Centre going. As with all voluntary organisations it has to work for every penny it spends , and the income from the Social Kitchen is invaluable. You might like to think too about hiring the spacious room upstairs for meetings or social events,at very reasonable rates.

See you there?

Martin Vye

In your Garden with Marie Gold

To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow - Audrey Hepburn

Spring is an ideal time to start a garden or if you already have one established, it is not too late to start planning and sowing and timing is the key. Watch the weather forecast to avoid a late frost, but why not sow some seeds in a seed tray or pot using seed compost and if very new to gardening start with Annual seeds, for example marigolds, alyssum, love in a mist, cornflowers and try lettuce leaves, particularly the cut and come again varieties. If the weather does warm up, then these can be direct sown into the soil but otherwise keep them on the windowsill in pots or a tray until germination has started. Follow the instructions on the seed packets and start using peat free compost, the seed variety for these tiny seeds. Pricking out is then the next step once a set of real leaves has developed.

For children, use compost filled eggshells popped into an egg cup to keep them upright and sow cress – you never know you might encourage them to eat more greens.

A recommendation for a garden visit, and my personal garden of the month under the National Gardens Scheme (NGS), is Old Cottage and Swallowfields Nursery in Elmsted TN25 5JT – this can be found off Stone Street towards Hastingleigh and the Nursery is a gem. Direction signage will be available. The Auricula Theatres will be on display this month and there are Cream Teas as well. Open Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th April between 11 am and 4.00 pm. Off street parking.

My plant of the month: Clematis Frances Rivis – an alpina variety which flowers in April and May and can be planted in any aspect. Height 6-8' – No pruning necessary as Group 1 – just the odd tidy.

Happy Gardening or Garden visiting

Bridge Village – Thursday Gardeners

COME AND JOIN US!

We are a group of volunteers who maintain and nurture various flower beds around the village

We meet on the **third Thursday of the month**

Between **9.30am and Coffee Time**

as we try to keep Bridge looking beautiful!

Do come and join us – just bring your gardening gloves and tools.

Meet at

The Recreation Ground Pavilion

On

Thursday 21st April

Sue Walton Pam Dobson

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FAIRTRADE

Many thanks to everyone who supported our stall after the Fairtrade-themed service at Bridge on 27th February. Most of the items were sold and £126.85 has been paid to Traidcraft. This included some welcome donations.

Rosy Atkinson is going to start taking orders for Traidcraft goods. This will include tea, coffee, chocolate, biscuits and any other items you request. A Traidcraft catalogue and order sheet can be found at the back of Bridge church next to the recycling boxes. You can also look online at www.traidcraftshop.co.uk or contact Rosy direct at rosy.atkinson @btinternet.com

We are also considering having a Fairtrade sales table monthly after service at Bridge Church and also at the School Summer Fete.

All your purchases will help to put fairer pay and more power in the hands of farmers in poor countries across the world, so that they can build a fairer future for their communities, from investing in climate friendly farming techniques and clean water for their community, to nurturing women leaders and making sure children get an education. When you choose Fairtrade, you're choosing the world we all want to see.

Bekesbourne – A Little Village with a Big History

Many thanks to everyone who has bought a copy of this reprinted book by David Gilmour and David Millyard, which has enabled us to donate the proceeds of £575 (plus Gift Aid) to the Friends of Bekesbourne Church and to general church funds.

There are only about 8 books left, so do pass on the details to anyone you think might be interested, before they all go.

Contact Steve Thomas on 01227 832573 (Bekesbourne) or Jane Millyard on 01227 830256 (Bridge)

Bridge with Patrixbourne Womens Institute

We are back in the Village Hall once again, having had our February meeting cancelled because of the storm. However, we were lucky enough to have Jeff Wagner's talk on Chateaux and Gardens of the Loire at our March meeting, Members were shown a colourful presentation of visits to three chateaux - Villandry, where many of the gardens grew much fruit and a variety of vegetables, as well as having immaculately laid-out flowerbeds.. This was followed by a visit to Chenanceaux castle, where we had a tour not only of the gardens, but also of the chateau itself and then a tour of Chaumant castle and gardens. The colourful garden of Giverny showed us the beautiful lily pond and famous bridge, followed by the magnificent fountains and statues in the gardens of Versailles. The talk was well received and members felt encouraged to visit the many chateaux and gardens in France for themselves.

Our April meeting reverts to our regular summer evening schedule, which is on **Tuesday, 19th April at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall.** The talk on 'Dog Trust' will be given by Laura Murphy. Guests are always cordially invited. Please let the Secretary, Jill Burden, (tel. 01227 830606) know, and you will receive a friendly welcome.

Our May meeting will be a talk on Dover Castle.

Joan Hill, March 2022

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Friday, 22nd April at 18.30hrs

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Please call Graham or Christine to book

01227 830271 or 01227 830828

'Easter Sunday'

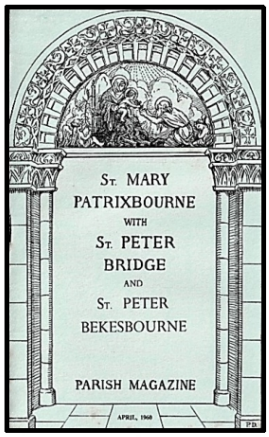
Songs of Praise

Sunday 17th April

10am St Peter's Bekesbourne

A service of music and song to celebrate Easter followed by an Easter Egg Hunt.

Mask wearing advised. All welcome.



Patrixbourne, Bridge & Bekesbourne Parish Magazine - April 1960

This series of articles continues with details extracted from the Bridge & District History Society's Archive for April 1960. For further information please visit its website info@bridgehistory.org.uk. All three churches had a full quota of services leading up to Easter Sunday on 17th April, when they each had three services. A Barn Dance was held in the Bridge Village Hall on Easter Monday which could lead to a Folk Dance Group being formed.

Why Easter Eggs - was the question raised by the Vicar in his monthly letter and he answered *"because the egg is universally associated with 'New Life' and that is what Easter means to us. The Resurrection of Our Lord, after his death upon the cross, is God's assurance to everyone that 'Death' is not the end of everything, but 'Birth' out of this world into a higher form of life. So we rejoice on Easter Day and acclaim Jesus as Lord of 'Life' and conqueror of 'Death'. All over the world, Easter Day brings the duty of 'Love' for Christians to worship God in Church."* God bless you, and a very Happy Easter from your friend and vicar, Robert Penny. **AB**

Bridge Fish Scheme

Our next Coffee morning is on the 14th April when it will nearly be Easter and spring will be truly with us. The floral decorations on our coffee tables at the FiSH coffee mornings have moved from evergreens, dried grasses and coloured stems to beautiful spring blooms. We look forward to seeing anyone who fancies a coffee and a chat from 1015 on that day. We ask for a donation of 50p or whatever you can give . Everyone is welcome.

If you would like to join us for coffee but need transport please call our number and we'll try to organise transport for you with one of our volunteer drivers. Our number for transport to coffee mornings, and for transport to any medical appointments you may have is 07935 966080. If possible we need to have as much notice as you can give, but at least 5 days, to match your needs up with a driver. We ask for a small donation for the drivers petrol for these trips. For example if you need to go to Bridge Surgery we ask for a donation of £1.50, to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital it would be £5.00 and to the William Harvey or QEQM it would be £15.00. Please call us if you have any queries, we're here to help if we can.

We very much look forward to hearing from you or seeing you at a Coffee Morning soon.

Pam Dobson, On Behalf of Bridge Fish Scheme,

FISH– friendship, independence, support and help in Bridge

Local host families are needed to help international students who need a welcoming place to stay while studying

Every year, thousands of overseas students are educated at independent schools across the UK. During half term holidays and at weekends, students usually stay with a host family who provide a home away from home. This year has been especially tough for international students, and with travel restrictions in place, many children have not seen their own families for months.

Pippa's Guardians is a local company who have been providing high quality Guardianship services to international students for over 20 years and understand the value of a good home and how a host family can positively impact on a student's wellbeing. "Being part of a family and experiencing day-to-day family life enhances students' study and plays a part in improving their English language. We are looking for families who are welcoming and interested in other cultures. Having children of similar ages helps but isn't the most important thing as we have many successful host families who have no children, younger children or indeed older children who have left home." Becoming a host family is a wonderful experience; providing the opportunity to really make a difference to a student whilst they are studying here in the UK, in many cases a very long way from home and Pippa's Guardians offer a generous remuneration. For children of host families it can be really exciting and interesting getting to know children from other countries and cultures. For families whose children have grown up and left home, it is a chance to enjoy the fun and companionship of having younger people in the home once again. Anne Weir has recently hosted a student from Singapore. "She was a delight to host, polite, helpful and a pleasure to have around. She worked hard on her school work and was very focused on her revision and the practical work she did for her food technology course.She even cooked us a three-course meal as part of her school work which was a great success."

Hosting an international student is a marvellous and interesting way to learn about the cultures, traditions and daily life of young people and their families from countries very different to our own. Many host families form lifelong friendships with our students and their families and stay in touch even after they have left school for university.

Host families are needed for students joining local schools this September. If you are interested in hosting a student, please get in touch:**hostfamilies@pippasguardians.co.uk** pippasguardians.co.uk

Easter Lilies at St Peter's Bridge

Plans for decorating St. Peter's Bridge at Easter are under way. Anyone wishing to remember a loved one by buying a Easter lily, please contact a churchwarden or Viv Brasier. Hopefully the cost will be 3 pounds each. Sadly several people have left the flower rota, so anybody interested in joining the happy band of flower arrangers, please come and join us at 9.30 on Saturday 16th April in church. Thank you. Viv Brasier.

Kate's Puddings – What's Cooking?

This is an adaptation of a recipe I found on line, which had the bold suggestion that you could tell the mixture had reached the correct consistency if you could turn it upside down and nothing came out of the bowl. And continued by saying: if you were wrong, you would have to start again and wash the floor. No floors were harmed in the making of this roulade! I didn't have any flaked almonds, so used chopped almonds instead.

Coffee, Baileys and Almond Roulade

4 egg whites (not too fresh)	To serve:
8oz/225g caster sugar	2 tbsp coffee extract, or Baileys (or both!)
1 tsp coffee extract	½ pint/280ml double cream, softly whipped
2oz/50g flaked almonds	Dark chocolate (if you wish)

Preheat the oven to 180 deg C and line a Swiss roll sized tin (12" x 14".30 x 35cm approx) with parchment, cutting diagonally into the corners so the finished roulade has a better shape.

Whisk the egg whites until stiff, then slowly add the sugar, a teaspoonful at a time. Tip the mixture into the prepared tin and smooth it out evenly using a flat bladed knife dipped in hot water. Sprinkle on the flaked almonds as evenly as possible. Bake for about 12 minutes or so – check, as it will brown quickly. The meringue should be risen and pale golden. Allow to cool in the tin.

Turn out onto non-stick paper, carefully peeling off the parchment. Whip the cream with Baileys and coffee, so it is semi-stiff – you don't want it pouring out, but you don't also want it to be too solid.

Spread the roulade with the whipped cream, then roll up from the long side using the paper to help achieve the classic roll shape. Drizzle with melted dark chocolate for an extra hit of deliciousness.

Littlebourne and District Royal British Legion

The branch held its March meeting which was attended by 10 members and friends. A number of members are unwell at present and we wish them a speedy recovery. Our total Poppy Appeal amount raised for the current year (2021/2022) stands at £2,845.39 with more donations still to come in from other events to be held. We are constantly seeking new branch members and anyone interested can call the vice chairman on 01227 472023 or come along to our next monthly meeting (12 April). Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 8pm in the Recreation Club, Littlebourne (back of the Village Hall).

You do not have to be ex-service, just someone who wishes to support the Legion.

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To offer items for publication in this magazine, including event information, please contact Mrs Megan Shirley bridgeoffice23@gmail.com by the 15th day of the preceding month, ensuring that any emails and attachments are clearly titled to identify their content. Files should be submitted in .doc .pub or .jpg format. Posters should be A5 in size and both portrait and landscape versions provided.

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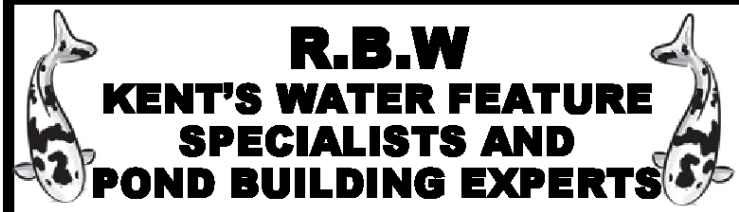

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June2022

Dear Friends

There's a true spirit of hope and optimism in the air as I write my letter for the June magazines this week. Maybe you're not a Eurovision Fan but the Bucks Fizz win in 1981 when I was little, sparked a lifelong attachment for me so it was a joy this week-end, to see not only the UK entry do so well after so many years of disappointment but also to see the Eurovision community stand with Ukraine. A worthy win and a real testament to how music can bring people together. Similarly, the Jubilee cele-bration event televised last night saw the nation brought together for a performance with music, horses and drama in honour of our Queen's Jubilee.

In our own communities I am very much looking forward to joining in with the Jubilee festivities taking place in all our villages. How much we have missed gathering to-gether for big celebrations over the last couple of years and what a blessing that we can do this again now. Throughout the magazine you will find details of Jubilee events and Church Services taking place. Our churches will all be decorated and looking lovely in honour of the Jubilee Celebrations, and they will be open for visitors throughout the Jubilee weekend.

How wonderful to have the opportunity to say thank you and to give thanks for the 70 years of service that our Queen has given since she addressed the nation on her 21st Birthday in 1947 with the words "I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service".

Our Queen has always recognised her calling, her vocation to serve as our monarch, has always acknowledged the importance of and her dependence upon the support of other people, and her faith in God has been steadfast as she has lived out this unique and special calling, long past the age at which most of us would hope to have been able to retire!

Gratitude and Service are core values in the Christian faith, demonstrated through the love of Jesus and throughout the Gospels. We are called, at all times and in all places, to give thanks to the Lord and to serve one another and so our thanks go out to all those who will be serving their communities over this Jubilee weekend, ena-bling us to come together for this special historic moment of thanksgiving and cele-bration.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the reign of your servant Elizabeth our Queen, and for the example of loving and faithful service which she has shown among us. Help us to follow her example of dedication and to commit our lives to you and to one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Yours in Christ

Rev. Estella Last, Vicar, The Bridge Group Parish

Service details and readings for June 2022

Date	Known as	Readings	Church Service
5th June	Pente-cost / Whit Sunday / Jubilee weekend	Acts 2.1-21; Psalm 104.24-34,35b; Ro-mans 8.14-17; **John 14.8-17,(25-27)**	**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne** **11am Jubilee Service at Bridge Church**
12th June	Trinity Sunday	Proverbs 8.1-4,22-31; Ro-mans 5.1-5; **John 16.12-15**	**10 am Communion at St Pe-ter's Bridge**
Sat 18th June			**4-6pm Messy Church at Bridge School (with hot meal)**
19th June	1st Sunday after Trinity	Isaiah 65.1-9; Galatians 3.23-29; **Luke 8.26-39**	**9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary's Nackington** **10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne**
26th June	2nd Sunday after Trinity	1 Kings 19.15-16,19-21; Gala-tians 5.1,13-25; **Luke 9.51-62**	**10am Parish Communion St Peter's Bridge** **4pm Family Service St Peter's Bridge**
3rd July	3rd Sunday after Trinity	Isaiah 66.10-14; Psalm 66.1-9; Gala-tians 6.(1-6),7-16; **Luke 10.1-11,16-20**	**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne** **6pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Lower Hardres**

Diary Dates – June

Fri 3rd- 2.30pm W.I Jubilee Tea Party, Bridge Pavilion

Sat 4th – 12-5pm Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Jubilee Celebration, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Sun 5th – 1pm-4pm Bridge Village Jubilee Celebration, Bridge Recreation Ground

Mon 6th- 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Wed 8th – 10 am village coffee morning, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 9th 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 10th – 8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Sat 11th - Pilgrims Way Challenge

Mon 13th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Thurs 16th 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

10.15-11.30 Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Bridge Village Hall

Fri 17th –8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Sat 18th – 10am Eco church meeting at St Peter's Bridge

9.00am Bridge Playgroup Boot Fair, Bridge Recreation ground

– pm-6pm Messy Church at Bridge and Patrixbourne School

Mon 20th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 23rd – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 24th – 8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Mon 27th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Thurs 30th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

National Vegetable Society – Kent Association

On Wednesday 8 June, 7.30 for 8.00 pm in Bridge Village Hall, the guest speaker for this month is Dr Clive Nuttman, a biologist and freelance environmental educator, with experience in research work worldwide and teaching at all levels. His talk this evening is entitled 'Plants Have Feelings Too!'

All are welcome. Refreshments will be available as well as a raffle and produce/plant stall to raise money for the Society

cause of the Legion.

Bridge with Patrixbourne Womens Institute

In May we had an interesting talk on Dover Castle by Les Howell, when its fascinating history was revealed.

As it was the occasion of our 103rd birthday, we celebrated with a glass of fizz and birthday cake, which was enjoyed by all members.

On **Friday, 3rd June** the W.I. are holding **a Jubilee Tea Party from 2-4.30pm in the Pavilion**, as well as outside, if the weather is fine. **This is an open invitation to everyone in the village to join us**. As it is a fund-raising event, there will be a charge of £3 for a cup of tea or coffee and a slice of delicious cake. There will also be a Cake stall, a Book stall and a Raffle.

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 21st June** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, when Martin Newcombe will be giving a talk on the **Natural History of Kent.** Anyone interested in joining us will be welcome.

Joan Hill

May 2022

Celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with the Bridge Group Parish

THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

All of our churches will be decorated for the Jubilee and open for visitors from the 2nd-5th June.

With special Jubilee Services on Sunday 5th at

8am St Mary's Nackington

10am Songs of Praise at St Peter's Bekesbourne

11am Community Celebration Service at St Peter's Bridge

All are welcome.

Nackington | Lower Hardres | Bridge | Patrixbourne | Bekesbourne
The Bridge Group Parish

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The League of Friends of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital

The AGM, Coffee Morning and Table Fair was held on Saturday 30 April 2022 at Bridge Village Hall, £107 was raised. We also joined in a Garage Safari sale, the proceeds of which was £39 including a donation of £20. Thanks to all who attended the AGM, our Nailbourne Group Friends and those who have given donations or supported the group in other ways. Our income in the year ended 31 December 2021 was £1766, leaving a balance of £19008 in hand. Our outstanding commitments to the hospital for gifts total £13579. We welcome donations of used stamps and coins, over £187 was raised last year.

We are pleased to welcome Sue Briant to our committee. Should anyone be interested in joining the group, or who would like to see how funds raised are allocated, would be welcome to join one of our committee members at a League of Friends Central Meeting held at the hospital. Please contact Maggie Fairweather on 01227 830320.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday14 June at 8pm in the Recreation Club, Littlebourne. New members and visitors are always welcome and, to join the Legion, you don't have to be ex-service - just someone who is interested in supporting the worthwhile

Nailbourne Scout Group news

As always, we've had a busy couple of months, with activities including wide games, making and playing musical instruments, working for the Book Reader Badge and a visit to Clipgate Farm. In April, our Cubs and Scouts had an Easter sleepover at Bishopsbourne. They took part in lots of activities - hiking, pioneering, fire-making, ground oven cooking, archery, bat and trap, team challenges, performances, movies, wide games, friendship and fun - and great food! Well done to all the young people, many of whom were staying away from family for the first time. The Cubs and Scouts looked after each other in such kind ways, were very polite and thoughtful and got stuck into everything.

Later in April, all our units took part in the St George's Day parade through the town, followed by a service in Canterbury Cathedral. Beavers, Cubs and Scouts all looked very smart and did Nailbourne proud!

'I carried the flag in the cathedral on St George's day. I felt very proud and really enjoyed it. I liked looking smart and saw lots of other Beavers, Cubs and Scouts!' (Oliver, Beaver)

Some of our Cubs and Scouts are currently gearing up for a Trek Cart Obstacle run to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This will be based on the Royal Tournament field gun competition and will be performed at events over the summer, particularly over the Jubilee weekend – look out for us!

We always welcome volunteers, but we are particularly looking for new Cub leaders to join the team. If you might be interested (or know someone who might), please contact us on the email address below. No experience necessary and training will be given – along with a free necker! We are also hoping to get an Explorers group set up in the near future – again, we would be very grateful for any volunteers who might be willing to help with this. Please get in touch! Finally, if you fancy helping but don't want to become a leader, we are always grateful for help 'behind the scenes' or on our Executive Committee. If you can help in any way, please contact us.

Nailbourne Scout Group welcomes both boys AND girls and meets during term time as follows:

Beavers (6–8 years) – Wednesdays, 5.30–6.30pm, Barham Village Hall

Cubs (8–10 years) – Wednesdays, 6.30–7.30pm, Barham Village Hall

Scouts (10–14 years) – Fridays, 6.30–8.00pm, Denton Village Hall

For more information on joining or volunteering, please email Nick Gore at skipnailbourne@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/Nailbourne-Scout-Group-public-108853207216429).

Bekesbourne 100 Club Winners

April
£50 Mark Mount
£25 Sarah Wetherell
£15 Honor Pollard

May
£50 Mike Barker
£25 Andrea Nicholson
£15 Martin Fry

The Friends of St Peter's Church, Bridge

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Dear all,
You are invited to a
Platinum Jubilee Party
On Sat 4th June '22 Time 12:00- 5:00pm
At Bekesbourne recreation ground
(Details on competition entries and tombola to follow soon.)
E R
Carnival stalls
Cake competition
TOMBOLA
Tombola
Face Painting
...And more family fun!

Messy Church
Satrurday 18th June
4-6pm
Bridge and Patrixbourne School Hall
Crafts, worship, stories and a hot dinner!
All welcome.

Jubilee Picnic in the Park

Sunday 5th June 1pm – 4pm
Bridge Recreation Ground

A family friendly day with lots of games & activities including a croquet competition and a bouncy castle.

Bring your own picnic or treat yourself to a homemade picnic from Mahoney's, contact them directly to place an order.

Please register your interest at:
bridgevillage.org.uk/picnic-in-the-park-2022/
Or use the QR code below

Page 1 / 1

The Bridge Group Parish

Family Service

with

Rev Estella, Rev Miriam and Mr Luck!

Sunday 26th June

4pm at St Peter's Bridge

A family friendly service for all ages.

For more information contact estellalast@gmail.com

Socially distanced seating available

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The Bridge Group Parish

In your Garden with Marie Gold

Of all the flowers, me thinks a rose is best.

William Shakespeare

It must be the rose that is the star plant of June and all the companion planting that goes with it. The rose comes in many forms, climbing, standard, shrub, Old English, Hybrid Tea, patio and rambling and in a great variety of colours and many with scent. Now is the time to look at roses in various gardens and good Garden Centres, especially Rose orientated ones, to find one that you might like to have. If you are new to roses then check out the RHS website for rose planting, pruning and subsequent care. Bare rooted roses are the best value, but these will need to be planted in the Autumn.

Roses are vociferous feeders needing well rotten manure, proprietary rose feed, banana skins for potassium (they do go black) which are all useful and necessary. Companion planting also helps with prevention of diseases and insects. Try alliums, lavender, or geraniums but not too many otherwise they will compete for nutrients.

Garden to visit - this is a difficult choice for June, but I see that Elham Gardens are open 11th and 12th June between 12-4.30. Combined admission £7.50 and teas in the Old Vicarage Gardens.

Happy Gardening and Enjoy this ebullient time of year

Nailbourne Horticultural Society Summer Show

Advance notice from our Show Secretary, Kathy Walder, about our fast-approaching Summer Show to be held this year on Saturday 23 July in Bridge Village Hall.

Firstly, the closing date for entries for the garden classes is coming up on Wednesday 8 June. The four classes for the gardens, which will be judged at the beginning of July, are:

A Wildlife Garden or Area, which is OPEN TO ALL, including non-members
Prettiest Small Garden
Best Kept Vegetable Garden (garden and/or allotment)
Most Picturesque Garden.

The easiest way to enter is either by sending an email to kath@askwalder.com or telephoning 830057. You will see that we have introduced a new OPEN class this year, the Wildlife Garden, with the winner receiving, in this case, a voucher. Please remember that last year's winners of the garden classes cannot enter their garden in that same category this year. So, do not be shy, seriously think about entering - there are handsome trophies to be won.
A reminder, too, about the photo class entries. These two classes, entitled "Transport" and "Tranquillity", are both OPEN TO ALL and photos should be emailed to Kathy by 9 July. They will then be sent to the judge and the winning entries printed off and displayed at the Show.

There are a few other OPEN CLASSES, again with voucher prizes, namely:
Any Other Vegetable - not included in any other Class (use common sense on numbers), ie NOT spring onions, onions, beetroot, potatoes, carrots, French or runner beans, peas, courgettes, shallots, lettuce, tomatoes or cucumber. I promise you that that does leave some!
A Vegetable or Fruit Oddity
A Single **ROSE** judged for scent alone – people's vote
And finally, for the flower arrangers,
An exhibit entitled **"Sea Spray"**, space allowed 45 x 45cm/18" x 18**"**, height unrestricted (accessories allowed)**.**

If anyone requires more information or would like a full Show Schedule, please contact Kathy as above. We are looking forward to holding a real Summer Show after two years of virtual ones!

Nailbourne Horticultural Society Summer Outing

Our Summer evening visit this year is to the gardens of Kenfield Hall, Petham on Tuesday, 7 June at 6 pm. Kenfield Hall has been the home of the Swire family for generations and a guided tour of the gardens is offered by Camilla Swire and Lee, the Head Gardener.

There is a charge of £10 per person which will be donated to the National Gardens Scheme Charity. If you are interested in joining the outing, please meet at 5.30 pm at Green Court, Bridge, where lifts can be organised to those who need them. Please note that there will be no refreshments available.

Bridge FiSH Scheme

The FiSH coffee morning for June will be on June 9th.This month our meeting will be Platinum Jubilee themed with some vintage crockery and maybe some flags and bunting too. Usual time 1015 to 1130, or thereabouts.

This month we also have Tom visiting from HiKent, the charity that supports people with a hearing loss. Tom will be on hand to check your hearing aids, replace batteries, offer advice etc. Even if you don't want to come for coffee you are welcome to pop in and see Tom for any assistance you might need. It's a free clinic provided by HiKent for the NHS.

We look forward to seeing you.

If you need transport to get to the Coffee morning or for any hospital/medical appointments please call us on 07935 966080.

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The Village Gardeners

The village gardening group continues to meet on the third Thursday of the month to maintain and plant up areas of the village for everyone's enjoyment. In between times a smaller group of us meet weekly to build on the work of the monthly group.
In recent years we have been working at Green Court to re-wild what was essentially a car park a few years ago. Initially this area was developed as a large sunny bed on the south facing side which is full of Lavender, Phlomis, Gaura, Euphorbia and grasses all underplanted with Tulips and Alliums. Over the last year or so we have been extending the planting area into the bark/woodchip area too. The plan is to place a few paths through here, plus maybe some seating too, so that you can both pass through, and linger. The planting theme in this area is to be bee and insect friendly so everything you see there is with pollinators in mind. Last autumn we planted English bluebells, Camassias, native Tulips and there is Lavender, Rosemary, wild Carrot and so on. As we plant we pop in labels so that you can see what everything is. In May this year we added three beehive shaped composers there too so that we can utilise the green waste we produce. If you haven't seen what we're doing please walk by, or through, one day.

Look out also for a new area at the corner of the High Street and Conyngham Lane, only planted up in 2021 but developing well.

We couldn't do these projects without the financial support of Bridge Parish Council. Many thanks to them.

Keep track of our gardening on Facebook or on Instagram at the 'Village Gardeners' or contact Sue at sr.arw52@gmail. or Pam at pamelafdobson@gmail.com for more information.

Littlebourne & District Royal British Legion

On 26 April the branch held a very enjoyable qui night against Staple Branch at which Littlebourne won by just 1 point over Staple. We hope that we will be holding another quiz before long so that Staple can thrash us next time!

We held our monthly on Tuesday 9 May and 10 members were present. We are, now that lockdown is easing, trying to think about ways to start fund raising again for the Poppy Appeal.

Bridge Village Playgroup

The Playgroup children have been busy this Spring!

We have been enjoying the good weather and making use of the outside space, which has been updated with stepping stones, a 'florist shop' and washing line. A mud kitchen is also waiting to be installed.

Th children have also been on a number of local visits. First we planted potatoes in the allotment of a local resident, who helps us each year to teach the children about growing their own vegetables. Then, at Easter time, Playgroup visited the church to learn about the Easter story. We are always very grateful to the local community for their continued support of our setting.

We have been fortunate enough to secure grants to pay for some more unusual activities this term too. The Monday group has loved attending for outdoor activities with Wild Play Nature's Way, with the support of Regent Coaches who have helped us with transport. Also, the Wednesday group have been enjoying football training sessions with Little Kickers, improving their coordination skills and the chance for a good run around!

And now a date for your diaries.... **Saturday 18th June 2022 is our annual Boot Fair** at the Bridge Recreation Ground. If you would like to run a stall, just turn up on the day at 8am. Pitches are £10. The event will open 9am for buyers to find a bargain, and to enjoy the refreshments that will be on offer. If last year is anything to go by, it will be a great day!

Looking forward, we are almost at capacity but do contact the Manager, Sarah, if you are interested in a place for your child in September 2022 as we have a few spaces available. We are always happy to arrange a visit, subject to Covid restrictions.

Bridge Village Playgroup takes children aged from 2 to 4. We are based in the Bridge Village Hall and operate in term-time as follows:

Monday to Wednesday: 9am to 3.30pm

Thursday and Friday: 9am to 12 noon

We accept Government Early Years Funding from age 2 including 30 hours' funding.

For more information, please contact the Manager, Sarah Pinnington, on 07790 096325 or email bridgeplaygroup@hotmail.com. Keep up to date with us at www.facebook.com/bridgevillageplaygroup and check out our new website at https://sites.google.com/view/bridgepreschool/home.

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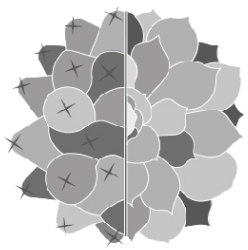

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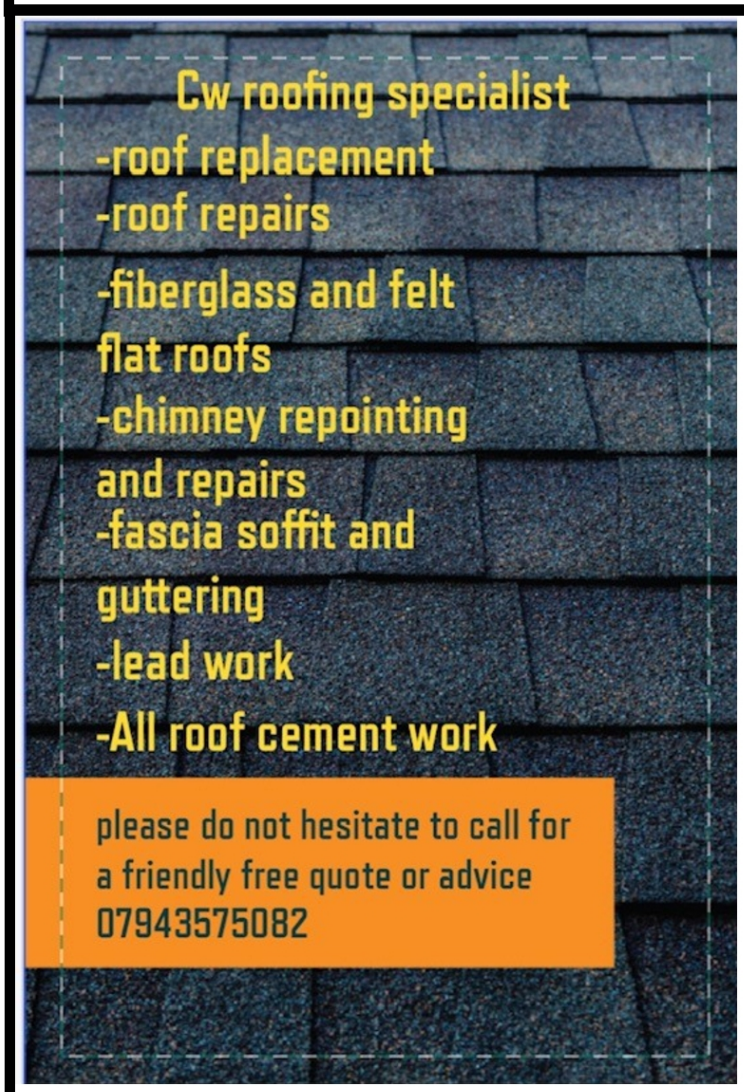

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To offer items for publication in this magazine, including event information, please contact Mrs Megan Shirley bridgeoffice23@gmail.com by the 15th day of the preceding month, ensuring that any emails and attachments are clearly titled to identify their content. Files should be submitted in .doc .pub or .jpg format. Posters should be A5 in size and both portrait and landscape versions provided.

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On the Nail

The Bridge Group Parish
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A magazine for the villages along the Nailbourne

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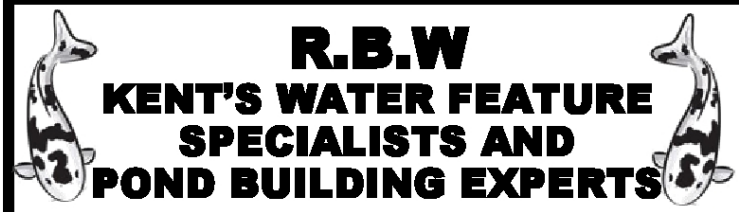

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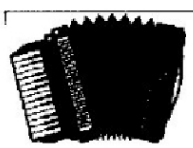

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July 2022

Dear Friends

What a wonderful Jubilee weekend? It was so good to be able to get together as whole communities to celebrate such an historic occasion! I really want to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who put in time and energy to helping our communities to celebrate – concerts, street parties, jubilee picnics, fun days and flower arrangements don't happen by magic and so a sincere thank you to everyone who helped make this happen in our villages!

Last Sunday we launched something called 'The Parish Giving Scheme' in our Parish. As you know we have been working hard to streamline and modernise the way in which we manage and run the administrative and financial side of our churches and this work is ongoing. The Parish Giving Scheme, is a national not-for-profit scheme which has been set up as a way of enabling churches to receive donations via Direct Debit in the same way that other charitable organisations do, regulated and covered by the same Direct Debit Guarantee.

This means that anyone wishing to give to any of our 5 churches can simply set up a Direct Debit and we will receive 100% of your donation plus any gift aid (if you are eligible for us to claim it) at no cost to us (or you!) and with no involvement from our volunteers. At present this process is much more complicated and time consuming. The money received in this way is used to pay for the day to day running costs of our churches, including ministry costs, things like heating, lighting and general wear and tear. Our Friends organisations continue to fundraise for expenditure related directly to the buildings themselves and special projects and we continue to raise funds for other charitable causes through campaigns and events.

Money is tight just now I know and the cost of living is going up which means there is less spare money around but the costs of running and maintain churches go up too, the same as for everyone else.

If you already give regularly to the church in some way (or even if you don't), if you would like to see us to continue to be able to offer the service that we do in all of our villages and more importantly if you would like to see our work grow (!) please do consider signing up and giving a regular monthly amount. Even if you can only afford a little, as the saying goes 'Every little helps'!

Those of us who have faith believe that we serve a generous God who has given us extravagant blessing in Christ and in life in general. As we respond to God, both by the giving of time and money, our prayer is that God might grow our church in a way that would honour God and continue to serve our communities faithfully as we have for so many hundreds of years.

Lastly, if you are experiencing hardship of any kind please get in touch as there are many ways in which we can help.

Yours in Christ,

Estella Last

Rev. Estella Last, Vicar, The Bridge Group Parish

Diary Dates for July

Fri 1st - 8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Sat 2nd – Bridge Village Fete, 12-4pm Bridge School Field

Mon 4- 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 7th 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 8th – 8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Sat 9th – 4pm-6pm Messy Church at Bridge and Patrixbourne School

Mon 11th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Wed 13th – 10 am village coffee morning, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 14th 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

10.15-11.30 Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Bridge Village Hall

Fri 15th –8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Mon 18th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 21st – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 22nd – 8.45am Parent's Prayer Group, Bridge Church

Mon 25th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Please note that this year we are planning on producing separate August and September Magazines

Service details and readings for July and August 2022

Date	Known as	Readings	Church Service
3rd July	3rd Sunday after Trinity	Isaiah 66.10-14; Psalm 66.1-9; Galatians 6.(1-6),7-16; **Luke 10.1-11,16-20**	**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne** **6pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Lower Hardres**
Saturday 9th July			**4-6pm Messy Church at Bridge School**
10th July	4th Sunday after Trinity	Deuteronomy 30.9-14; Colossians 1.1-14; **Luke 10.25-37**	**10 am Communion at St Peter's Bridge (Rev'd Miriam Presiding for the first time!)**
17th July	5th Sunday after Trinity	Genesis 18.1-10a; Psalm 15; Colossians 1.15-28; **Luke 10.38-42**	**9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary's Nackington** **10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne** **4pm All Age Family Service at St Peter's Bridge**
24th July	6th Sunday after Trinity	Genesis 18.20-32; Colossians 2.6-15,(16-19); **Luke 11.1-13**	**10am Parish Communion St Peter's Bridge**
31st July	7th Sunday after Trinity	Ecclesiastes 1.2,12-14; 2.18-23; Colossians 3.1-11 **Luke 12.13-21**	**10am Benefice Communion at St Mary's Nackington**
7th August	8th Sunday after Trinity	Genesis 15.1-6; Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16; **Luke 12.32-40**	**10am Songs of Praise Service with Communion at St Peter's Bekesbourne**
14th August	9th Sunday after Trinity / Blessed Virgin Mary	Isaiah 61:10-end Galatians 4: 4-7 **Luke 1: 46-55**	**10am Benefice Communion at St Mary's Lower Hardres - Patronal Festival**
21st August	10th Sunday after Trinity	Isaiah 58.9b-14; Hebrews 12.18-29; **Luke 13.10-17**	**10am Benefice Communion at St Marys Patrixbourne**
28th August	11th Sunday after Trinity	Proverbs 25.6-7; Hebrews 13.1-8,15-16; **Luke 14.1,7-14**	**10am Benefice Communion at St Peter's Bridge**

"Now summer is in flower and nature's hum is never silent rounder her sultry bloom"

John Clare

This month it must be for bees and the flowers they love and need. We need bees and they need our flowers. There are 200 varieties of bees, and some are dying out, but it is usually up to 20 varieties that can be found in the garden. If you have the space plant lavender, asters, zinnias, cosmos, erigeron karvanskius and open flowered hardy geraniums, but particularly flowers with open petals, not the fancy crinkled ones that bees cannot access. A dish of clean water will be welcome as they need to drink. I like to watch them disappear up a Foxglove flower. My best bee plant is Teucrium Lucidrys and if you can find one, you will not regret having it in a sunny spot.

When you are at home and in the garden take note of which bees are visiting your own space, which flowers they like and see how many varieties you and your family spot. This will go a long way to ensuring their survival on this planet is for years to come. The family will enjoy making a Bee & Bee (formerly known as a Bee Hotel). A small wooden box and cut down canes and hollow stems, are all you need. I soon found that pinecones are not suitable as they easily close when wet.

For a family garden visit: 16th and 17th July 1.30-5.30 – home-made teas - Stable House, Heppington, Street End CT4 7AN specifically for its 5-acre wildflower meadow with mown paths so you can meander through it and get up close to all the insects and butterflies – I went last year on a sunny day, and it was magical. Adm £4, children free and they will love it.

Happy start of summer

Royal British Legion

We had a good meeting on Tuesday 14th June when 12 members attended. We are looking forward to a return match in the autumn when we go to Staple for another Quiz Night. As usual, we are seeking new branch members (ex-service or not, it doesn't matter, everyone is welcome to join us). Just contact the Vice Chairman on 01227 472023 or find information in our notice board outside the Village Hall. Our next Branch meeting will be on Tuesday 12 July at 8pm in the Recreation Club.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2022

Many thanks to everyone who put envelopes in letter boxes, supported the two Soup Lunches or donated in any way during Christian Aid Week. The total raised was £1,270.29.

This is noticeably down on previous years' collections, but considering the demand on everybody's finances this year, still a valuable contribution to helping people across the world who are suffering from the effects of drought caused by climate change. It will be greatly appreciated.

The children at Bridge and Patrixbourne Primary School also raised £272.03 through the 300,000 Steps Challenge which every child in the school took part in. Many thanks to them and the school staff also.

If you missed this year's collection and would still like to give, you may do so online at the Canterbury Christian Aid Group's Just Giving page www.justgiving.com/fundraising/camoo0407

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The Jubilee Tea Party, held in the Pavilion on the Recreation Ground, was a huge success – well supported by people from the village and around. The wonderful variety of delicious cakes, baked by members of the committee, were enjoyed by all and the raffle, book stall and plant stall were all popular. We were fortunate to have a warm, sunny day, when tables were filled – both indoors and outside and everyone enjoyed the happy and relaxed atmosphere.

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 19th July** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, when Mr H Smith will be giving a talk on **1950's Britain**. Anyone wishing to come as a guest, is welcome.

On **Friday, 19th August,** tea has been booked at the **Elham Valley Vineyard**, where the Restaurant is excellent, and there is an extensive Garden Centre, with many tempting plants and shrubs.

Joan Hill

June 2022

Bridge FiSH Scheme

We had a lovely Jubilee meeting in June with bunting, flags, vintage crockery and delicious cakes. We also welcomed Emma Haynes from Bridge School who came along with some children to talk about the Silver Stories scheme. This is an inter-generational scheme to promote good relationships between young children and older people through reading stories. Bridge School would pair an older person with a younger person and they would chat once a week and share a story together. If you might be interested in this scheme contact the Fish Scheme or Emma at emma.haynes@bridge.kent.sch.uk. And the website for further information is www.silverstories.co.uk.
Our next coffee morning is on the 14th July, we look forward to seeing you there at 10 ish. If you, or someone you know, needs transport to the Coffee morning then please call us on 07935 966080.

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The Village Gardeners

The large and blousy Alliums have bloomed at Green Court but the smaller (sphaerocephalon) Alliums are just about the burst forth. Come along and take a look. They should look amazing.

If you live around Green Court or Western Avenue, or are just passing by with a handy pair of gardening gloves, can you help us by pulling any thistles that you see? We are battling with the thistles in the large sunny bed and don't want them to spread into the bark area that we are gradually rewilding. If you place them by the compost bins (which are padlocked for safety reasons) we will pop them in when they are dry and there's no chance of transferring the seed. We would welcome any help with that area, but would particularly welcome help from anyone surrounding Green Court who might be able to lend a hand sometimes. Please get in touch.
We have a further request re. our new area at the corner of Conyngham Lane and the High Street. The area is coming along well, although slightly suffering from the prolonged dry periods we have had this year. We are looking for a volunteer who could mow around the border during the growing season to keep the area looking tidy. Could you help with this? KCC are doing a grand job with this currently, but only have use of a strimmer which sometimes covers the area with grass clippings and makes it look untidy. If you live around that end of the High Street or Conyngham Lane and have a little time to spare, (and a petrol mower!) please get in touch.
If you can help in any way contact Sue (sr. arw52@gmail.com)or Pam (pamelafdobson@gmail.com).

The Village Gardeners..... helping the village to bloom.

Woodpeckers Nursery

There are some more exciting changes coming to Woodpeckers as a new committee was formed on June 13th. The new committee will include members of staff at Bridge and Patrixbourne School and parents from the setting allowing stronger links to be built with the school and the sharing of knowledge and expertise. Unfortunately, after 4 years as the setting manager, Michelle Briggs will be moving on as her family are relocating to Lancashire. We wish Mrs Briggs the best of luck and thank her for everything she has done for the nursery. Our current deputy, Jo Richards, will be acting as Manager whilst the committee find the perfect person to drive the nursery forward.

Our next fundraising event will be at the Bridge Village Fete please come along to support the fantastic work of the nursery and to meet the new team. You can also help support the nursery by donating via one of our online giving schemes.

https://givealittle.co/campaigns/17030a08-9409-4cfa-82e0-e9f53db04ab8

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/woodpeckersnursery1/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=cpl

As we come to the end of another busy year the staff and committee at Woodpeckers Nursery would like to wish all of the children moving on to school this year the very best and look forward to welcoming our new families in September.

Woodpeckers Committee

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

A reminder of the Society's Summer Show in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday 23 July. The Show will be open from 11.30 am to 2.00 pm, with prize giving at 1.45 pm and light refreshments served throughout the day. There will be a plant/bring and buy stall and, of course, a raffle. The various classes in the Show include vegetables, fruit, cut flowers, pot plants, cookery, floral arrangements, handicraft and photography – indeed, something to interest everyone. There are also 7 open classes for everyone to enter, not just members, and details of these are available from Kathy Walder, Show Secretary, 830057 / 07791 656539 / kath@askwalder.com
Please remember that entries for the two open photographic classes entitled "Transport" and "Tranquillity" are to be emailed to Kathy no later than Saturday 9 July. A reminder, too, to members to bring along on the day their Chairman's Challenge Chilli Pepper that they are carefully nurturing!
We do hope that you will come and visit us in the hall on Saturday 23rd to enjoy a splendid display of entries and to support all the exhibitors and the Society in general.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

Summer Show

Saturday 23 July, Bridge Village Hall

Show open to public 11.30 am to 2.00 pm
Presentation of Prizes 1.45 pm

Includes 7 Open Classes (for all to enter):
Please contact Kathy (details below) for more information

Refreshments Plant/Bring and Buy Stall Raffle

For Show Schedule and more details, contact Kathy on 830057/07791 656539/kath@askwalder.com

THE QUIET VIEW

As well as being a Centre for Contemplative Spirituality, the Quiet View is a Community Retreat Garden, and so we would like to invite you all to come sometime to meet Angel. She is over 20' tall and has been exquisitely carved from a dying ash tree by local Wood Sculptor, Daniel Hilton.(www.iswoodgood.co.uk) Here's the link to a beautiful 5 minute video of the Angel's creation process -

https://youtu.be/wRoqYNIPFG0

We have been open every day since Lockdown, without the need to book, so people can wander in the garden, yurt and the labyrinth to find peace, rest, comfort, inspiration – and now we invite you to come to experience the power of this stunning angel sculpture. Our intention is that she will give us a sense of the angelic realm for angels are always longing and waiting to guide our souls from darkness to light.

Sunday 10th July is an **Open Day** when we shall be serving refreshments from **11am – 4.30pm** – so do pop in, meet Angel and share a drink and a snack with us! Donations are always welcome to the Angel Fund!

We have been amazed but not surprised at the numbers of people who have been visiting and leading new groups since the start of the pandemic. Many are discovering a new spiritual thirst and in an inclusive way we welcome all. Some of our regular events include **Taizé Prayers, Taoji Qigong, Yoga, Spirit Dance, Healing Drum Circle, Sound Baths, Silent Retreats, Kirtan**, **Sacred Earth Chants** and some other special events coming up include –

SILENT RETREAT, 'Finding Hope in Silence' **Friday 15th July 10.30am – 4pm** led by Lizzie £25 Please book with Dr Julia Ronder – newron.julia@gmail.com

CREATION, CREATURE, CREATIVITY - Saturday 10th September 10.30am – 4.30 pm – an adventure in poetry and spirituality from c1400 BCE to 1961 with **Peter Brennan** of Visionary Company Courses **£50**

MANDALA – A TRANSFORMATIVE DAY with Sue and Debbie - Saturday 17th September 10.30- 3.30 £25 - an opportunity to connect with ourselves in the healing power of the Spirit .

Do get in touch for more information or to be on our mailing list – lizziehopthrow@gmail.com There's the website too www.quietview.co.uk

We hope to welcome you soon

Lizzie and John

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This was the first recipe I put onto my puddings blog, back in January 2013. It is still one of my top five favourite puddings, and one I will be making for the Stour Music Festival, where I have the joy of making all the puddings in the Artists' tent. I have just bought the first 12 pints of cream to get me started! For Stour I make a double quantity, as pictured – any larger and you have to use a clean washing up bowl for the mixing. The original is from the much-used Penguin Hume and Downs Cordon Bleu Cookbook.

Cold Lemon Soufflé

3 large eggs
8oz/225g caster sugar
2 ½ lemons
½ pint/300ml cream
½ oz/12g gelatine (leaf or powder)
½ gill water (2.5 fl oz/75ml)
To finish: extra cream

Separate the eggs and place the yolks, sugar and grated lemon rind in a bowl and whisk until thick. I usually do this in a Kenwood with the whisk. Heat the lemon juice, add, and continue whisking "to the ribbon" (ie, pale and very thick). This takes ages, and my Kenwood died at this point in 2017.

Half-whip the cream and fold into the mixture. Dissolve the gelatine in the water over heat and stir into the mixture. Whisk the egg white until stiff peaks but not dry. Set the soufflé mixture on ice and fold in the egg whites (I don't bother with the ice). This is easier if you stir in a tablespoon of whisked egg white first to break the mix up a bit and then fold in the rest. (It's very hard to avoid little islands of egg white.)

As the mixture begins to thicken, turn at once into a large bowl and put in the fridge to set. When firm, decorate with cream and anything else that takes your fancy.

There are more delicious recipes on https://katespuddings.blogspot.co.uk

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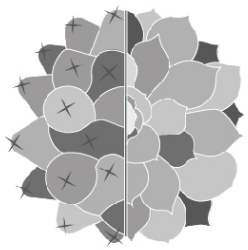

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A magazine for the villages along the Nailbourne

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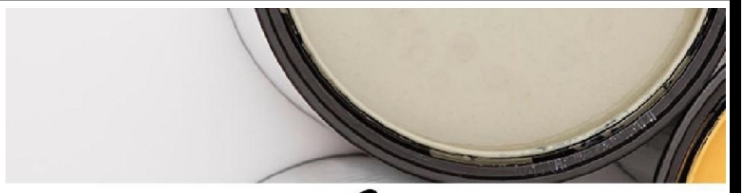

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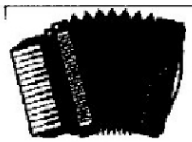

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August 2022

Dear Friends

My goodness isn't it warm! I know many of us bask in the joy of sunshine and warmth but maybe a little rain would bring some welcome relief (although with today being St Swithin's day perhaps best if the rain holds off!) As I write we are hurtling towards the school summer holidays and perhaps for many families this brings a welcome relief from the crazy work / school activities merry-go-round. Perhaps though it brings challenges of its own in terms of childcare for working parents.

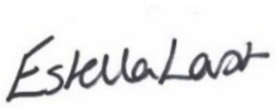
As we come to the school holidays, seen as a time for rest, I have been thinking about what scripture has to say on the subject. It never fails to amaze me that not only did God create the 7th 'day' with the explicit intention that we should follow God's example and take complete rest for a day (Genesis 2) but that God actually commands that we keep one day for Holy rest! (Exodus 20) And more than that, as our Curate Rev'd Miriam pointed out, since in Genesis 1 humankind is created on the 6th 'day', the first thing we are created to do is rest – 'day 7'. I wonder how many of us diarise our rest time first before putting in our other commitments?

This Sunday we have the passage in Luke where Jesus is visiting the home of Mary and Martha in which we are told that Mary sat at Jesus's feet and listened to him and Martha 'was distracted by many tasks'. Often, those of us who identify more readily with Martha and the need to get the tasks done, can find this passage challenging as it implies that sitting at the Lord's feet is the better thing to do. The point though is that both are needed, there is time to do all the things that must be done but there must also be time for rest, to rest is holy and therefore blessed – we are commanded to do it just the same as we are commanded not to kill!

To give all our volunteers a break over the summer we alter our Worship pattern a little. Over the 5 Sundays of summer, we worship each Sunday at 10am in a different church. You can see where we will each week in the service rota in this magazine. You are welcome to attend any service in any of the churches regardless of where you live. The services are relaxed and family friendly and we welcome everyone who wishes to join us in our cool buildings for some prayer or quiet time. All but Bekesbourne Church* are open daily for people to visit for quiet time or prayer. Our churches and churchyards are wonderful places to explore with children if you are looking for something local, interesting, and inexpensive to do over the holidays.

I pray that this summertime will offer time for rest and enjoyment and if it's what you need, a chance to reset from all the busy-ness of daily life.

Yours in Christ



Rev. Estella Last, Vicar, The Bridge Group Parish

* Access to Bekesbourne Church can be arranged with the churchwarden whose details are on the back of the magazine.

Diary Dates – August

Mon 1st - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Mon 8th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Wed 10th – 10 am village coffee morning, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 11th 10.15-11.30 Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Bridge Village Hall

Mon 15th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Mon 22nd - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Mon 29th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Service details and readings for August

Date	Known as	Readings	Church Service
31st July	7th Sunday after Trinity	Ecclesiastes 1.2,12-14; 2.18-23; Colossians 3.1-11 **Luke 12.13-21**	**10am Benefice Communion at St Mary's Nackington**
7th August	8th Sunday after Trinity	Genesis 15.1-6; Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16; **Luke 12.32-40**	**10am Songs of Praise Service with Communion at St Peter's Bekesbourne**
14th August	9th Sunday after Trinity / Blessed Virgin Mary	Isaiah 61:10-end Galatians 4: 4-7 **Luke 1: 46-55**	**10am Patronal Festival and 190th Anniversary Service at St Mary's Lower Hardres**
21st August	10th Sunday after Trinity	Isaiah 58.9b-14; Hebrews 12.18-29; **Luke 13.10-17**	**10am Benefice Communion at St Marys Patrixbourne**
28th August	11th Sunday after Trinity	Proverbs 25.6-7; Hebrews 13.1-8,15-16; **Luke 14.1,7-14**	**10am Benefice Communion at St Peter's Bridge**

Service details and readings for September 2022

4th September	12th Sunday after Trinity	Deuteronomy 30.15-20; Psalm 1; Philemon 1-21; **Luke 14.25-33**	**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne** **6pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Lower Hardres**
Saturday 10th September			**4-6pm Messy Church at Bridge School**
11th September	13th Sunday after Trinity	Exodus 32.7-14; 1 Timothy 1.12-17; **Luke 15.1-10**	**10 am Communion at St Peter's Bridge**
18th September	14th Sunday after Trinity	Amos 8.4-7; 1 Timothy 2.1-7; **Luke 16.1-13**	**9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary's Nackington** **10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne (Harvest)** **4pm All Age Family Service at St Peter's Bridge**
25th September	15th Sunday after Trinity	Amos 6.1a, 4-7; 1 Timothy 6.6-19; **Luke 16.19-31**	**10am Parish Communion St Peter's Bridge**

Nailbourne Scout Group news

Nailbourne Scout Group has been making the most of the warmer summer weather, with lots of outside activities over the last couple of months. Beavers have been doing treasure hunts, bottle rockets, trail signs and the Beaver Olympics! Cubs had great fun at Ross Woods, doing assault courses and having a go at axe throwing. Meanwhile Scouts have been working on their Forestry Badge – along with trek cart challenges, outdoor games and pancakes!

In May, Beavers and Scouts went to Lower Grange Farm for a fun day. Activities included pedal carting, wall climbing, crazy golfing, bus caving, rocket firing, axe throwing and archery – and great fun was certainly had by all!

Over the Jubilee weekend, some of our Cubs and Scouts took part in our first Trek Cart Obstacle run at Wooton. Based on the Royal Tournament field gun competition, our fantastic team demonstrated Scouting skills, spirit and values. Look out for us at other events over the summer!

With the end of term in sight, Nailbourne is planning to finish for the summer with a whole-group overnight camp in Wooton, after a celebratory meeting for families too, with a campfire, food and activities. And that won't be the last meeting for some of our Scouts, as they're off to the Kent International Jamboree in Detling at the end of July. Look out for a special report on that in our next newsletter!

We have good news: we have some new Cub leaders! However, we are always grateful for help 'behind the scenes' and particularly on our Executive Committee. There are specific roles on the committee (and we are hoping to fill a new fundraising role), but we also need people to be general committee members and help share the load. We meet via Zoom, so no pressure to attend physical meetings. Our AGM will be in January but our next meeting is in October and we'd welcome new members. Please contact us if you are interested.

Nailbourne Scout Group welcomes both boys AND girls and meets during term time as follows:

Beavers (6–8 years) – Wednesdays, 5.30–6.30pm, Barham Village Hall

Cubs (8–10 years) – Wednesdays, 6.30–7.30pm, Barham Village Hall

Scouts (10–14 years) – Fridays, 6.30–8.00pm, Denton Village Hall

Please note that the venue is subsequent to frequent change, particularly in the summer, when we meet outside as often as possible!

For more information on joining or volunteering, please email Nick Gore at skipnailbourne@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/Nailbourne-Scout-Group-public-108853207216429).

Fish Scheme news August 2022

The next Coffee Pop-in will be on Thursday August 11th from 10 to about 11.15. Do come in. Passers by are most welcome.

If you would like to see the film The Return of the Railway Children (with subtitles) at 7 on Monday August 15th at the University Gulbenkian cinema there may still be time to book. The concession seats are £9 and Fish volunteer drivers will take you. Ring the Fish phone on 07935 966 080 and we may be able to help.
There is also an afternoon tea on Thursday 22nd September at the Elham Valley tea room. Again Fish drivers will pick you up and there will be no charge for the tea.

For lifts and other enquiries the number is 07935 966 080

Nailbourne League of Friends

With the kind permission of Catriona Coltart we will be holding a Picnic Pool Party at Field House, Station Road, Bridge on Sunday 4 September 2022 between 2.30 and 5pm. Tickets priced at £5 per adult to include a glass of wine or soft drink, children £2.50 to include soft drink, under 5s free. Use of the swimming pool and ample parking should ensure a fun afternoon. Guests welcome to bring chairs, blankets and picnics. For more information contact Maggie Fairweather at maggie@fairweather62.co.uk or 01227 830320.

News from St Mary's Patrixbourne

A big thank you to all those who made donations to help with the Patrixbourne tree works. Because of your generosity, we have overshot our target. Please could donors let us know if you would like a partial refund or if you are happy for us to put your excess into the lighting and loo project.

Thank you all again.
The Churchwardens

THE STORY OF LOWER HARDRES *NEW* CHURCH

This story begins with a quotation from the memorial tablet to James Tillard (1753-1828). Viewed near the statue of St Mary on the south wall, it reads *"At his expense this church was rebuilt."* Although James and his wife Mary (1756-1821) lived in Street End House (Parish of Petham) the parish records show that their funerals took place in the Lower Hardres *Old* church. Please read their tablets for further personal details.

The Rev Bryan Faussett (a local historian) who lived at Street End House for some time wrote this in 1758 - *"The* [Old] *Lower Hardres Church is very small, with an East Chancel, a St Mary Chapel, a Nave and at ye West End a low wooden Steeple with a small bell."* The following extra details are from Edward Hasted in 1800 *"Outside, the church is hidden by yew trees... it is dark inside... its font is very old and made of Bethersden marble."*

James Tillard died in September 1828 and many obituaries were published about his wealth and generosity. Of special interest was his bequest of £2,000 for a *New* Church in Lower Hardres - *"with a handsome steeple, a large clock, a good sounding bell and a spacious porch into the church."* Thomas Rickman was appointed architect and his south elevation is shown left, along with an 1834 sketch from the rear. Archbishop William Howley consecrated this *New* church on Friday 10th August 1832. **AB**

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National Vegetable Society – Kent Association

After a short summer break, the Vegetable Society returns to Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday 10 August for a talk by Norman Dickinson entitled 'My 500,000 Other Friends', in other words a presentation on beekeeping. Beekeeping is becoming an increasingly popular pastime and if this subject interests you or you would like to learn more, then do come along on the 10th. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be available as well as a raffle and produce/plant stall to raise money for the Society.

Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Recreation Ground

As many people may have noticed, building work has been going on at the recreation ground in Old Palace Road. After various delays, for various reasons, a lavatory with disabled access has now been constructed and the whole building variously improved.

The more recent history of the Recreation Ground shows that the land was conveyed to the Parish Council in 1956, then sold to the Parish Council by the Conyingham Estate in 1957. Since that date the Parish Council (of Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne) has supported the ground which has been run by a management committee.The ground itself had been used before that date (as photos in the pavilion will show) for football and cricket matches. Cricket matches have now ended but the ground is used by a number of local adult football teams . So a long established use carries on, although it now includes children's football groups which include both boys and girls.

At the same time as football thrives on the ground it is also a favourite place for dog walkers , for families at the play area and those others who simply want to walk in the countryside. Various groups use the pavilion; the very successful BREW group for parents and children (every Monday from 1-3 pm) and the Villages Coffee Morning, every other Wednesday, from 10 a.m. In addition, various groups and families use the pavilion as a place for meetings and parties : for both it offers kitchen facilities and access to the ground itself. The various facilities of the ground and pavilion are there to be enjoyed ; the location is one of outstandingly beautiful (and peaceful) countryside.

Over the years many members of the local community have contributed a great deal of time and energy to maintaining the various facilities of the grounds. From the 1920s onwards those people made possible the continuation of a very public and now more generally accessible facility. More recently, Jill Thomas was foremost amongst those who gave their support. This kind of commitment and shared participation in this wonderful local asset will hopefully go on. We hope to see you there.

Mary Evans

Chair, Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Recreation Ground Management Committee

Bridge Village Fete
THANK YOU

A huge thank you to everyone who was involved in or supported the Village Fete which took place at Bridge and Patrixbourne School on Saturday 2nd July. It was a huge achievement for all involved, especially as we haven't been able to hold a Fete since 2019 and the parents on the school PTA committee who put so much into the event were all new since the last time a Fete was held. Since we were appointed we have both felt that this event which really brings the community together is an important one and goes a long way towards recognising the value of the relationships we share as a school, and a church with the wider community - with the added bonus that thanks to everyone involved it was a really fun day! Looking forward to next year - Save the Date Saturday 1st July 2023.

James Tibbles,
Headteacher,
Bridge and Patrixbourne School

Estella Last
Vicar
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Caring and Sharing

No meetings in August. Will resume again second and fourth Mondays in the month at 2.30 pm. Ring 07860 591887 or e mail me (peggypryer@icloud.com) for details of venue.

Bridge with Patrixbourne Womens Institute

Members braved the July heatwave to attend the talk given by Mr Len Howell, who stepped in at the last minute, as our scheduled speaker was indisposed.. The title of Mr Howell's talk was 'The Battle of Sandwich' – a lesser-known battle, fought in 1217 at the end of King John's reign and the beginning of Henry III. Unlike the Armada or the Battle of Trafalgar, where England was being invaded, Prince Louis had already landed in England, but was short of supplies. With the English in control of the Channel, Louis was cut off from his logistic base.

After a fierce battle between the English and French fleets, the English fleet finally overcame the French. Peace was signed and Prince Louis formally renounced his claims to the English crown. This proved the strength and ability of English seamanship.

On **Friday, 19th August,** tea has been booked at the **Elham Valley Vineyard**, where the Restaurant is excellent, and there is an extensive Garden Centre, with many tempting plants and shrubs on sale. Visitors are also encouraged to walk round the vineyards, tended by the young people with learning difficulties, and also to the ceramics and carpentry rooms. Members were asked to sign up for this, but if they were unable to do so at the time, please contact the Sheila Scrivener.

Joan Hill

July 2022

If you truly love nature, you will find beauty everywhere

Vincent van Gogh

And you will certainly find this in your garden. My own garden is very small, but I have butterflies, moths, so far just one sighting of a Stag Beetle, evidence of a hedgehog and many birds some of whom raised their young in my pyracantha in the Spring. So far, no ladybirds… I must add that I use no pesticides, slug pellets, or weed killer. I use nematodes and beer traps for slugs – great success here.

For butterflies, what could be better than a buddleia (*Buddleja davidii* from China) – not the most attractive of bushes except when in full flower, but it is one of their top nectar plants. According to the Butterfly Conservation's first Gardening for Butterflies, which I bought in 1998, it attracted then 18 species, but I wonder how many are still around? I am lucky in that the nearest buddleia to me is over the fence and I get the benefit of butterflies straying over, without the work involved in chopping it back each year.

Other butterfly attracting plants are sedums (Ice Plants) which will come into their own next month so worth seeking out now to plant one in your garden. More suitable plants include lavender, Achillea millefoloium, Aster Frikartii Monch, Marjoram, Oreganum vulgare (Origano) and Centaurea (knapweed), hardy geraniums, plus weeds such as nettles (for small Tortoishell, Peacock, Red Admiral, and Comma) which is a good excuse if you have these in your garden!

I have a regular visit from the Hawkmoth with its long proboscis – mainly feeding on my Verbena Bonariensis, but this year I have put my scented pelargoniums out to the garden for the summer and it has visited several times flitting from Sweet Mimosa to Pink Capitatum and on to Attar of Roses. Cuttings can be taken from these plants now for next year so if you have a friend with one of them ask for a piece!

If you are staying at home this summer enjoy your garden

and its wildlife to the full

Kate's Puddings – What's Cooking?

The best bit about Stour Festival for me isn't the music, but the chance to make all my favourite puddings. This is a regular, made especially for one particular person. If you've not tried it before, Cranachan is one of the most delicious puddings ever to have come from Scotland..... a light mixture of cream, whisky, honey, raspberries and oats - wow!

It is brilliant with our lovely raspberries, especially as those less-than-perfect ones disappear into the creamy mixture. The photo is a jumbo-sized one I made for the Stour Festival. It disappeared like snow on the loch!

Cranachan

this is for a generous two:

3 tablespoons of rolled oats (jumbo oats are best)

8oz/250g punnet of raspberries

½ pint/280ml double cream

2 tablespoons of Scottish runny honey

2 tablespoons of whisky

In a dry frying pan, gently toast the oats until they are golden brown. This can take up to 20 minutes. Meanwhile, whip the cream with the whisky until it is thick but not solid. Gently fold in the honey (to make it more liquid, microwave for 15 seconds) and most of the raspberries, keeping some of the best ones for the top. Fold in most of the oats, keeping about a tablespoon. Don't over-mix it – you want the raspberries to stay whole.

Divide into two glasses, decorate with raspberries and oats. This is best not refrigerated unless it is high summer.

Kate Brazier

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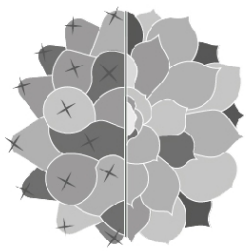

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To offer items for publication in this magazine, including event information, please contact Mrs Megan Shirley bridgeoffice23@gmail.com by the 15th day of the preceding month, ensuring that any emails and attachments are clearly titled to identify their content. Files should be submitted in .doc .pub or .jpg format. Posters should be A5 in size and both portrait and landscape versions provided.

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November 2022

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November 2022

Dear Friends

I wonder if you have your heating on yet or if like us you are holding out as long as you possibly can? Rising inflation, the rising cost of living, and possible limits on energy supply are all causing anxiety throughout our nation at the moment as the Government tries to get to grips with the current economic situation – the question resounding 'will there be enough'?

This week I have conducted the Bridge school Harvest Services in church, and I shared the story of Ruth and Naomi. A story marked by the same question 'will there be enough'? Naomi and her husband leave Israel, their homeland, because of a famine; when Naomi's husband dies her sons and their wives become Naomi's providers but when her sons die what then? The story is punctuated by the anxiety of 'not having enough' but Naomi and Ruth remain steadfast to one another and to God, they return to Naomi's homeland (where Ruth is an unwanted foreigner), they find kindness among distant kinfolk and answers to prayer in the willingness of the wealthy to share with those who don't have enough. This is the pattern of life God seeks after for us all, to live together in community in such a way that everyone has just what they need. With God there is always enough.

Over the weeks of our Harvest celebrations, we have seen this worked out in the outpouring of generous donations to the Canterbury Foodbank – our weary but smiling church volunteers report taking bags and bags of gifts to drop off. A huge thank you to everyone who has given or gives in this way. This is one way in which we as a community can ensure that for some the answer to the question 'will there be enough' might some days be 'yes today there is'. I wonder how else we can be bringers of hope for one another throughout our community in the winter weeks to come?

November brings with it times when we remember, we have our All Souls Service right at the start of the month when we remember all those who have died before God and seek comfort in the hope of eternal life. Then not long afterwards, Remembrance Day itself, a day to remember the tragedy of war and to show our support for those who have suffered injury in the pursuit of peace. A time when we remember sad things in order to shine light into the darkness and bring the hope of a more peaceful world.

On Sunday 27th November we will turn our faces towards the season of Advent and will prepare for the celebration of the birth of Christ, the arrival of God's light in our world. We have included our diary dates for the whole of December in this edition of the magazine so that you can plan which of our Christmas services and events you would like to join in with.

This November, may you have enough (and if not please get in touch) and may you be blessed with light and hope. Yours in Christ

Estella Last

Rev. Estella Last, Vicar, The Bridge Group Parish

Service Grid for November 2022

6th November	3rd Before Advent	Job 19.23-27a; Psalm 17.1-9; 2 Thessalonians 2.1-5,13-17; **Luke 20.27-38** **(All Souls:** Lamentations 3:17-26; Psalm 23 or 27 1 Peter 1:3-9)	**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne** **6pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Lower Hardres (All Souls – commemoration of the faithful departed)**
Friday 11th November	Remembrance Day		**11am Remembrance Service with Year 6 from Bridge School at St Mary's Patrixbourne** **11am Act of Remembrance at St Peter's Bekesbourne**
13th November	Remembrance Sunday / 2nd before Advent	Malachi 4.1-2a; Thessalonians 3.6-13; **Luke 21.5-19** (Alternative readings for Remembrance may be used)	**10 am Communion at St Peter's Bridge with Act of Remembrance** **10am Remembrance Service at St Mary's Nackington followed by Wreath laying at the War Memorial**
20th November	Christ the King (Next before Advent)	Jeremiah 23.1-6; Colossians 1.11-20; **Luke 23.33-43**	**10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne** **4pm All Age Family Service at St Peter's Bridge**
27th November	Advent Sunday	Isaiah 2.1-5; Romans 13.11-14; **Matthew 24.36-44**	**10am Parish Communion St Peter's Bridge**

December 2022 Dates and Advance notice of Christmas Services			
4th December	2nd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm 72.1-7,18-19; Romans 15.4-13; **Matthew 3.1-12**	**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne (Advent Carols)** **6pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Lower Hardres**
11th December	3rd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 35.1-10; James 5.7-10; **Matthew 11.2-11**	**10 am Communion at St Peter's Bridge**
18th December	4th Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 7.10-16; Romans 1.1-7; **Matthew 1.18-25**	**9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary's Nackington** **10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne** **7pm Bridge Carol Service at Bridge**
Friday 23rd December			**4pm Crib and Carol Service St Mary's Lower Hardres** **7pm Carol Service St Mary's Patrixbourne**
Saturday 24th December	Christmas Eve	Isaiah 52.7-10; Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12; **John 1.1-14**	**3pm Christingle Service at Bridge** **5pm Christingle Service at Bridge** **10pm Christmas Eucharist Nackington**
Sunday 25th December	Christmas Day		**9.30am Christmas Communion St Peter's Bridge** **11am Christmas Carol Service St Peter's Bekesbourne**
1st January	1st Sunday of Christmas		**10am Benefice Communion at St Mary's Nackington**

Diary Dates – November 2022

Thurs 3rd 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 4th – 8.45am Coffee, Prayer and Chat, Bridge Church

Sat 5th – 5.00pm Bridge and Patrixbourne School PTA Fireworks Bridge Recreation Ground

Mon 7th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Wed 9th – 10 am village coffee morning, Bekesbourne Village Hall

Thurs 10th 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

10.15-11.30 Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Bridge Village Hall

Fri 11th –8.45am Coffee, Prayer and Chat, Bridge Church

Mon 14th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Thurs 17th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 18th – 8.45am Coffee, Prayer and Chat, Bridge Church

Mon 21st - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 24th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 25th – 8.45am Coffee, Prayer and Chat, Bridge Church

Mon 28th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Looking ahead to December

Coffee Cake and Concert at St Peter's Bridge – Saturday 10th December

Bekesbourne Christmas Fayre – Saturday 3rd December

Friends of Nackington Salvation Army Carols in the Barn – Wednesday 7th December (evening)

Community Carol singing Lower Hardres Village Hall – Friday 16th December 6pm (time tbc)

Community Carols at Chalkpit Farm—Sunday 11th December

Christmas Farmer's Market with Community Carols at The Red Lion Bridge– 22nd December

Salvation Army Carol Concert at Bridge School– 1st December (tbc)

Celebrating the Life of Dr Ann Margaret Savours Shirley

The internationally renowned Polar historian, Dr Ann Savours Shirley, died on Saturday (8th October) shortly before her 95th birthday. She was the widow of Laurence Shirley, County Councillor and sub-postmaster in Bridge for many years, whom she had met in 1960 on the return voyage from a research trip to Australia. In 1955, at the age of 28, she participated in an expedition from Cambridge University to Spitsbergen. Most of her working life was then spent on the staff of the Scott Polar Institute in Cambridge and later as Assistant Keeper at the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich, until she retired in 1987. Continuing her research work she eventually amassed over 120 articles and books, culminating in 2010 in an edition of the previously unpublished fourth volume of the *South Polar Times*, the occasional newspaper of Scott's *Discovery* and *Terra Nova* expeditions of 1901 and1910, the whole of which was then reissued by the Folio Society in 2012. In acknowledgement of this scholarly career she was awarded an Honorary D.Litt. by the University of Kent. Her very last article, on the 19th century explorer John Biscoe, was published online by the Hakluyt Society last year.

She was a member of more than 30 learned societies, taking an active part in the management of many of them, and possessed a magnificent private working library of mostly Polar books that filled almost every room of her house in Bridge: itself a tribute to the solidity of that 17th century home which managed to sustained the great weight of paper that slowly accumulated, for she kept everything, meticulously annotated. An accomplished networker, she participated in innumerable conferences and was on friendly terms with a vast number of correspondents around the world, to whom she always wrote in her own hand, having never mastered the ways of the typewriter, let alone the computer and internet. Nor did she ever learn to drive, but was adept instead at persuading others, who were rewarded for example with trips to Portsmouth and a free lunch on *HMS Victory*. She took a lively though old-fashioned interest in politics and local affairs and with a habit of passing on newspaper cuttings she thought would be of interest to others, kept busy a wide circle of local friends. She was a member of Bridge History and Horticultural societies in particular, yet remained in her personal life essentially innocent of the day-to-day concerns of the world and her surroundings.

In Bridge itself few knew more than vaguely of her scholarly accomplishments: her work had taken her away from the locality, and in her latter years she appeared in the village merely as a totally unassuming little old lady with her shopping bag, accompanied by her beloved border collie Gyp, a most erudite animal, who attended her to all local lectures and events, lying quietly under her chair, but knowing to the minute exactly when it was time to leave.

She is survived by her two sons , six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

M M Raraty

12/10/22

The funeral of Dr Ann Shirley will be held at St Peter's Bridge Thursday 3rd November at 11am. A burial at St Mary's Patrixbourne and a wake at The Red Lion Bridge will follow. Family Flowers only, donations to one of Ann's charities below welcomed. Anyone who knew Ann will be welcome.

Kent Wildlife Trust

Woodland Trust

Tall Ships

UK Antarctic Heritage Trust

The Bridge Group Parish

Lastly, thank you for all of the kind wishes and memories of Ann that have been shared over the past few weeks.

The Shirley Family

RIDE+STRIDE for Churches

Thank you to everyone that took part in the Ride and Stride event around our Parish on 10th September. Whether you were a rider a strider or a volunteer greeter the event would not have been the same without you!

Please note the next magazine will be the combined December and January Edition.

Many thanks OTN Team

Bridge Fireworks & Bonfire

Saturday 5th Nov

Gates open 5.30pm

Bridge Recreation Ground

Access via Riverside Close and Patrixbourne Road only
NO ACCESS via Bridge School.
For everyone's safety kindly NO SPARKLERS on site.

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"In seed time learn, in harvest teach, in winter enjoy."

William Blake

We now find ourselves coming towards the end of Autumn with the days shortening every day, so gardening becomes more of a challenge. Winter is fast approaching. There are still jobs that can be done however:

Tulips can now be planted deeply, at least 2-3 times their height either into pots or the soil.

Prune roses. Cut off most of the year's growth and take out large woody stems. Do not compost these, particularly the leaves, but put them in the green bins for the last collections.

Plant bare-root roses/trees/shrubs. You may have seen the ones you would like during the year.

Add several inches of compost to your dahlia beds, or lift and store the tubers for the winter. For example, use a large cardboard box on an upturned crate, so they are off the floor in the greenhouse, garage or shed which are not subject to small 4-legged invaders. First, dust the cleaned and partially dried tubers (with about 3"/8cm of stem remaining) with Yellow Sulphur and then sink them into dry bark chips or similar – I have used shredded newspaper in the past. Cover and leave until Spring.
Deadhead pansies/violas/primulas regularly to keep the flowers coming on plants that you may have planted last month. Providing the weather allows you can still plant these in pots. Remove the last of the fallen leaves from around the base of plants to prevent slugs/snails overwintering. Continue to shred these for leaf mould or just add them to the leaf pile. Tie in any climbers that may have loose ends blowing around. Leave plants with interesting heads for the birds and any remaining insects to enjoy.
If you have a veggie plot, there is still time to sow a winter green manure crop for digging in next Spring. Alternatively mulch with well rotten manure or homemade compost and leave it to the worms.
Relax with the longer evenings and think about next year's flowers and veggies. Indoor plants may need to be moved around for light and warmth purposes. Some, for example succulents, can take the cold providing they have some protection – mine do well in the cold greenhouse with a fine paint brush and surgical spirit to control mealy bugs (white sticky substance). I continue to finely spray my green pot plants with water, but water the soil more sparingly. The Sansevieria (mother-in-law tongue or snake plant) now can have a rest from watering unless the tops feel soft to the touch.

Take time to enjoy the changes in the season

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St Peter's Church, Bekesboune

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

10.00 am Saturday

3rd December 2022

Bekesbourne Village Hall

Santa Stalls Gifts Raffle

Refreshments

Proceeds to St Peter's Church Bekesbourne

Bekesbourne Village Hall Opening

Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne now has a new, modern Village Hall. After being closed for two and a half years, we have opened again with the aid of Parish Council funding using monies it received from the development of the new Aspinall Close housing.

We were delighted our vicar, Estella, was able to officially open the new hall at our Grand Opening morning on Saturday 24th September. Around 70 people attended the Coffee, Cakes and Raffle opening morning raising almost £400 towards continued fitting out. Thank you to all who attended and donated.

The outside of the new hall has been transformed by recladding with modern, light, composite boarding incorporating double insulation where there was "none before" and a new entrance with canopy provided. The inside has been fully stripped and redesigned and decorated with a new large kitchen (to modern hygiene standards), new flooring, large light activity space, upgraded toilets and extra storage space. All services have been replaced incorporating new central heating.

We now have a welcoming, versatile community venue to benefit our villages for many years to come. Our first events (Zumba, Pilates, Boxercise classes and a childrens' party) began the following weekend.

The management committee is currently seeking new regular hirers to replace those lost over the Covid period and ongoing ad hoc hires for community and individual celebrations, meetings and events to maintain funding.

Further information and bookings please contact our Bookings Secretary Tara Fisher, 01227 832414 or 07871422072, enqiries4bvh@gmail.com or see our Facebook site (Bekesbourne Village Hall) and the Parish Website (BekesbournewithPatixbourne.co.uk).

Graham Duplock

Bekesbourne VHMC

Village coffee morning.

From November our monthly village coffee mornings will move back to Bekesbourne village hall. They are always the 2nd Wednesday of the month 10 -11.30am. Everyone is welcome for coffee and cake and a friendly get together for a donation of £2.50 per person.We are very grateful to the Bekesbourne recreation ground committee for letting us use the refurbished pavilion for our coffee mornings in the past year. We have enjoyed sitting out in the sunshine when the weather has permitted.
Thanks to all concerned.

Christmas at Chalkpit Farm

Carol Singing – Free community led event to raise money for the Motor Neurone Disease Association

Open air carol singing conducted by Dr David Flood. Sunday 11th December @ 14:30pm. Whether you are a singer or not; you are more than welcome to join us for a mince pie, mulled wine and a festive hour of cheer!

This is a free event which we have run for over 10 years in memory of those who have suffered from this debilitating disease that affects the voice. Through music we want to raise awareness of a disease that progressively attacks the motor neurones or nerves, in the brain and spinal cord, which means messages gradually stop reaching muscles and can affect speech and movement.

Christmas Wreath Workshops at Essentially Hops

If you are looking to improve your floral skills, create a Christmas masterpiece or just want to have some fun with a few friends for a couple of hours; our Christmas Wreath Making Workshops are ideal. Hosted by our friendly florist Emma, you'll learn how to create your very own Christmas door wreath to take home; using a variety of foliage, flowers and equipment provided. You can even bring your own decorations and items to include in your design and really give it a personal touch! Workshops are available on the 1st, 4th and 8th December and you can find our more by visiting the Essentially Hops website https://essentiallyhops.co.uk/events-workshops/

Christmas Sale Extravaganza at Essentially Hops Shop

As local customers and community members are aware, our shop at Chalkpit Farm has been closed since lockdown and we've had numerous enquiries about when it will re-open again. With that in mind, we've decided to re-open the shop for a limited time for everyone to come in, have a catch-up and pick up a bargain or two.. or three.. or four!

The shop will be open Monday to Friday at 10am to 3pm from 28th November to the 9th December 2022, so make a note in your diary to pop down for a natter and a load of bargains

Pre-order Christmas Trees & Christmas Wreaths

https://essentiallyhops.co.uk/product-category/christmas/

FISH Scheme News

The November Coffee Pop-in will be on Thursday 10th and will include the AGM when the last year's doings are set out. Everyone is welcome.
Our thanks go to the Elham Vineyard for their kind reception for our outing in September. Our number for lifts is 07935 966 080.

Nailbourne Scout Group news

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers started back after the summer holidays with the usual bang, with activities including cricket, Halloween lanterns, games and, of course, campfires – chopping wood, lighting fires, safety and marshmallows! Cubs have been working on their pioneering badge, looking at leadership and electing sixers, while Scouts too have been organising their patrols. All units have lots of new members, with many moving up but many joining Nailbourne for the first time, in Beavers in particular – a warm welcome to them!

In late September, Nailbourne Scouts took over the Barham Garage Safari for the first time as a fundraising event. As well as selling maps to the all the participating 'garages', we put on a car wash, offered refreshments and had our own second-hand book stall. It was well supported and a great success, and we raised around £800. This will hopefully become a regular event on the Nailbourne calendar, so keep an eye on the magazine and our Facebook page for more details nearer the time.

By the time you read this, Halloween will be over and our Scouts will have taken part in a new variation on 'trick or treat' – going around the houses in Barham collecting donations for the food bank (we knew that trek cart would come in handy!). Of course, they will have dressed up – it's still Halloween after all – and no doubt they may have still had a few treats!

We are still looking for help on our Executive Committee. There are specific roles on the committee (Chair, Secretary and Treasurer) and we are hoping to fill a new fundraising role in particular, but we also need people to be general committee members and help share the load. You don't have to be a Scout parent, although parents are very welcome too! Our leaders do an amazing job running sessions, but it's important to have a good number of people behind the scenes, as leaders can't – and shouldn't – do it all! We meet via Zoom, so there's no pressure to attend physical meetings. Our AGM will be on 25 January and everyone is welcome without commitment. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and this magazine for more details nearer the time.

Nailbourne Scout Group welcomes both boys AND girls and meets during term time as follows:

Beavers (6–8 years) – Wednesdays, 5.30–6.30pm, Barham Village Hall

Cubs (8–10 years) – Wednesdays, 6.30–7.30pm, Barham Village Hall

Scouts (10–14 years) – Fridays, 6.30–8.00pm, Denton Village Hall

Please note that the venue is subject to frequent change, particularly in the summer, when we meet outside as often as possible!

For more information on joining or volunteering, please email Nick Gore at skipnailbourne@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/Nailbourne-Scout-Group-public-108853207216429).

Friends of Nackington Church,

After a long and hot summer break, the fundraising committee at Nackington Church are back in action and planning two events for the autumn:

The first is an evening of **Wine Tasting at Nackington Barn on Saturday 12th November at 7pm**. Come and hear Henry Blaxland of Heppington Vineyard talk about the challenges of local grape growing and wine production and sample the produce. Bottles of Heppington wine will be on sale should you wish to purchase. Tickets are £10 each and as usual we shall be serving our delicious canapes.
Heppington vineyard was planted in 2016 on the southernmost part of Nackington on a site which had been assessed as exceptional for vine growing, Under the careful stewardship of John Hinchliffe who has seamlessly migrated his skills as fruit grower into viticulture, the grapes have flourished. If you would like to purchase tickets for the above, please telephone 01227 463265 or respond to this email. Cheques should be made payable to PCC Lower Hardres and Nackington. Tickets must be purchased in advance please.

The second event will be on **7th December at 7pm** when the vibrant **Salvation Army band led by Matthew Crick** is coming to entertain us once again in Nackington Barn with a programme of seasonal music and carol singing. Those who came to last year's performance will remember a really enjoyable and fun evening. Please note the date in your diaries as tickets will be available to purchase in a few weeks time at £5 each which include refreshments.

Looking forward to seeing you all again soon.
Ann
on behalf of the Friends of Nackington Church

Bridge with Patrixbourne Womens Institute

We have now moved from evening to afternoon meetings, and now meet every **third Friday at 2pm in the Village Hall.** This arrangement is for the autumn and winter months and in April we will revert to meeting in the evenings on the third Tuesday every month. At our first October afternoon meeting Rosemary Crippen gave a fascinating talk on 'Bags, Beads and Embroidered books'.

On **Friday, 18th November at 2pm** there is a change of programme, when George Ward will be coming to talk about the many cheeses he produces, including goats cheese. During his talk it will be possible to 'sample' many of the cheeses, and a chance to buy some. This will be a good time to stock up with speciality cheeses, with Christmas fast approaching!

It will be an **Open Meeting**, when non-members are invited to come along, for a small donation.

Joan Hill

October 2022

Chocolate-topped Banana Cake

Cake:

12 oz/350g plain flour

2 tsp baking powder

½ tsp bicarbonate of soda

8.5oz/250g soft butter

8.5oz/250g white sugar (I used pale brown soft)

3 or 4 overripe medium bananas – total weight with skins 1lb/450g, peeled and broken into chunks

2tsp vanilla

4 large eggs

Icing:

30ml water, 30ml rum (optional but delicious)

2 tbsp golden syrup

2oz/50g dark brown/muscovado sugar

6oz/175g milk chocolate finely chopped (I used dark)

Sprinkles (if wished)

Preheat the oven to 180 deg C, line a 23cm springform cake tin with parchment, and grease with butter. Mix the flour and raising agents. In another bowl, cream the butter and sugar before adding the bananas, then the vanilla. Don't look, it's not pretty! Add the eggs slowly, beating after each one and alternating with flour so that the mixture doesn't curdle.

Pour the batter into the tin and bake for approx 40-50 minutes until it is well risen and golden, or until a warm skewer comes out clean(ish). Slow is best, so don't be afraid to cook it longer. If it starts to brown on the top, cover loosely with a sheet of foil. Don't take it out of the tin until it is cool.

When the cake is cool, mix the rum, water, syrup and sugar in a small saucepan, stirring to dissolve the sugar crystals before putting it onto a low heat. Nigella says not to stir it once it is on the heat, but allow it to boil and take it off again. Now add the chocolate and swirl it around in the liquid so it melts before whisking it to combine. At this point it gets thick and shiny.

If you want to keep all of the icing, put the cake on a large serving plate before pouring over the icing. When you pour, let it drip down the sides of the cake as well, and then quickly put on the sprinkles.

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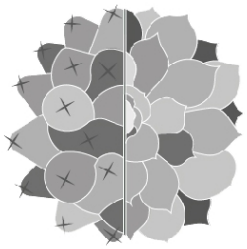

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To offer items for publication in this magazine, including event information, please contact Mrs Megan Shirley bridgeoffice23@gmail.com by the 15th day of the preceding month, ensuring that any emails and attachments are clearly titled to identify their content. Files should be submitted in .doc .pub or .jpg format. Posters should be A5 in size and both portrait and landscape versions provided.

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The Bridge Group Parish

A magazine for the villages along the Nailbourne

December 2022/ January 2023

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November 2022

Dear Friends

Well by the time you read this the Football World Cup will be in full swing in Qatar and we will be hurtling towards Christmas at quite a rate I should imagine! This bumper edition of the magazine contains information about all the church Services, concerts and fundraising events taking place in the coming weeks in the run up to Christmas and into January. I expect we are all hoping for a more 'normal' Christmas this year, perhaps even something slightly scaled back and more personal given the financial situation at the moment.

At the beginning of this month the term, 'Permacrisis' topped a list of 10 words which the producers of the Collins dictionary said summed up 2022. The word is defined as "an extended period of instability and insecurity", which some may argue is an accurate summary of the past few years. Collins said it chose the word as it "sums up quite succinctly how truly awful 2022 has been for so many people". I wonder if 2022 has been 'truly awful' for you? I really do hope not, I do hope that even amidst the challenges that life has brought over the past year, you have found something good, perhaps even in the smallest things.

Our reflections in church this Advent are based around themes often associated with the Advent Candle Wreath that you will find in most churches and even some homes at this time of year. Each of the 4 outer candles representing Hope, Peace, Joy and Love and the fifth one in the middle usually lit on Christmas day to represent the birth of Christ. And I'm thinking if it's ok now to just pop the word 'perma' in front of other words to create new ones now, maybe in this time of waiting and reflection we will discover:

'permahope', that however challenging life is right now there is always hope;
'permapeace' knowing that God is with us in the tough times as well as the good ones;
'permajoy' as we reconnect with God and each other; and
'permalove' as we remember that we are created in and for love, and that God sent Jesus to show this.

I pray too that when we light that fifth candle on Christmas day, when we gather together to celebrate this most special day, we will remember how precious and special it is when we can bring light to one another by sharing our hope, our peace, our joy and our love. Our beautiful village churches stand as witnesses to this 'permalight' through successive generations over 100s of years and this year is no different as we raise money for the Salvation Army, Porchlight, the Children's Society and the Canterbury Foodbank at some of our carol events this month. We hope you will be able to join in at some point over the coming weeks or perhaps in January when the excitement of Christmas has calmed down.

Whoever you are, you are welcome to join us in church over Christmas and if you find something there you like perhaps you might feel you can join us during the year to come.

With my prayers for a blessed Christmas and a peace filled New Year.

Yours in Christ

Rev. Estella Last, Vicar, The Bridge Group Parish

Diary Dates – December 2022

Thurs 1st 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Time tbc Salvation Army Concert at Bridge School

Fri 2nd – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church

Sat 3rd – 10am-12pm Bekesbourne Church Christmas Bazaar

Mon 5th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Wed 7th – 7pm Friends of Nackington Carols with The Salvation Army Band

Thurs 8th 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

10.15-11.30 Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Bridge Village Hall

1.30pm Senior Citizens Tea Party at Bridge School.

Fri 9th – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church

Sat 10th 10.15am Christmas Coffee, Cake and Concert at Bridge Church

Sun 11th – 2.30pm Community Christmas Carols at Chalkpit Farm

Mon 12th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Weds 14th -10 am village coffee morning, Bekesbourne Village Hall

6pm Nailbourne Scouts at Bridge Church

Thurs 15th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 16th – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church

6pm Community Carols Lower Hardres Village Hall

Sat 17th– 11am-2pm Bridge Haven Christmas Fete

Mon 19th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Service details and readings for December 2022 and January 2023

4th December	2nd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm 72.1-7,18-19; Romans 15.4-13; **Matthew 3.1-12**	**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne (Advent Carols)** **6pm Choral Evensong St Mary's Lower Hardres**
11th December	3rd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 35.1-10; James 5.7-10; **Matthew 11.2-11**	**10 am Communion at St Peter's Bridge**
18th December	4th Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 7.10-16; Romans 1.1-7; **Matthew 1.18-25**	**9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary's Nackington** **10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne** **7pm Bridge Carol Service at Bridge**
Friday 23rd December			**4pm Crib and Carol Service St Mary's Lower Hardres** **7pm Carol Service St Mary's Patrixbourne**
Saturday 24th December	Christmas Eve	Isaiah 52.7-10; Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12; **John 1.1-14**	**3pm Christingle Service at Bridge** **5pm Christingle Service at Bridge** **10pm Christmas Eucharist Nackington**
Sunday 25th December	Christmas Day (1st Sunday of Christmas)	Isaiah 9:2-7; Titus 2:11-14; **Luke 2: 1-14, [15-20]**	**9.30am Christmas Communion St Peter's Bridge** **11am Christmas Carol Service St Peter's Bekesbourne**
Please note in order to keep our heating costs down we are having a 5 Sunday Service Rotation during January. You are welcome to attend any of the services in any of the churches.			
1st January	2nd Sunday of Christmas	Isaiah 63:7-9; Hebrews 2:10-end; Matthew 2:13-end	**10am Benefice Communion at St Mary's Nackington**

8th January	Epiphany	Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12	**10am Benefice Communion Service at St Peter's Bekesbourne**
14th January			**4-6pm Messy Church at Bridge School**
15th January	2nd Sunday of Epiphany	Isaiah 49:1-7; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; **John 1: 29-42**	**10am Benefice Communion Service at St Mary's Patrixbourne**
22nd January	3rd Sunday after Epiphany	Isaiah 9:1-4 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; **Matthew 4: 12-23**	**10am Benefice Communion at St Peter's Bridge**
29th January	Epiphany 4 (or Candle-mas)	1 Kings 17: 8-16; 1 Corinthians 1:18-end; **John 2:1-11** (Malachi 3: 1-5; Hebrews 2: 14-end; Luke 2: 22-40)	**10am Benefice Communion at St Mary's Lower Hardres**
We are continuing with a slightly reduced Service rota in February to help with our heating costs. We plan to be back to our usual rota in March 2023.			
5th February	3rd Sunday before Lent		**8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington** **10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne**
Saturday 11th February			**Messy Church at Bridge School**
12th February	2nd Sunday before Lent		**10 am Communion at St Peter's Bridge**
19th February	Sunday be-fore Lent		**10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne** **4pm All Age Family Service at St Peter's Bridge**
26th February	1st Sunday of Lent		**10am Parish Communion St Mary's Lower Hardres**

January 2023 Dates

Thurs 5th 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 6th – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Pavilion

Mon 9th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Weds 11th -10 am village coffee morning, Bekesbourne Village Hall

Thurs 12th 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 13th – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Pavilion

10.15-11.30 Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Bridge Village Hall

Sat 14th – 4pm Messy Church Relaunch at Bridge School

Mon 16th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 19th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 20th – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Pavilion

Mon 23rd - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Thurs 26th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 27th – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Pavilion

The Holly & The Ivy

An early mention of this Carol's title occurs in William Hone's 1823 work *Ancient Mysteries Described*

Holly is best known at Christmas but by then the blackbirds have eaten all the berries. I can see a very tall holly tree in my neighbour's garden. As I write this in late Autumn it is full of berries, but only on my side as it faces South. There are no berries on the North side. How unfortunate for the owner of the tree.

However, the birds are descending already, and it will soon be stripped. It is a lovely sight in the meantime. As it has berries it is a female tree with a male tree nearby. It is perfect for wildlife and so the fact the berries are eaten worries me not. I would rather have the blackbirds survive winter. I have read that hedgehogs like to shelter underneath – perhaps the prickly dead leaves do not worry them but keep them protected. In the summer we welcome visits from the Holly Blue butterfly, prevalent in the south of England, so holly is an all-round winner.

This tree is a common holly and will grow eventually to a great height and live for up to 100 years. There are others that can be grown in pots and small gardens, but I have tried this and had little success, so I admire the one I have over the fence instead.

Now ivy is very much a love it or hate it plant. I have it in different guises – small trailing bicolour for pots and baskets and then one large green leaf variety in the corner of the wildlife area as well as a new large, leafed green/white one for covering a gap in a fence where a pyracantha died. In autumn, ivy flowers provide a late source of nectar for bees and attract**s** other insects, which in turn provide food for robins and wrens. When the black berries appear in the middle of winter, they're again a much-needed boost of energy devoured by everything from thrushes, waxwings, starlings and jays to finches and blackbirds.

Combined holly and ivy make excellent wreaths for the front door, and it does not matter if the berries have been eaten. I have a Nandina which looks promising for red berries so may just pop these in for colour instead…

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas

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Advent Songs of Praise

Sunday 4th December

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Christmas Sale Extravaganza at Essentially Hops Shop

As local customers and community members are aware, our shop at Chalkpit Farm has been closed since lockdown and we've had numerous enquiries about when it will re-open again. With that in mind, we've decided to re-open the shop for a limited time for everyone to come in, have a catch-up and pick up a bargain or two.. or three.. or four!

The shop will be open Monday to Friday at 10am to 3pm from 28th November to the 9th December 2022, so make a note in your diary to pop down for a natter and a load of bargains

Pre-order Christmas Trees & Christmas Wreaths

https://essentiallyhops.co.uk/product-category/christmas/

FISH Scheme News

We have been asked to help the playgroup accommodate more children by moving our Coffee Pop-in to FRIDAY in future, starting in January. We do hope you will understand.

The next Coffee Pop-in will be on THURSDAY December 8th with carols and mince pies. Do bring a friend along and if you want a lift ring 07935 966 080 .

If you miss doing your own shopping do consider the Kent Karrier Dial a Bus service. On Wednesday and Friday a bus will pick you up from your door in Bridge, Patrixbourne, Bekesbourne and Bishopsbourne and take you to the supermarkets and the bus station and return you home. The help line is 03000 41 35 67. An application can be made on line and we can help with doing so.

The January Pop-in will be on Friday 13th (!) and we will have our Winter Warmer lunch on Friday 27th January .

Littlebourne & District Royal British Legion

We held our branch AGM in November. The Chairman expressed his thanks to all who had supported us during the past year. Branch officers were elected as followed - Chairman Bob Catt, Vice Chairman Barbara Hunt, Secretary Kevin Costello, Treasurer Bob Hoy. Branch Committee - Anne Hill, Tracy Bergin and Geoff Preston. Poppy Appeal Organiser Jan Catt, Deputy Organiser Bob Catt, Welfare member and publicity Barbara Hunt. Standard Bearer Kevin Costello, Standard escorts Dennis Beer and Barbara Hunt.

We held the 11/11/11 Silence outside the Hay wain when Paul Howson sounded the last post and reveille. Our remembrance service was well attended at Ickham Church on Sunday 13 November and the branch was also represented at Stodmarsh church the same evening for a remembrance service held at 6pm.

We will be having a quiz evening at Staple Branch on Thursday 8 December and our next branch meeting will be on Tuesday 13 December (special Christmas meeting) at 8pm at the Recreation Club, Littlebourne.

Nailbourne Scout Group news

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers have been busy this month as always. Beavers had fun on a Halloween trail and are currently working on their Communicator Badge; Cubs have started on their Science Badge, with lots of cool experiments, after working on their Pioneering Badge; while Scouts are working on their Survival Skills Badge and went on a recent night hike.

On Halloween, our Scouts carried out a new variation on the usual 'trick or treat'. They went around the houses in Barham collecting donations for the food bank - plus a few treats for themselves! They collected a huge amount to donate to Canterbury food bank – please take a look at our Facebook page to see just how much! Many thanks to all those in Barham and further afield who donated, as well as to the fantastic Scouts who helped on the night.

On Remembrance Sunday, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts represented Nailbourne Scout Group at Bridge Church's remembrance service, acting as flag bearers during the silence. Some of our other members represented Nailbourne at their own village services and processions.

By the time you read this we'll be into December, and we will be doing our usual Scout Christmas post in Bridge. We will deliver all your Christmas cards (only within the village, please, as deliveries are done on foot – many thanks!) in exchange for a donation to Nailbourne Scout Group funds. Delivery will be on Sunday 18 December – keep an eye out for our postbox in the local shop!

Our AGM will be on 25 January and everyone is welcome – parents, helpers and anyone with a possible interest in Scouts! Keep an eye on our Facebook page and this magazine for more details. We are still looking for help on our Executive Committee. There are specific roles on the committee (Chair, Secretary and Treasurer) and we are hoping to fill a new fundraising role in particular, but we also need people to be general committee members and help share the load. You don't have to be a Scout parent, although parents are very welcome too! Our leaders do an amazing job running sessions, but it's important to have a good number of people behind the scenes, as leaders can't – and shouldn't – do it all! We meet via Zoom, so there's no pressure to attend physical meetings. There is also no commitment to help or join the committee if you attend our AGM, although this is, of course, a great opportunity to join or find out more!

Nailbourne Scout Group welcomes both boys AND girls and meets during term time as follows:

Beavers (6–8 years) – Wednesdays, 5.30–6.30pm, Barham Village Hall

Cubs (8–10 years) – Wednesdays, 6.30–7.30pm, Barham Village Hall

Scouts (10–14 years) – Fridays, 6.30–8.00pm, Denton Village Hall

Please note that the venue is subject to frequent change, particularly in the summer, when we meet outside as often as possible!

For more information on joining or volunteering, please email Nick Gore at skipnailbourne@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/Nailbourne-Scout-Group-public-108853207216429).

News from Woodpeckers Nursery

Woodpeckers Nursery are looking to expand the hours and age range they cater for. To do this we are looking to access local demand. If you would be interested in using a nursery in Bridge that offers the hours 8-6 and cares for children from 12 months please call 01227 831159 or email

woodpeckerscommittee@gmail.com for a questionnaire.

In the meantime we wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

Woodpecker Committee

NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The last of the Society's successful year of events will be our Christmas Social Meeting on **Tuesday 6th December** with a talk intriguingly named, 'Sloe Seduction'. Katherine Hook from Marden in Kent, will talk on the origins of gin, sloe gin and cocoa production with tastings of the specialty chocolates she produces. The entry fee of £5 for members and £7 for non-members will include a glass of festive fizz.

Our AGM will be held **on Tuesday 24th January 2023** when subscriptions, (which remain the same as last year's), can be paid and the new programme of events as well as show schedules for Spring and Summer shows will be available. We will have the pleasure of welcoming Pam Dobson, Sue Walton and Helen Groves de Milleret of Bridge Village Gardeners who will make a presentation about the splendid work they are doing in various locations around the village.

The meetings are at Bridge Village Hall and start at 7.30 pm. Do come along and support one of the oldest Societies in Bridge. Members, non members as well as anyone wishing to join the Society's Committee will be warmly welcomed.

Raffle Donations Needed

Items needed for the Parish Christmas Hamper to be raffled on Thursday 22nd December at the Christmas Farmers' Market to be held from 3pm in the car park of the Red Lion, Bridge at which the Community Carol Singing will take place. Items for the raffle to the Churchwardens please.

Bridge Village Playgroup

Our first term back has been a busy one, packed with lots of activities and learning! The children visited the Church for Harvest Festival, met lots of spooky characters at Hallowe'en and have been learning about the Solar System in Space Week! The older children also got to experience the Astrodome, an interactive space experience that landed in Bridge Village Hall. The children from Woodpeckers Nursery were invited to join us, and the Hall was transformed.

Now our attention turns to Christmas, and preparations begin for the Nativity, coffee morning and the much-anticipated Christmas party!

Following on from last year's success, we are running the hugely popular Bridge Village Playgroup Grand Christmas Raffle again this year! This year's prizes may even beat last year's, and we are so grateful to local businesses for their support and donations. Among the 20+ prizes are a meal for 2 with a bottle of wine at The Pig, a case of wine donated by Quinn Estates, afternoon tea at Eastwell Manor, a half spa day at Tor Spa, and a gorgeous print of Bridge from DEY Prints. Or perhaps you'd prefer a whole cake, baked by Mahoney's? Or tickets to the cricket, Howletts, Gulbenkian, or axe throwing?! The list goes on!

To buy your tickets and support the Playgroup, please e-mail bvptrustees@gmail.com and we will give you details of how to enter. Tickets are £1 and the draw will take place on Friday 16th December 2022. Good luck!

In other news, we have been chosen as one of The Co-operative's Local Community Fund charities for 2022/23. If you're a Co-operative Member, please do choose us as your charity of the year and we will receive funds to continue our renovation of the garden area every time you shop. Thank you! https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/68617.

As the year draws to a close, we want to say thank you to everyone that continues to support the Playgroup both in the community and within the charity. We are extremely lucky to have an established team of experienced and dedicated playworkers. They give the children such a fantastic experience every day. The parents and Committee are so grateful to them for everything they do; they make Playgroup the happy, fun place it is! Thank you, team.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Christmas season.

The Bridge Village Playgroup committee

Bridge Village Playgroup takes children aged from 2 up to school age. We are based in the Bridge Village Hall and operate in term-time as follows:

Monday to Wednesday: 9am to 3.30pm

Thursday and Friday: 9am to 12 noon

We accept Government Early Years Funding from age 2 including 30 hours' funding.

For more information, please contact the Manager, Julia Watt, on 07790 096325. Check out what we are up to at www.facebook.com/bridgevillageplaygroup or our website at www.bridgevillageplaygroup.com.

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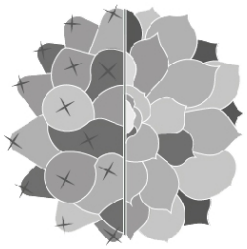

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Chaplain:	Mrs Miriam Westendarp	01227 206272
Administrator:	Mrs Megan Shirley	bridgeoffice23@gmail.com
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	Mrs Pauline Pritchard	01227-830685
	Mr Laurence Dunderdale	01227-830668
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