



On the Nail

A magazine for the
villages along the
Nailbourne



St Mary's, Patrixbourne



St Peter's, Bridge



St Peter's, Bekesbourne

April
2023

DESIGN & PRINT | WEB DESIGN & HOSTING | VEHICLE WRAPPING & GRAPHICS | SIGNAGE

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April 2023

Dear Friends

The beginning of April brings with it the promise of a new season. As I write in mid-march we are once again in a cold snap and all the hopeful little Spring flowers were sadly wearing frosty little hats this morning but hopefully as April dawns we will see warmer weather and more tangible signs of Spring!

In the Church too, we move from the season of Lent, during which we seek to be more reflective and contemplative, to the events of Holy Week and ultimately the wonderful celebration of Easter. We begin the final week of our journey with a procession through Bridge with Banks our Donkey on Palm Sunday (2nd April) and then as the week unfolds we have services and events to mark the significant events that took place in Jerusalem prior to Jesus' death and resurrection. In this we seek for ourselves a new connection with the deep spiritual truths of the Easter narrative.

In Lent we have been thinking about connection in all sorts of ways, the ways in which our churches connect with the villages and the ways in which those of us who are Christians and worship in our churches support our local community groups and activities. You will see in the magazine details of many of the events and activities we get involved in. We know that we grow and flourish as human beings not only through individual attachments to those who care for us at home but also through forming emotional bonds with social groups. And so we endeavour to enhance the life and community of all our villages with the efforts we make.

As a church we are striving to be a community where people of all ages can learn and grow together. Many of the volunteers who dedicate so much of their time and energy to looking after our churches have done so for many decades, having begun when their own children were small and they were themselves working in their full time jobs, and continuing on into their retirement. At the end of the month on Wednesday 26th April we will be holding our Annual Parochial Church Meeting at Bridge and Patricbourne School. This meeting is partly a legal exercise, a thing we have to do in order to present our report and accounts for 2022. But for us it is always more than that. It is always an opportunity to celebrate all that we achieved together for our churches and communities, an opportunity to thank all the volunteers who give so much of their time in support of our churches and wider community, and an opportunity for new people to get involved, to join teams and committees as we look forward to all we will do together in the year to come.

Like many other organisations it has been tempting since the pandemic to turn in on ourselves and look only to our own survival but we know "The Church is the Church only when it exists for others... not dominating, but helping and serving"* and so this we continue to strive to do, in each of the villages we serve.

May this Easter be a time of celebration, hope, blessing and beauty for you all.



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 Bekebourne, St Mary's, Lower Hardres and St Mary's, Nackington

Will take place from 7pm on Wednesday 26th April 2023 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 conclude with wine and nibbles.

Yours in Christ

Estella Last

Rev. Estella Last, Vicar, The Bridge Group Parish

Service details and readings for April

2 nd April	Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50.4-9a; Psalm 118.1- 2,19-29; Philippians 2.5- 11; Matthew 21.1- 11 & Matthew 26:14-end of 27	9.30am Procession with Donkey from Bridge School 10am Parish Communion St Peter's Bridge 6pm Choral Evensong at Lower Hardres
6 th April	Maundy Thurs- day		Tenebrae Service 7.30pm St Peter's Bridge
7 th April	Good Friday	Messy Church at Bridge School 10.30-12 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	
9 th April	Easter Sunday	Acts 10.34-43; Colossians 3.1- 4; Matthew 28.1- 10	8am Communion St Mary's Nackington 10am Parish Communion St Peter's Bridge 10am Songs of Praise with Easter Egg Hunt at Bekesbourne 11am Tea and Cake followed Easter Cele- bration Service at Lower Hardres
16 th April	2 nd Sun- day of Easter	Acts 2.14a,22- 32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1.3-9; John 20.19-31	10am Easter Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne 4pm Family Service St Peter's Bridge
23 rd April	3 rd Sun- day of Easter / St Georges Day	Acts 2.14a,36- 41; 1 Peter 1.17- 23; Luke 24.13-35	10am Communion at St Peter's Bridge
<u>30th</u> April	4 th Sun- day of Easter	Acts 2.42-47; 1 Peter 2.19- 25; John 10.1-10	10am Benefice Communion at Lower Hardres
6th May – CORONATION DAY			
7 th May	5 th Sun- day of Easter	8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington 10am Songs of Praise at St Peter's Bekesbourne 6pm Choral Evensong at St Peter's Bridge	

April 2023 Dates

- Mon 3rd - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground
- Thurs 6th -11.30-1pm Growing Good Lent Group
- Fri 7th- 10am-11.30 Messy Church at Bridge School
- Mon 10th - 1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground
- Weds 12th -10 am Bekesbourne Village coffee morning, Bekesbourne Village Hall
- Fri 14th – 10.15-11.30 Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Bridge Village Hall
- Mon 17th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground
- Thurs 20th 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion
2pm Communion at Mansfield Court
- Fri 21st – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church
- Mon 24th - 1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground
2.30pm Caring and Sharing
- Thurs 27th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion
- Fri 28th – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church
- Sat 29th – 10.15am Coronation Coffee Cake and Concert, Bridge Church

Electoral role Revision

The annual review of the Electoral Roll is taking place. If you are not already of the Roll and would like to be, please complete a form (available in each of our churches) and return it to a churchwarden or to 54 Bridge Down, Bridge by April 10th.

The Friends of St Peter's Church, Bridge
COFFEE & CAKE CONCERT at BRIDGE CHURCH
Saturday 29th April 10:15 to 11:30am
A CORONATION CONCERT



A celebration in words & music
'HERE'S A HEALTH UNTO HIS MAJESTY'

- including some of his favourite items**
- community choir & audience songs**
- (Flags and fancy dress optional)*

Suggested donation £5 and children free
Proceeds to the work of CHRISTIAN AID

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

Following on from our Spring Show, the next event on the calendar is on **Tuesday 2nd May** at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall when we are fortunate to have a return visit from **Martin Newcombe** who on this occasion will be giving an illustrated talk on the **Elham Valley**. Martin is a well known ecologist and environmentalist as well as a most entertaining speaker. So, make a date in your diary and come along to what will be, we promise, an interesting talk. All are welcome (£2 entry for members and £4 for visitors).

Coffee, Chat and Prayer

Every Friday during term time from
8.45am-9.30am at Bridge Church

**An opportunity to join in with
a group for prayer, coffee and a chat.**

For more information contact Revd Estella on
estellalast@gmail.com








Coronation afternoon tea in the Park

**Monday 8th May 2-5pm at the Recreation
Ground**

Calling for volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help organise and run the event. All help welcome. Please contact the Clerk via email clerk@bridgevillage.org.uk or by calling 07733 759195.

Confirmed so far:

-  **Mahoney's of Bridge - offering tea, cake and scones**
-  **Premier Bar Runners**
-  **Fun activities run by Woodpeckers**
-  **Bouncy Castle**

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Canterbury

Election of Parish Councillors for Bridge

An election is to be held for nine parish councillors on Bridge Parish Council.

Nomination papers may be obtained from the Clerk to the Parish Council or the Returning Officer at the address below.

Nomination papers must be delivered to the Returning Officer at the address below on any week day after the date of this notice (excluding bank holidays) between 10am and 4pm but no later than 4pm on Tuesday, 4th April 2023.

If any election is contested the poll will take place on Thursday, 4th May 2023. This is the same day as Canterbury City Council elections.

Applications for the following must reach the Electoral Registration Officer by the deadlines below:

New applications to register to vote: www.gov.uk/register-to-vote	By midnight on Monday, 17th April 2023
New applications to vote by post or to cancel or amend an existing postal or proxy vote.	By 5pm on Tuesday, 18th April 2023
Applications for Voter Authority Certificate www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-	By 5pm on Tuesday, 25th April 2023
New applications to vote by	By 5pm on Tuesday, 25th April 2023
Applications to vote by emergency proxy	By 5pm on Thursday, 4th May 2023

Contact: electoral.services@canterbury.gov.uk or call 01227 862007

Tricia Marshall, Returning Officer/Electoral Registration Officer, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW.

Dated Thursday 16 March 2023



The Bridge Group Parish Baby and Toddler Group

Thursdays during term time

9am-11am

in Bridge Sports Pavilion, Bridge Recreation Ground.

Suggested donation £1.50

For more information email estellalast@gmail.com

Supported by Bridge Parish Council



Bridge & District History Society

The next meeting will be on Thursday April 20 at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. Peter Genower's talk is about the Black Prince who is often seen as a national hero and military genius. But perhaps there was another side to the character of this prince who never became king.

The talk poses the question "The Black Prince - hero or villain?" and will take a clear-eyed view of the man behind the legend.

£4.00 to include refreshments.

Save the Date– Bokesbourne Church Working Party

We are planning a Volunteering Morning and Barbecue at Bokesbourne church on Monday 8th May.

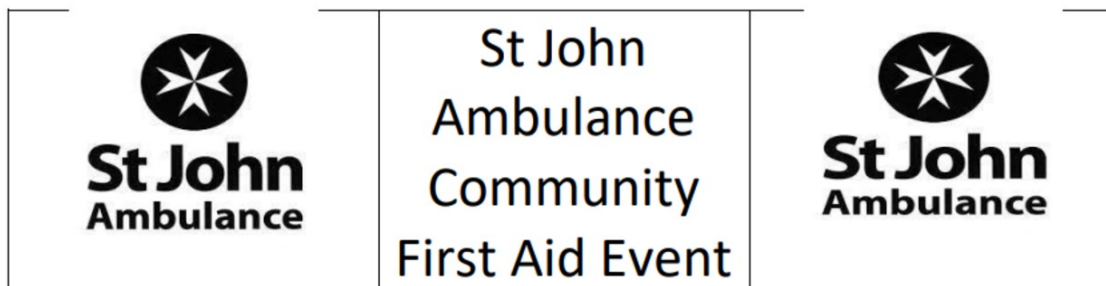
It's 9.00 – 12.00

Come along and join a group of volunteers who look after our beautiful church and churchyard.

All ages and abilities are welcome. There are lots of jobs to do, big and small. You may prefer to work inside the church cleaning or arranging flowers. You might want to be more energetic and tidying the churchyard and working to re-wild certain areas. It's always more fun to do it together.

Enjoy a hot dog or a burger afterwards – a reward for your efforts and a time to get together.

Nicky



Saturday 29th April 10:00 to 12:30

In Bekesbourne Village Hall

All are very welcome to our Community First Aid Event presented by St John Ambulance Personnel. Donations appreciated.

Come along and see demonstrations of how to recognize and respond to heart attacks and strokes, and other general First Aid education.

Refreshments will be available.

Bridge with Patrixbourne Womens Institute

At the AGM, Sheila Scrivener was voted in as President, with Avril Austin taking on the role of Vice-President. Avril was thanked for all her hard work during her years as President. Jill Burden continues as Secretary and Linda Soulsby as Treasurer. All who served on the committee were re-elected, and two other members – Sara Lane and Eileen Ellis were welcomed onto the committee.

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 18 April at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall, when Margaret Welsh will be talking about, and demonstrating, Calligraphy. Please note that **during the summer months, our meetings will continue in the evenings.**

WI welcomes anyone interested in becoming a member, or coming along firstly as a guest for a 'taster'. For more details, please contact the Secretary on 01227-830606.

Joan Hill March 2023

National Vegetable Society – Kent District Association

Chris Lane from Newington is the guest speaker at the Society's meeting on Wednesday 12th of April, 7.30 for 8.00 pm start in Bridge Village Hall. Chris holds the national collection of Wisteria at his property in Newington, near Sittingbourne, and will be giving an illustrated talk entitled "The Propagation and Growing of Wisteria" There is no charge for entry and all are welcome. Refreshments, raffle and sales table.



Palm Sunday in the Bridge Group Parish Sunday 2nd 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!



The Close (Bridge) Property Management Ltd.



The Board of The Close (Bridge) Property Management Ltd wish to appoint a Managing Agent

'The Close' in Union Road, Bridge is a community of 26 dwellings, previously the Bridge Union Workhouse. Each property holds one share in the management company which is administered by a board of homeowners/shareholders.

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Tasks will include:

- Organisation of six Board meetings and three General meetings per annum
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- With Board assistance, preparation of proposed Annual Budget
- General bookkeeping
- Administration of management fees and payment of contractors using online banking
- Preparation of draft end of year accounts and liaison with Company accountant
- Response to enquiries by conveyancing companies during property purchases
- Annual review of building insurance
- Enforcement of Lease requirements as needed.

Please apply by email to TheCloseBoard@outlook.co.uk
or by post to The Board, 22 The Close, Union Road, Bridge CT45NJ

Fish Scheme News

Knitting is back. We have wool and patterns at the Coffee Pop-ins but would love some new supplies. If you have some you could part with do ring 01227 830298 and we can pick it up. Or, of course, bring it to our next Coffee Pop-I on Friday April 14th in Bridge village hall from 10 on. And, remember, there is also a book exchange.

Fish Number for lifts 07935 966 080



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 14-20 May 2023



Have you heard of pigeon peas?

This year's Christian Aid Week focuses on the women who farm pigeon peas in Malawi – women like Jen, who is able to sell her peas through the co-operative supported by Christian Aid and so pay for her son's education.



Pigeon peas are drought resistant and put nitrogen into the soil so avoiding the need for fertilisers. The co-operative ensures Jen gets a good price for her crops and is no longer swindled by unscrupulous buyers.

You can buy pigeon peas in the UK in some supermarkets and on-line and there are plenty of recipes for making soups, dhal and other dishes. Why not try some yourself?

This year we are not delivering envelopes house-to-house as in previous years. There will gift envelopes available in our churches, we will be having a raffle with three star prizes and we will also be setting up an e-envelope so that you can donate on-line. Messy Church and Bridge School will also be taking part in some fun activities and raising money.

Look out for all the details and for more stories of Christian Aid's work in Malawi in next month's On the Nail.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society - Spring Show

A reminder that the Society 's **Spring Show** is happening in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday 1 April from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm. So do pop in for a cuppa and feast your eyes on the display of beautiful spring flowers. There will also be a bring and buy stall and raffle to raise funds for the Society.

For more information please contact Kathy Walder, Show Secretary, on tel: 830057/07791 656539; email: kath@askwalder.com



Do not spread the compost on the weeds

William Shakespeare

I suspect there's a deeper meaning here. After all, one gardener's weed is another gardener's flower. It is probably more about the needing to look at what we're nourishing. However, my thoughts turned to my compost bin, gently simmering...

50 years ago, I started with 2 homemade wooden 3-sided structures, the idea being that A could be turned over to B and when A was empty it was ready to start again. I moved to a smaller garden and acquired the dalek type plastic bins, (still available free from a variety of sources), and I was so pleased to find a slow worm curled up in one. Finally, with an even smaller garden, I have an expanded Polypropylene black bin which heats up to a good temperature. It is totally enclosed and produces lovely rich black compost within months.

Adapting and experimenting over the years with composting methodology, it is a mix of household green waste, garden material (no seedy weeds or diseased material), a small amount of grass cuttings for heat, chopped cardboard (carbon) and bark chips (aeration). Chopped nettle leaves are a useful addition ((vitamins, amino acids, and minerals). Then red worms (*eisenia fetida*) appear, and black and nutritious compost is produced for the garden in a few months taken from a hatch at the bottom. Liquid is drained off separately for adding to water as liquid food. In the cold of Winter, it is a slower process. A win for me and a win for the planet. The daleks work as well, just a slower process.

A back door bin is for all the veggie and fruit peelings including banana skins (potassium), coffee grounds (nitrogen), crushed eggshells (calcium), tea bags/leaves (vitamins) and dust and bits of fluff from the vacuum cleaner.

I mulch my garden twice a year after which it immediately looks good, then the worms do all the work by secreting it into the soil. I may have mentioned this here before...



April bees love

Grape hyacinth, Wallflowers, Bluebells, Apple Blossom, Anemone Blanda

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Spring into summer down at Chalkpit Farm.

We are looking forward to some brand new activities at Essentially Hops this year; including farm tours, pick your own country flowers and, for the first time, fresh hop picking! In the meantime though, we have some fantastic events and workshops for you to learn new skills and get involved at the farm throughout April.

Make your own Easter Wreath Workshop

A great workshop for learning new crafting techniques and skills; working with both dried flowers and fresh foliage to create a beautiful Easter wreath to decorate your front door or your home.

Date: Sunday 2nd April 2023

Time: 14.00 to 15:30 (1.5 Hours)

Venue: Essentially Hops, Chalkpit Farm, CT5 5EU

How to arrange Dried Flowers Workshop

This is a back to basic class. You will learn the craft of covering a container, new skills and techniques to arranging dried flowers; providing yourself a beautiful and long-lasting hessian bucket display.

Date: Saturday 29th April 2023

Time: 14.00 to 15.30 (1.5 Hours)

Venue: Essentially Hops, Chalkpit Farm, CT5 5EU

Stay tuned for more exciting updates from Chalkpit Farm, and for further information and details. Call us on 01227 830666 or visit: <https://essentiallyhops.co.uk/events-workshops/>

News from Woodpeckers Nursery



During his Spring Budget the Chancellor announced an extension to 'free' Early Education for all children over

the age of 9 months. Unfortunately at the moment we do not have enough information from the government to say what this will look like for us as a setting.

However we do currently have some limited availability for two or three year olds. Please get in touch if you would like a place or you can reserve a space for September, when we aim to be open 8am-6pm and taking children from 1 year.

Call or email Jo on 01227 831159 or info@woodpeckersnursery.co.uk for more information.

Nailbourne League of Friends of the Kent & Canterbury Hospital

We will be holding a virtual AGM via Zoom at 3pm on Wednesday 5 April 2023. Anyone wishing to participate should contact Maggie Fairweather on 830320. The AGM report will be published after the event.

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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.

Benefice Website: www.bridgechurchgroup.co.uk

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