

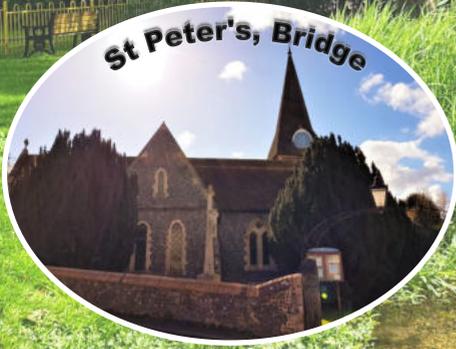


# *On the Nail*

A magazine for the  
villages along the  
Nailbourne



**St Mary's, Patrixbourne**



**St Peter's, Bridge**



**St Peter's, Bekesbourne**

**NOVEMBER  
2024**

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November 2024

Dear Friends,

I wonder whether you feel that life is just a period of time or whether you see it as something of a journey? Last weekend I was asked to give the Homily at Evensong on Sunday. The brief was no more than five minutes, a homily rather than a sermon, more of a 'thought for the day' and the theme 'Journeying with others'. Here's a short precis of the talk I gave in case you missed it. I wonder if you have ever had the experience of a regular commute perhaps to your place of work?

In my life before motherhood and ordination I had a couple of goes at commuting from North Kent to London by train for work experience as a teenager and later by coach for a placement as part of my law degree. In my first proper job as a Conference Administrator based near London Victoria, I commuted again, by train from North Kent to London, around London on tube trains, and around the world a little on airplanes. Each time journeying with people who were basically strangers with no more in common perhaps than our direction of travel.

In the context of the daily commute, who you are matters almost not at all, what matters is where you are going and whether you might get there on time. Likewise it matters not whether the people in the metal box with you, think like you do, or act like you do, or care like you do, and yet for that moment you share an experience of journeying together.

Seeking a connection with your fellow commuters may happen over time. If you always take the same train, always sit roughly in the same carriage, you may get to know others who do likewise. But in the more fleeting sporadic journeys, it became my experience that rarely did we engage with one another unless the journey was disrupted in some way. We might exchange an eye roll if the train is held at a signal, have a brief conversation about lateness if the delay is a bit more significant. But if the journey were terminated and the dreaded 'Replacement Bus Service' brought into play.....well then we become a team. As the train limps into the next station, off we'd go in a pack, our carriage against the rest of the world, determined to get on that bus!

In Ministry, one often comes into relationship with people as a result of a disruption in their lives, illness, or bereavement perhaps but not always sad things, welcoming a new child in baptism or marrying a couple,.....and this got me wondering, perhaps there is something we can all learn from the 'journeying with' of the daily commute which says, it doesn't matter who you are, what you look like, where you're from or what your job is, but we're all trying to head in roughly the same direction and when something happens to disrupt our journey, that's when we need to stick together more.

The World perhaps feels like a disruptive place at the moment. But imagine what it would like if our community, or even our nation could learn to do that? To be a community which says, it doesn't matter who you are, what you look like, where you're from or what your job is, what matters is the direction of our journey of life together, and I would add, into the heart of God, and when anything happens to disrupt that, well then that's when we need each other more.

Yours in Christ

*Estella Last*

Rev. Canon Estella Last, Vicar, The Parish of the Bridge Group , Area Dean East Bridge Deanery Diocesan Adviser for Women's Ministry, Canterbury Diocese

### **Service of Commemoration of the Faithful Departed – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, St Peter's Bridge 6pm**

It is traditional to remember those who have died on All Souls Day – we will be marking this with a special service of Evensong at St Peter's Bridge on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 6pm. You are warmly invited to attend this gentle, comforting service at which the names of those who are died are read out and there is an opportunity to light candles. If you would like the name of your loved one read please let us know by writing to [bridgeoffice23@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeoffice23@gmail.com)

### **Services for Remembrance in the Bridge Group Parish**

#### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Sunday**

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

#### **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November – Armistice Day**

11am Remembrance Service with Year 6 from Bridge School at St Mary's Patrixbourne

10.50 for 11am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at St Peter's Bekesbourne

## Service details and readings for November 2024

3 <sup>rd</sup> November	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday before Ad- vent /  All Saints (1 <sup>st</sup> Nov) /  All Souls (2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov)	Hebrews 9.11-14; Mark 12.28-34 /  Isaiah 25:6-9; Revelation 21:1-6a John 11:32-44  tbc	<b>9am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington</b> *Please note the change of time from 8am to 9am  <b>10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne</b>  <b>6pm Choral Evensong (Come and Sing from 4pm) at St Peter's Bridge</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> November	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Ad- vent / Remem- brance Sun- day	Jonah 3:1-5,10; Psalm 62:5-12; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 1:14-20  Alternative readings for Remembrance Sunday may be used	<b>10 am Communion at St Peter's Bridge (Parade Service with Act of Remembrance at 10.50)</b>  <b>10am Remembrance Service at St Mary's Nackington followed by Wreath laying at the War Memorial</b>  <b>10.45 Wreath Laying at the War Memorial in Lower Hardres</b>
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November			<b>11am Remembrance Service with Year 6 from Bridge School at St Mary's Patrixbourne</b>  <b>10.50 for 11am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at St Peter's Bekesbourne</b>
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> November			<b>4-6pm Messy Church at Bridge School</b>
17 <sup>th</sup> November	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Ad- vent	Daniel 12:1-3 Hebrews 10.11-14(15-18)19-25; Mark 13.1-8	<b>10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne</b>
24 <sup>th</sup> November	Christ the King / Sunday next before Advent	Daniel 7.9-10,13-14; Revelation 1.4b-8; John 18.33-37	<b>10am Parish Communion at St Mary's Lower Hardres</b>

## Advance Details Services for December and Christmas 2024

1 <sup>st</sup> December	Advent Sunday	<p><b>9am BCP Communion St Mary's, Nackington</b> *Please note the change of time from 8am to 9am</p> <p><b>10am Songs of Praise St Peter's Bekesbourne</b></p> <p><b>6pm Choral Evensong (Come and Sing from 4pm) at St Peter's Bridge</b></p>
8 <sup>th</sup> December	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent	<b>10 am Parish Communion at St Peter's Bridge</b>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December		<b>6pm Community Carols at St Mary's Lower Hardres</b>
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> December		<b>4-6pm Messy Church at Bridge School</b>
15 <sup>th</sup> December	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	<b>10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne</b>
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December		<b>7pm Carol Service St Mary's Patrixbourne</b>
22 <sup>nd</sup> December	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	<p><b>10am Parish Communion at St Mary's Lower Hardres</b></p> <p><b>7pm Carol Service at St Peter's Bridge</b></p>
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Eve	<p><b>3pm Christingle Service at Bridge</b> <b>5pm Christingle Service at Bridge</b></p> <p><b>10pm Christmas Eucharist Nackington</b></p>
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Day	<p><b>9.30am Christmas Communion St Peter's Bridge</b></p> <p><b>11am Christmas Carol Service St Peter's Bekesbourne</b></p>
29 <sup>th</sup> December	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas	<b>10am Benefice Communion at St Mary's Nackington</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> January	Epiphany	<b>10am Benefice Communion Service at St Peter's Bekesbourne</b>

## November 2024 Dates

Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.15-11.30 Coffee Cake and Concert at St Peter's Bridge
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	1pm-3pm BREW, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground
Thurs 7th	9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion
Fri 8th	8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church 10 am Fish Scheme Coffee Pop in Bridge Village Hall
Sat 9th	5.30pm Bridge Village Fireworks, Bridge Recreation Ground
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup>	1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground 2.30pm Caring and Sharing
Weds 13 <sup>th</sup>	10 am village coffee morning, Bekesbourne Village Hall
Thurs 14th	9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion
Fri 15th	8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church 11am-12.30pm Lower Hardres Community Coffee Morning LH Village Hall
Sat 16th	4-6pm Messy Church at Bridge School
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup>	9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion 2pm-3pm Communion at Mansfield Court
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church
Mon 25th	1pm-3pm BREW Bekesbourne Recreation Ground 2.30pm Caring and Sharing
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup>	9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge Pavilion
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup>	8.45am Coffee, Chat and Prayer at Bridge Church

### **Additional Forthcoming events to note:**

- Salvation Army Concert at Bridge School, 28th November
- Nackington Salvation Army Carols, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December
- Bekesbourne Christmas Bazaar, 7th December 10-12 noon
- Bridge Coffee & Cake Concert, 14<sup>th</sup> December
- Bridge School Senior Citizens Tea Party, 12th December

The image features a central graphic for 'Messy Church'. The logo consists of the word 'MESSY' in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, with 'CHURCH' in smaller, yellow, bold, sans-serif capital letters below it. The text is set against a red, splatter-like background. The entire graphic is overlaid on a photograph of a wooden surface covered in various colors of paint (purple, red, yellow, green, blue) and several paintbrushes with wooden handles and metal ferrules. The text for the event is centered over the lower half of the image.

**4-6pm Saturday 16th November**

**Bridge and Patrixbourne School**  
Crafts, worship and a stories for the whole family.

All welcome.

For more details email [estellalast@gmail.com](mailto:estellalast@gmail.com)

## **Fish Scheme News**

The Annual General Meeting of the Fish Scheme will be during the Coffee Pop-in in Bridge village hall between 10 and 11.15 8th November. Everybody is most welcome. The phone number for lifts is 07935 966 080.

## **Littlebourne & District Royal British Legion**

We held an enjoyable meeting in October when nominations were taken for election of branch officers at our AGM on 12th November. We hope that as many members as possible will attend that meeting to support the committee.

The Poppy Appeal collection stand for this year will be outside the Littlebourne War Memorial Hall (near the shop entrance) on the 3 Saturdays before the Remembrance Service. Please come along and buy your poppy and see our range of other Poppy Appeal items.

Our Branch Remembrance Service will be on Sunday 10th November at St Andrew's Church, Wickhambreaux. We will assemble at 10.45am by the War Memorial

**POPPY APPEAL 2024 - BRIDGE, PATRIBOURNE (and Bishopsbourne).**

**By the time you read this the Annual Poppy Appeal will be under way (25th October to 9th November).**

**Poppies will be available in most of the business premises in Bridge, Bridge church and Patribourne church.**

**Please support the Appeal if you are able to. Cash collecting tins with each Poppy box. Also for cashless donations there is a QR code to scan from your phone to donate online.**

**(Please Note - similar arrangements exist in Bekesbourne)**

**"Lest we forget"**

**Laurence Dunderdale  
Poppy Appeal Organiser. (Bridge)**

## NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

An advance notice of our next meeting on **Tuesday 3rd December** with a change to the previously planned floral demonstration. We are excited to have **Sally Edge, Founder and Manager and Gail Rowlands, Gardener**, who will speak about **Langdon Gardens**, where they have worked and continue to work with nature to create a garden for people and the planet. It will be held at the usual venue of **Bridge Village Hall at 7.30 pm**.

We hope to see many members and friends there to support this last event of the year to make it a success. There will be a charge of £5 for members and £7 for non members to include festive refreshments.



### **Langdon... *a Garden for People and the Planet***

A talk by

**Sally Edge and Gail Rowlands**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 7.30 pm**

**Bridge village Hall**

An entry fee of £5 for members and £7 for non members to include festive refreshments

All are most welcome!



Bridge  
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**Saturday 9th Nov**

Gates open 5.30pm  
Bridge Recreation Ground

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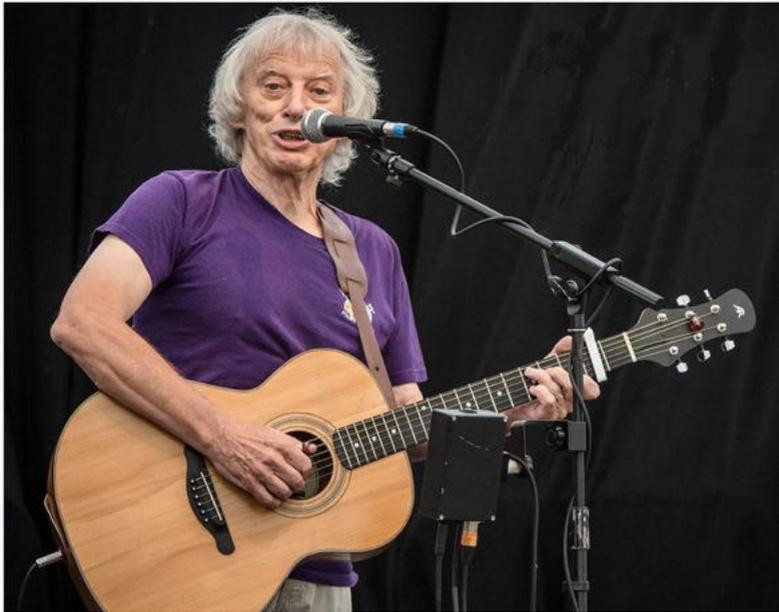


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**Friends of St Peter's Church, Bridge**

**COFFEE & CAKE & CONCERT**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 10:15 to 11:30**



**Another morning of songs from Allan Richardson**

**Suggested donation £5, children free**

**Proceeds shared between the Church  
& The DEC Middle East Humanitarian Appeal**



**Bekesbourne Village Hall  
will be hosting a  
Fraud and Prevention Talk  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm**

**The talk will be given by Emma Swietochowski-  
Hay  
(Kent Police, Fraud Prevention Co-ordinator,  
Prevent and Protect)**

With the Christmas season fast approaching we thought it would be a great idea to hold this talk.

Emma is the Fraud Prevention Co-ordinator for the East within Kent Police, and she is keen to give presentations to organisations and community groups on how to protect yourselves from the threat of Scams and avoid criminals stealing your money. Some of the areas Emma will cover will include fake calls, emails and text messages, Romance Scams, Rogue Traders, Gift card scams, Impersonation and investment scams and ways to protect yourself against fraud.

This is a free event for our community

Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start

We ask that no children attend to allow space for adults please.

Refreshments will be available at £1.50

For further information please contact Tara on  
07871422072

## Bekesbourne Village Hall winter Timetable 24/25

<b>MONDAY</b>	<p>8.30am - 4.30pm Private Hire</p> <p>7pm Bekesbourne Parish Council Meetings 11<sup>th</sup> Nov '24, 13<sup>th</sup> Jan '25, 10<sup>th</sup> Mar '25</p>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<p>7pm - 8pm Circuits with Sarah. No Booking Required</p>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<p>11.30am - 4pm Private Hire</p> <p>10am to 11.30 am Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month BVH Coffee Morning + The Refill Van  <a href="http://www.refillablevan.com">www.refillablevan.com</a></p> <p>Pilates with Marcela, Bring your own mat.          6.15pm to 7.15pm No Booking Required £7.</p>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<p>9.15am - 10.15am Tiny Talk - Contact Deborah at  <a href="http://www.tinytalk.co.uk/debh">www.tinytalk.co.uk/debh</a> for more information. Booking required.</p> <p>6pm to 7pm John - Gentle Exercise Group. No booking Required</p>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<p>9.30am to 10.30am - Jodie - The Tutor Experience - Booking Required at <a href="http://bookwhen.com/thetutorexperience">http://bookwhen.com/thetutorexperience</a></p>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<p><a href="mailto:enquiries4bvh@gmail.com">enquiries4bvh@gmail.com</a></p>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<p>Boxercise 9.30am to 10.15am with John no booking required.</p> <p>Pilates with Marcela 10.45am to 11.45am, bring your own mats. No booking required</p>

See Bekesbourne Village Hall Facebook page for upcoming events.  
 To Book: [enquiries4bvh@gmail.com](mailto:enquiries4bvh@gmail.com)



**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



**Supported by Bridge Parish Council**

## **Our fabulous local swifts ...and their uncertain future.**

In the Elham valley, during the summer months, we are still blessed with swifts but seemingly, not for much longer. Their numbers are diminishing rapidly; a 66% reduction in England since 1995. Added to the red list of Birds of Conservation Concern in 2021 they are now officially 'endangered' and in need of urgent help.

I've been involved in helping to survey swift numbers in east Kent for the last five years and unfortunately, for this fascinating and iconic bird of summer, it is a sad story of continual decline. In Kent we estimate that numbers are dropping by approximately 10% pa, it won't be long before they disappear altogether. Kingston has only one nesting pair left – in the south facing eaves of our church and no 'screaming parties' of non-breeding birds looking for future nest sites. This obviously does not bode well for Kingston's swift population. Bishopsbourne, we believe, has three nesting pairs in the eaves of the church and usually a small party of screaming swifts flying sorties around the building. Patricbourne has one of the strongest colonies of any of our surveyed churches (circa eight nests) but there is little evidence of nesting swifts in Bridge. Barham is faring reasonably well with around five nests and non-breeding birds flying overhead but at Elham, sadly, swifts have completely disappeared from the church and the village.

Swifts choose to nest in crevices in buildings, they do not construct external nests (like swallows and house martins, for example) but rely on little access points to build their nest inside a tiny space, not visible from the outside. They pair for life and return to the same nest year after year, raising their young in silence and leaving barely any evidence of having been in residence. They live their lives on the wing – they are aerial insectivores so they catch their prey on the wing, they eat and drink on the wing, they mate on the wing and they even sleep on the wing by shutting down one hemisphere of their brain! The only time they land is to enter their nest and raise their young each year from May to July. They don't breed until they are approximately three years old, so they spend their first few years completely airborne. They have short stumpy legs since they hardly ever use them but phenomenal wings – they are our fastest bird in level flight reaching speeds of 69mph!

They are the most remarkable birds which now face many challenges the most serious being climate change, a lack of insects for food and a paucity of nesting sites; our modern buildings make no allowance for nesting birds and older buildings are fully renovated with nooks and crannies all blocked up. One way we **can** help is to provide a nesting space by means of a specially designed nest box, or use of 'swift bricks' on new buildings or retrofitted on old, or special (cheap and easy) adaptations to modern soffits. There are plenty of good ideas on the website **swift-conservation.org**.

We have recently established the '**Canterbury District Swift Initiative**', to publicise the plight of this fabulous species and to try to persuade the council, home owners and others to provide potential nesting sites for swifts. **Please do join our Facebook group!**

And please do come along to our next event on **November 25<sup>th</sup> in Canterbury**.

Please feel free to get in touch with any questions or comments. Also, I would love to hear from older residents who remember more swifts in our villages, let's hope we don't lose them for our grandchildren.

Ginny Wenban, Kingston,  
ginnywenban@aol.com

Photo credit: Robert Booth

# Swifts

## *The Masters of the Sky*

7pm on Monday  
25 November

The Friends Meeting House,  
6 The Friars, Canterbury



A talk by  
**Nik Mitchell**  
Environmentalist &  
Social Media  
Content Creator  
'Get Wild'



Canterbury District Swift Initiative

## **Bridge & District History Society**

**Thursday November 21st**

Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm

### **The Butcher, the Baker and the Candlestick Maker. Who lived in Canterbury in 1641? Professor Jackie Eales**

This talk explores Canterbury society in the prelude to and during the first English Civil War, taking as its starting point the 1641 poll tax. We shall meet city residents, members of the mayor and corporation, clerical personnel and those who might have seen themselves as members of the Middling sort.

No membership fee. £4.00 at the door to include refreshments. All welcome.

Further details at [www.bridgehistory.org.uk](http://www.bridgehistory.org.uk)

### **Nailbourne Scout Group news**

By the time you read this, Nailbourne Scout Group will have been back from our summer break for a couple of months and already be preparing for Christmas! Beavers have been learning their names in braille, playing sports and doing lots of fun science stuff, like paper marbling, baking soda volcanoes and plaster of Paris leaf prints. Cubs have been working on their Skills Challenge Award, learning things like changing a lightbulb and ironing their neckerchief, playing badminton, making (and tasting!) smoothies, testing materials by dropping (and trying not to break!) an egg and taking part in team games. Scouts have been learning bushcraft skills at Walderchain Wood, using their knife skills to create an installation for the Artists Open House series as part of Canterbury Arts Festival. They've recently welcomed some new members and now have a troop of over 20 young people. Explorers have been making shelters in the woods, made a Rube Goldberg machine (think Wallace and Gromit!), visited Whitemills Aqua Park and are currently planning their upcoming quiz (see below).

Our Barham Garage Safari in September was a great success, raising over £800 for our funds. Many thanks to all the villagers, visitors and businesses who supported us by having a stall, purchasing refreshments and raffle tickets, and donating prizes.

Upcoming events start with our Remembrance Parade through Bridge on Remembrance Sunday, ahead of the service at St Peter's Church. On 30 November, Explorers will be holding a fundraising quiz in Bridge School hall, with all questions written by the Explorers themselves. This will be open to everyone – the more, the merrier!

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page or email [explorerersnail-bourne@gmail.com](mailto:explorerersnail-bourne@gmail.com) for more details and how to book. It will also incorporate our AGM, so it's a great opportunity to come and find out a little more about how we work!

On that note, we are still in need of volunteers to lead and help in our sessions, with Beavers and Explorers in particular need of support (both taking place on a Wednesday evening). Scouting offers many benefits for our young people and we want to be able to continue to offer this service for our area's young people, but we are entirely reliant on volunteers.

**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, Barham Village Hall**

**Explorers (14–18 years) – Wednesdays, 7.30–9.00pm, Bridge 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 Beavers, Cubs or Scouts or volunteering, please email Nick Gore at [skipnailbourne@gmail.com](mailto:skipnailbourne@gmail.com) or visit our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/Nailbourne-Scout-Group-public-108853207216429](https://www.facebook.com/Nailbourne-Scout-Group-public-108853207216429)). For information on Explorers, please contact Phil Last at [explorersnail-bourne@gmail.com](mailto:explorersnail-bourne@gmail.com)

### Yvette West

Sadly Yvette West died peacefully on 13 October. She first moved to Bridge in 1958 - starting at the top of Bridge Hill, then to the newly built Riverside Close, then half way up the hill to Meadow Close. Many of you may remember her as a long term resident, or from her frequent walks around the village, playing at the tennis club or simply talking to strangers at the bus stop! I myself was born in 1960 at Bridge, attended the primary school and did not leave until 1978. Both Yvette and myself will always retain a strong sense of "community" attachment to Bridge and the people living there. A small celebration will be held in Bridge for family and close friends.

Chris  
07470 080680

# Christmas Craft Fair



at

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**SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

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