

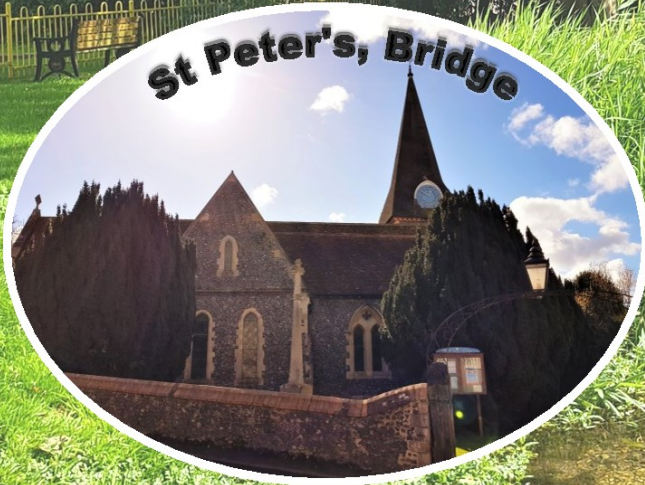


On the Nail

A magazine for the
villages along the
Nailbourne



St Mary's, Patrixbourne



St Peter's, Bridge



St Peter's, Bekesbourne

**November
2023**

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November 2023

Dear Friends

After an unexpectedly warm couple of weeks, today when I woke up there was frost on the grass and the car.....what happened to autumn I wondered, winter seems to have arrived over night! There's something comforting though about the need for warm boots, jackets and scarves as we head into November and all that this brings. You will see we've even had to start thinking about Christmas (ssh!) as we have given you advance notice of Christmas services in our Service grids this month.

November for me is always a season of Remembering. It begins with the Festival of All Saints when we celebrate the lives of those who have gone before us to the heavenly realm and those saints walking among us who witness to the love and light of God in our World. This is followed by All Souls when we take time to remember those we have loved and who we miss, remembering them specifically in prayer and in our Evensong Service on 5th November we will be lighting candles and naming before God, those for whom we grieve. I should also add there is a service at Canterbury Cathedral on Saturday 4th November at 11am for anyone who has ever either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth, or in early years, or who has been affected by family members' or friends' loss.

Then around the 11th November we have our Annual Remembrance Services where we remember all those who have lost their lives in service of our country in the first and second world wars and in conflicts since then. For me, with news of the violent troubles escalating in the Middle East, the continuing reality of war in Europe in the ongoing invasion of Ukraine, and other wars around the world, it seems more important than ever that we remember the truly devastating impact that war has. Not to glorify it or celebrate it, but precisely the opposite, to remind this and future generations of the need for peace, diplomacy and reconciliation.

Jesus said blessed are the peacemakers (Matthew 5: 9). In Jesus' teaching and in his life, we see modelled nonviolent, peaceful action. He encourages his followers to "turn the other cheek" and not return vengeance with vengeance. There is no way to peace other than through peacemaking itself. And yet we live in a world where increasingly it seems to be thought that peace can be achieved by violence – it can't and it won't. But the biblical concept of peace is something far greater than simply the absence of violence and everyone getting on well together. The operative word in Hebrew is *shalom*. At its core, *shalom* designates a state of wholeness, harmony, and completeness—it points to the way things *ought* to be.

My prayer for us all this November in this season of remembering as we give thanks for those who bring light and life to our world, as we grieve for those we miss and as we remember those who have died in war, is that we will be graced by a deep sense of God's peace and that we can share this in our own ways (however small) with others. May we all be peacemakers in our own spaces.

Yours in Christ

Estella Last

Rev. Estella Last, Vicar, The Bridge Group Parish

November 2023 Dates

Weds 1st - 6pm Confirmation preparation

Thurs 2nd 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion

Fri 3rd 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church

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

Weds 8th -10 am Bekesbourne Village coffee morning, Bekesbourne Village Hall
- 6pm Confirmation preparation

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

Fri 10th – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church

10.15-11.30 Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Bridge Village Hall

Sat 11th- 4pm-6pm Messy Church at Bridge School

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

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

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

2pm Communion at Mansfield Court

Fri 17th – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church

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

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

Fri 24th – 8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church

Sat 25th – Coffee, Cake and Concert

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

2.30pm Caring and Sharing

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

Service details and readings for November 2023

5 th November	4 th Sunday before Ad- vent All Saints All souls	1 Thessalonians 2.9-13; Matthew 23.1-12 Matthew 5:1-12 Romans 8:31-end; Psalm 109:20-26, 29-30; John 6: 37-40	8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington 10am Songs of Praise at St Peter's Bekesbourne 6pm Choral Evensong at St Peter's, Bridge (4pm Come and Sing practice open to all!)
Friday 10 th November			11am Remembrance Service with Year 6 from Bridge School at St Mary's Patrixbourne
11 th November			10.30am Remembrance at St Peter's Bekesbourne at the War Memorial Messy Church 4pm Bridge and Patrixbourne CEP
12 th November	Remem- brance Sun- day (3 rd be- fore Advent)	Amos 5.18-24; Psalm 70; 1 Thessalo- nians 4.13-18; Matthew 25.1-13 (Alternative readings for Remembrance may be used)	10 am Communion at St Peter's Bridge (Parade Service with Act of Remembrance at 10.50) 10am Remembrance Service at St Mary's Nackington followed by Wreath laying at the War Memorial 10.45 Wreath Laying at the War Memorial in Lower Hardres
19 th November	2 nd Sunday before Ad- vent (Safeguardin g Sunday)	Zephaniah 1.7,12-18; 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11; Matthew 25.14-30	10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne 4pm All Age Family Service at St Peter's Bridge
26 th November	Christ the King (Sunday next before Ad- vent)	Ezekiel 34.11-16,20-24; Ephesians 1.15-23; Matthew 25.31-46	10am Parish Communion St Mary's Lower Hardres

December 2022 Dates and Advance notice of Christmas Services

3 rd December	Advent Sunday	Isaiah 64.1-9; Psalm 80.1-7,17-19; 1 Corinthians 1.3-9; Mark 13.24-37	8am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington 10am Songs of Praise at St Peter's Bekesbourne (Advent Carols) 6pm Choral Evensong at St Peter's, Bridge
9 th December	Messy Church		4pm Bridge and Patrixbourne CEP
10 th December	2 nd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 40.1-11; 2 Peter 3.8-15a; Mark 1.1-8	10 am Communion at St Peter's Bridge
17 th December	3 rd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thesalonians 5.16-24; John 1.6-28	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 22 nd December			7pm Carol Service St Mary's Patrixbourne
24 th December	4 th Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve	2 Samuel 7.1-11,16; Romans 16.25-27; Luke 1.26-38	10am Parish Communion St Mary's Lower Hardres 3pm Christingle Service at Bridge 5pm Christingle Service at Bridge 10pm Christmas Eucharist Nackington
25 th December	Christmas Day		9.30am Christmas Communion St Peter's Bridge 11am Christmas Carol Service St Peter's Bekesbourne
31 st December	1 st Sunday of Christmas		10am Benefice Communion St Mary's Patrixbourne

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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- General bookkeeping
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- 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

Bridge & District History Society

The next meeting will be on Thursday November 16th at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall.

Jackie Eales' talk "Smashing up the Cathedral" tells of two periods of image smashing in Canterbury Cathedral when medieval windows, statues, altars, textiles, books and manuscripts were defaced or destroyed.

Jackie will consider why these images were seen as offensive and make parallels with objections to certain statues in more recent times.

No membership fee, £4.00 at the door to include refreshments. All welcome.
More information at www.bridgehistory.org.uk



In your garden with Marie Gold



*Dull November brings the blast
Then the leaves are whirling fast*

Sara Coleridge

November can be a dry and often dull month but with late flowers still in evidence to brighten proceedings. Sara Coleridge sums up the month beautifully and I shall be gathering, storing and then spreading macerated leaves throughout the month. My garden seems to attract more than most.

Wildlife experts tell us to leave the seedheads of herbaceous plants: fennel, verbena bonariensis, grasses and echinacea for the birds. Other plants with attractive seed-heads can also be left to provide winter interest.

Knowing what to plant in November very much depends on the state of your soil. If it is waterlogged or frozen, then delay planting until conditions improve. But if your soil is pleasantly damp then finish off planting the Spring biennials.

Dig in any hardy plants and shrubs that you bought either bare rooted or in pots and give them that all-important head start against those planted next Spring. Although Winter is around the corner, in some areas the ground will still be warm enough for the roots to get established. This means they will be quicker off the blocks to grow and flower when Spring arrives. Deciduous hedges can be trimmed and cut back now as you can see the framework. Raise container plants off the ground with pot feet. Ensure the greenhouse is secure from very cold weather – I didn't last year and lost a lot of plants.

You can help winter solitary bees by providing them with shelter – a log pile or a bee hotel are equally ideal. Winter-flowering plants for your garden include Mahonia, evergreen winter flowering clematis, winter-flowering heather (*Erica carnea*), winter aconite, hellebores, and winter honeysuckle (*Lonicera x purpusii* – Winter Beauty) which are all able to be planted now. Top up your bird feeders and especially the bird bath. Meanwhile,



Active Bumblebees also like

Sarcocolla Confusa, Ivy flowers, Autumn crocus and Fatsia Japonica

What's on in November?



MESSY CHURCH

*4-6pm Saturday 11th November at Bridge and Patricbourne School..
Crafts, stories and a hot meal for all the family*



LITTLE LAMBS BABY & TODDLER GROUP

9-11am Thursday's during term time, Bridge Pavilion



FAMILY SERVICE

4pm on Sunday 19th with Rev Estella, Rev Miriam and Dan Luck!



Bridge Fireworks & Bonfire

Saturday 4th Nov
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9am-11am

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‘COME AND SING’ EVENSONG

Our first ‘Come and Sing’ Evensong in October went well with eight people joining with our parish choir to rehearse, have tea and cake together and then sing the service.

The next Evensong is on Sunday 5th November at Bridge Church, when we will be celebrating and remembering All Souls.

The format will be the same as last month:

3.45pm Assemble (to arrange seating, give out music etc)

4.00pm Rehearsal

5.15pm Tea and cake

6.00pm Service

Everyone is welcome to come along, whether experienced in choir singing or not. There is no commitment to singing regularly. If you can let us know in advance, that would be helpful for planning the service and providing enough music for everyone.

Hope to see you!

Friends of St Peter's Church, Bridge

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Suggested donation £5 per person (incl. coffee and cake!), children free. All profits to the church.

Nailbourne Scout Group news

Nailbourne Scouts have started back after the summer with the usual bang! Beavers have been learning about and making fossils, gone bug-hunting, had Harvest celebrations and done some epic junk modelling. Cubs have learnt about the Sun, stars and planets and prepared for a mission to Mars, as well as making and flying paper aeroplanes and building catapults to propel bean bags. Scouts have taken part in pioneering challenges, learnt fire-lighting and shelter-building skills in woodland bushcraft sessions, completed an army obstacle course at Betteshanger and gone climbing at F51 in Folkestone. Explorers have been lighting fires, geocaching, completing the army obstacle course, starting work on the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award and planning for their first out-of-county expedition camp.

We also held our annual Barham Garage Safari in late September, along with car wash, raffle and refreshments, which was a great success and raised lots of money for our funds.

Events to look out for include a Halloween food bank collection, where we will be collecting items for the food bank instead of trick or treating. We'll be knocking on doors in Barham between 7 and 8pm on 31 October, but we won't be able to get to everyone, so there will also be a collection point outside Barham Village Hall. You can also see us parading through Bridge on Remembrance Sunday before the Remembrance service at the church. Finally, look out for more details about our annual Scout Christmas Post in Bridge nearer the time – and hopefully it will be hitting Barham again this year too!

The final happy news is that we have managed to find a new Beaver leader, and our Beaver group continues! As always, though, we really do need more people to help with all aspects of Nailbourne Scouts. As we have said many times, we are entirely reliant on volunteers and we are hugely grateful for the work of all our current helpers and committee members. But we'd love to see some new faces, and you don't need a current connection to the group!

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, 6.45–8.00pm, Barham Village Hall

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

Explorers (14–18 years) – Wednesdays, 7.30–9.00pm, Barham 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). For information on Explorers, please contact Phil Last at explorersnailbourne@gmail.com

Fish Scheme News

Are you new to the villages? Come to the monthly Coffee Pop-in from 10 o'clock on Friday November 10th in Bridge village hall. You will be very welcome. If you need a lift just ring the Fish phone on

07935 966 080.

Avante's fundraiser for a Tearoom at Bridge Haven Care Home

At Avante Care & Support, we are working hard to create a vibrant and fulfilling life for our residents.

We want to give them a place to sit with family, friends and the wider communities. That's why we are raising £40,000 for our tearoom.



Your support will help us make this dream a reality. With your help, we can provide our residents with a safe and comfortable place to socialize and enjoy life. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of those who need it most.

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Nursery email: info@woodpeckersnursery.co.uk

Committee email: woodpeckerscommittee@gmail.com

News from Woodpeckers Nursery

The first term at Woodpeckers has been a busy one. We have already welcomed 10 new families this term with another 4 joining us for term 2. Our baby room is almost fully booked so get in touch soon to grab your place.

Like many families and other settings we are waiting for more details on the government plan to extend the early childcare funding to two year olds in April 2024. We will publish our plans here and on our website/ socials as soon as we have more information from Kent County Council.

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