



On the Nail

A magazine for the
villages along the
Nailbourne



***Celebrating the coronation of
HM King Charles III
May 2023***

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May 2023

Dear Friends,

Well at last! A few days of welcome Spring sunshine have really made a difference haven't they? A true promise that warmer days are coming! As we unfurl ourselves and make our way outside, May is often a time when we can celebrate simple pleasures, bare feet on grass, the sun warming your face, a bit of time to ourselves. For many of our teenagers its a time of study and examinations, but the end is in sight.

Summer also offers a time of restoration and relaxation with time to explore our hobbies and interests helped by the longer days and access to outdoor spaces and it all starts on May 1st.

May Day is the ancient festival heralding the start of summer which is often celebrated with the crowning of a May Queen, dancing around a maypole or singing on the church roof! (May Morning, Oxford) – now I love a bit of singing but you'll not find me on any church roofs!

This year however our celebrations in early May will be focussing on the coronation of King Charles III and the Queen Consort, Camila on the slightly later date of the 6th May. This coronation is the first opportunity for many of us to witness this ancient ceremony. Using the oil of Chrism pressed from Olives from the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem, the Archbishop of Canterbury will perform the anointing a duty which has been undertaken by the postholder since 1066. It seems fitting that the new King will be anointed with fruits of the earth he has been campaigning to protect for over 50 years. We shall then become a nation of pomp and parties with bunting, and cake aplenty, I'm sure. You'll find details of the various village celebrations taking place in the pages of this magazine.

Celebration is a wonderful expression of joy and community, not always expressed on a national level, most often it's personal or family sized. An outpouring of happiness that we delight to share with those important to us. It's important to celebrate to create times worthy of remembering as our own historic occasions. Even in scripture, it is the stories around moments of celebration that are handed down to us, think of Jesus' attendance at the wedding of Cana for instance. We know that Jesus' mother was there as she is key to the story – I love to imagine our Lord as simply a guest at a family wedding. Even more that he simply dealt with the problem when they ran out of wine!

So aside from the Coronation I wonder what you will be celebrating this May? The warmer days? The delights of a garden heading into summer? A family wedding or a long anticipated holiday? Are you an open water swimmer just waiting to peel off the wetsuit or a painter longing for blue skies and blousy blooms? We each have our own celebrations some grand and some less so.

So whether you are celebrating the crowning of our King, the wedding day you'll never forget or the arrival of your first home grown tomato, enjoy the moments, record them and share them as we stroll into summer and the new Carolean era.

Yours in Christ

Estella Last

Rev. Estella Last, Vicar, The Bridge Group Parish

*

May 2023 Diary Dates

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

Thurs 4th 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 5th- 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church

Sun 7th – 12-4pm Lower Hardres Community Hog Roast

Mon 8th - 9am-12pm Coronation Volunteering Morning at Bekesbourne Church

2-5pm Bridge Village Coronation Celebration

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

7.30pm Murder in the Cathedral at Bridge Church

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

7.30pm Murder in the Cathedral at Bridge Church

Fri 12th – 10.15-11.30 Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Bridge Village Hall

7.30pm Murder in the Cathedral at Bridge Church

Sat 13th - 4-6pm Messy Church at Bridge School

7.30pm Murder in the Cathedral at Bridge Church

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

Thurs 18th 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

2pm Communion at Mansfield Court

Fri 19th – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church

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

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

Thurs 25th – 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 26th – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church

Service details and readings for May 2023

6th May – CORONATION DAY			
7 th May	5 th Sun- day of Easter	Acts 7.55-60; Psalm 31.1-5,15- 16; 1 Peter 2.2-10; John 14.1-14 <i>(or readings ap- propriate for the King's Corona- tion)</i>	8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington 10am Songs of Praise at St Pe- ter's Bekesbourne 6pm Choral Evensong at St Pe- ter's Bridge
10-13th May 7pm Murder in the Cathedral Performances at St Peter's Bridge Tickets can be booked online via ticketsource.co.uk/murder			
13 th May	Messy Church		4-6pm Bridge and Patrixbourne CEP (includes a hot meal)
14 th May (start of Christian Aid week)	Rogation Sunday (6 th of Easter)	Acts 17.22-31; 1 Peter 3.13-22; John 14.15-21	10 am Communion at St Peter's Bridge
Thursday 18 th May	Ascension Day	Acts 1:1-11 Ephesians 1:15- end Luke 24:44-end	10am Ascension Day Commu- ion at St Mary's Nackington
21 st May	7 th Sun- day of Easter (Sunday after As- cension)	Acts 1.6-14; 1 Peter 4.12-14; 5.6-11; John 17.1-11	10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne 4pm All Age Family Service at St Peter's Bridge
28 th May	Pentecost (Whitsun)	Acts 2.1-21; 1 Corinthians 12.3b-13; John 20:19-23	10am Parish Communion St Mary's Lower Hardres
4 th June	Trinity Sunday / Environ- ment Sun- day	Isaiah 40.12- 17,27-31; Psalm 8; 2 Corin- thians 13.11-13; Matthew 28.16- 20	8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington 10am Songs of Praise at St Pe- ter's Bekesbourne 6pm Choral Evensong at St Pe- ter's, Bridge

Two of Jen's sons have won college places, but with drought ruining her crops she can only afford to send one. What a decision to have to make!

Could you help her to buy seeds and equipment and receive training in drought-proof agriculture so that both boys can have the further education they deserve?

This year for the first time the familiar red Christian Aid Week envelope will not be dropping through your letter box. With fewer people keeping cash at home we have decided to raise money in different ways. We hope people will be as generous as in previous years. **This is how you can help:**

Donate on-line via our Parish e-envelope. Click on:
https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/bridge-group-parish-envelope?utm_medium=sharedbuttons&utm_campaign=CAM-004478
or use the QR code.

You can also find this on our Parish website and Facebook page and on the Bridge Village Facebook page.

Not on-line? There will be Christian Aid Week envelopes available in all 5 of our churches during May. You can put your donation in the box provided or give to a Churchwarden.

Buy a ticket for our Grand Raffle! There will be 3 valuable prizes donated by local businesses. Tickets on sale throughout May.

Come to the Coronation Coffee and Cake Concert at Bridge Church on Saturday 29th at 10 for 10.30am. All proceeds are for our Christian Aid Week appeal.



You are invited to a
Volunteering Morning
at Bekesbourne Church

on Monday 8th May 9.00-12.00

and Barbecue afterwards

All ages and abilities welcome. There are lots of jobs to do, big and small, inside the church and out in the churchyard.

Come along and help us look after our beautiful church and churchyard and get together for a barbecue afterwards.

We are an Eco-church and want everyone to get involved in managing our churchyard and conserving valuable wildlife habitats as places of learning and community activity.

Phone Nicky 07720895593 for more details.

National Vegetable Society – Kent District Association

The Association has been fortunate in arranging for Mick Poultney, aka the Compost King, to give a talk on "How to Produce Compost in a Month" at their meeting on Wednesday 10 May in Bridge Village Hall (7.30 for 8.00 pm start). Mick is a well known speaker throughout the UK as well as a judge and expert composter who has recently brought out his first book on the art of composting. There is no charge for entry and all are welcome. Refreshments, raffle and sales table

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK EVENTS ON IN CANTERBURY SALE OF PRODUCE

St Peter's Anglican Church
St Peter's Street

Saturday 13th May 10am – 1pm.

Plants, jam, chutney and cakes

(donations welcome – contact Jean on 07771 631784)

CONCERT by the CANTERBURY MUSICIANS

Old Synagogue, King Street

Thursday 18 May at 7.45pm.

Tickets £7 available on the door.



Proceeds of both events for Christian Aid.

Bridge with Patrixbourne Womens Institute

We have now reverted to our summer time schedule of meeting at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall.

In April we were given a fascinating talk on Calligraphy and a demonstration of embossing by Margaret Welsh. Members were encouraged to take up this fascinating craft as a new hobby.

We were asked by the Parish Council to run a Tea & Cakes party from the Pavilion for the Coronation celebration on the Recreation Ground on Bank Holiday Monday, 8th May, but It was decided that we do not have the 'manpower' to do so. Instead, we have agreed to provide some cakes and members have been asked to sign up and indicate the type of cake they will make.

The speaker for our next meeting is Paul Beard, who will give a talk entitled 'About a boy – a journey with Barnardos', on **Tuesday 16 May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

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

April 2023



Bekesbourne Village Hall invites you to a

CORONATION CELEBRATION

Tea Party

Saturday 6th May

2 – 4 pm

No need to book, see you there!



THE YEAR IS 1170.

ENGLAND IS IN TURMOIL.

An uneasy peace has been brokered between the Church and the Crown. After many bitter years as an Archbishop in exile, Thomas Becket has at last returned to Canterbury. Led by God and commanded by the king; his fate, however, lies entirely in his own hands.

Due to popular demand, our production comes to the beautiful setting of St Peter's in Bridge! We will truly whisk you into the past. Become part of our congregation and the history will spring to life once more before your very eyes!

T. S. Eliot's epic saga of England's most famous Saint was written especially for the first ever Canterbury Festival in 1935. Inspired by the earliest original theatre of Ancient Greece, *Murder in the Cathedral* is an outstanding drama that deftly weaves themes of ritual, renewal, and sacrifice.

So come, pilgrim, bear witness to the struggle, the torment, and the foulest sacrilege e'er perpetrated on English soil!

Doors open at 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start.

All proceeds from this performance are being donated to the Bridge Group of Churches

Due to the unusual setting of our performance, please be aware of the following when booking:

There is no reserved seating: a ticket will guarantee you a seat, but not its location. We assure you that ALL available seats do have a view of the action!

Please be aware of uneven floors and steps, dim lighting, and other hazards. We have also done all we can to ensure your comfort, but we do recommend wearing warm layers, just in case!

For disabled access queries, please contact us prior to booking and we will be more than happy to assist.

Toilets are available in the church.

We're afraid that parking is limited in the church grounds. Parking is available nearby.

The church is not just an historic building but also a functioning place of worship. We respectfully ask that no food or drink (besides bottled water) is brought to the performance.

...
BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND, THE MARTYRDOM PLAYERS PRESENT

MURDER in the CATHEDRAL



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WRITTEN BY
T. S. ELIOT

DIRECTED BY
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Coronation

afternoon tea in the Park

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

Confirmed so far:

-  **Mahoney's of Bridge - offering tea, cake and scones**
*Coronation Picnic boxes are available by pre-order only.
-  **Licenced bar provided by Premier Bar Runners**
-  **Fun activities run by Woodpeckers**
-  **School Choir**
-  **Bouncy Castle and Inflatable Games**



To help gauge numbers and ensure the smooth running of the event please register your attendance by clicking on the following link or by scanning the QR code.

<https://www.bridgevillage.org.uk/news/>



Cash only event

NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



The Elham Valley

An illustrated talk by

Martin Newcombe

Tuesday 2 May

7.30 pm

Bridge Village Hall

At our next meeting on Tuesday 2nd May, we will have Martin Newcombe, the well known local environmentalist, giving an illustrated talk on The Elham Valley. He is a splendid speaker and is sure to be both informative and entertaining. The venue is Bridge Village Hall at the usual time of 7.30 pm. All are welcome and the entry fee is £2 for members and £4 for non-members to include refreshments.

Open Class and Garden Entries for Summer Show

A reminder that the Society's **Summer Show** will be held this year on Saturday 22 July but that entries for the **three garden classes** which will be judged a little earlier this year, namely towards the latter part of June, have to be in by 2nd June. The three garden classes are:

Prettiest Small Garden

Best Kept Vegetable Garden (garden and/or allotment)

Most Picturesque Garden.

Under the Society's Conditions of Show, winners of these classes in 2022 are excluded from entering that same class in this year's show. This is to give other members a chance of winning one of the handsome trophies.

Notification of entries are also required by 2nd June for a new **Open Class** for everyone to enter. This year we have asked you to plant up and display at your property a **Hanging Basket or Container planted for Wildlife** and the winner of this will receive a voucher prize.

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

ALL WELCOME!

Bridge Haven Thrift Shop



Opening again for the Summer from 29th April 2023

Opening times- Every Saturday from 10:30-12:30



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Latest prize winners are;

March

£50 David Durell

£25 Mike Barker

£15 Graham Duplock

April

£50 Chris Powell

£25 Wendy Durell

£15 Amanda Barker



In your garden with Marie Gold



There are no gardening mistakes, only experiments.

Janet Kilburn Phillips

Experimenting is over half the fun in gardening and of course you learn from your 'errors' which in turn helps you to become a better gardener, or so I have been convincing myself over the years.

You may be sorting out your summer plants, if you have not already done so, having kept them in a safe place before risking any early English summer frosts. The principle, Thriller, Filler, and Spiller, for pots is useful when starting out to plant for the first time. Think about where the pot will go and the direction of the sun - are you looking at a pot for full sunshine, partial sunshine or just shade?

The Thriller is something bold and on the tall side (to match the depth of the pot). This could be a grass, a small shrub, an evergreen plant or indeed a tall annual. The Filler is the plants that encircle it. These include geraniums or pelargoniums, gazanias, begonias, heucheras, non-trailing petunias etc and the Spiller is the trailing varieties of plants: lysimachia, helichrysum, verbenas, petunias, fuchsias – the list is endless. Think about the colours and different greens, greys, black and bronze plants you can have fun with.

Good drainage at the bottom of the pot and a mix of peat free compost and grit is a good start for your plants to succeed. Arrange them on top of the compost still in their own pots and once satisfied with the look then plant them in. Make allowance for them all to expand and grow. A good soak with either the addition of liquid seaweed or a proprietary tomato feed will give them a good start. Pots need watering regularly as they dry out very quickly even after rain. A top dress of either grit or bark chips helps with both the appearance and moisture retention.

I find it useful to have the odd spare plant to pop in if something happens to the original. Then I just wait for it to expand and flower and look good for the summer months.



May bees love

Rosemary, Ceanothus, Campanula, Hardy Geraniums, Honesty, Hollyhock

BEKESBOURNE VILLAGE HALL



Cheese Tasting Evening

*hosted by
"Cheesemakers of
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At 7.00pm

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Little Lambs

The Bridge Group Parish Baby and Toddler Group
Thursdays during term time
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Suggested donation £1.50
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The Bridge Group Parish

Bridge Village Fete

*****Please save the date*****

24th June 12-4pm at Bridge and Patricbourne CEP School

There will be food, drink, entertainment and stalls for all the family

If any local stall holders or businesses' would like at stall at the Fete, please contact bridgeschoolpta@gmail.com

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**On Saturday, 10th June, 2023 in
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Tickets are £15.00 to include the light refreshments

Admission by Ticket ONLY from Graham 01 227 830271 or Nicky 830319

Bridge & District History Society

All are welcome on May 18th for Alan Walton's talk on the **Elham Valley Railway** in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Built to compete for Cross Channel business in the late 1800s, The Elham Valley Railway had a short and commercially unsuccessful life. However, stories of the battle between rival railway companies, the skirmishes with local landowners during construction and its contribution to our finest hour during WW2 amongst others, impart a history full of intrigue and fascination. Come and hear the tale of this 'wannabe railway' that was opened during the height of railway fever and closed before nationalisation.

By kind invitation of the owner, a visit to Bishopsbourne Station is planned for Sunday June 25th. Details of how to book for this tour will be available to subscribers at a later date.

Keep up to date with the Society via the website www.bridgehistory.org.uk

Fish News

Do come to the Coffee Pop-in at Bridge village hall at 10 am on Friday May 12th and enjoy the end of Coronation week with friends. Everybody is very welcome.

Many thanks to Mrs Foster and Sue for the fine supply of wool. It will be well used.

We are looking to arrange a lunch outing on Thursday June 15th. More details nearer the time.

Our number for lifts and help is 07935 966 080.

The League of Friends of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital

A Zoom AGM was held on Wednesday 5 April 2023 at 62 Bridge Down. Thanks to our Nailbourne Friends and those who have given donations or supported our group in other ways. Our income in the year ended 31 December 2022 was £3468 leaving a balance of £10652 in hand. Our outstanding commitments to the hospital for gifts total £5679. We welcome donations of used stamps and coins, over £344 was raised last year.

We were 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.

Nailbourne League of Friends

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Curate:	Rev. Miriam Hinksman	07423-735398 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	01227-830668
	laurence.dunderdale@gmail.com	
(Gift Aid Officer)	Mrs Evelyn Andrews	01227-830960
	evepurlins@btinternet.com	
PCC Secretary:	Mr Rory Wetherell	01227-830318
PCC Treasurer:	bridge.gp.treasurer@gmail.com	
Christian Aid/Organist	Mrs Jean Barber	01227-831956

St Peter's Bekesbourne

Churchwarden	Mrs Nicky Fry	01227-830319
	nicolafry@cscope.co.uk	
PCC Finance Team:	Mrs Zan Clifford	01227-830328
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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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