

Dear Reader

We would love to know how many online readers we have. Having found how useful Google Forms are for doing surveys, we have produced a one-question-short survey just for that. Please would you help us by using this link:

<https://forms.gle/sFpyZsiz1UKj8xD97>

Just three clicks, less than a minute .....and rest assured, this is not a clever ruse to get your email address or any other personal information.

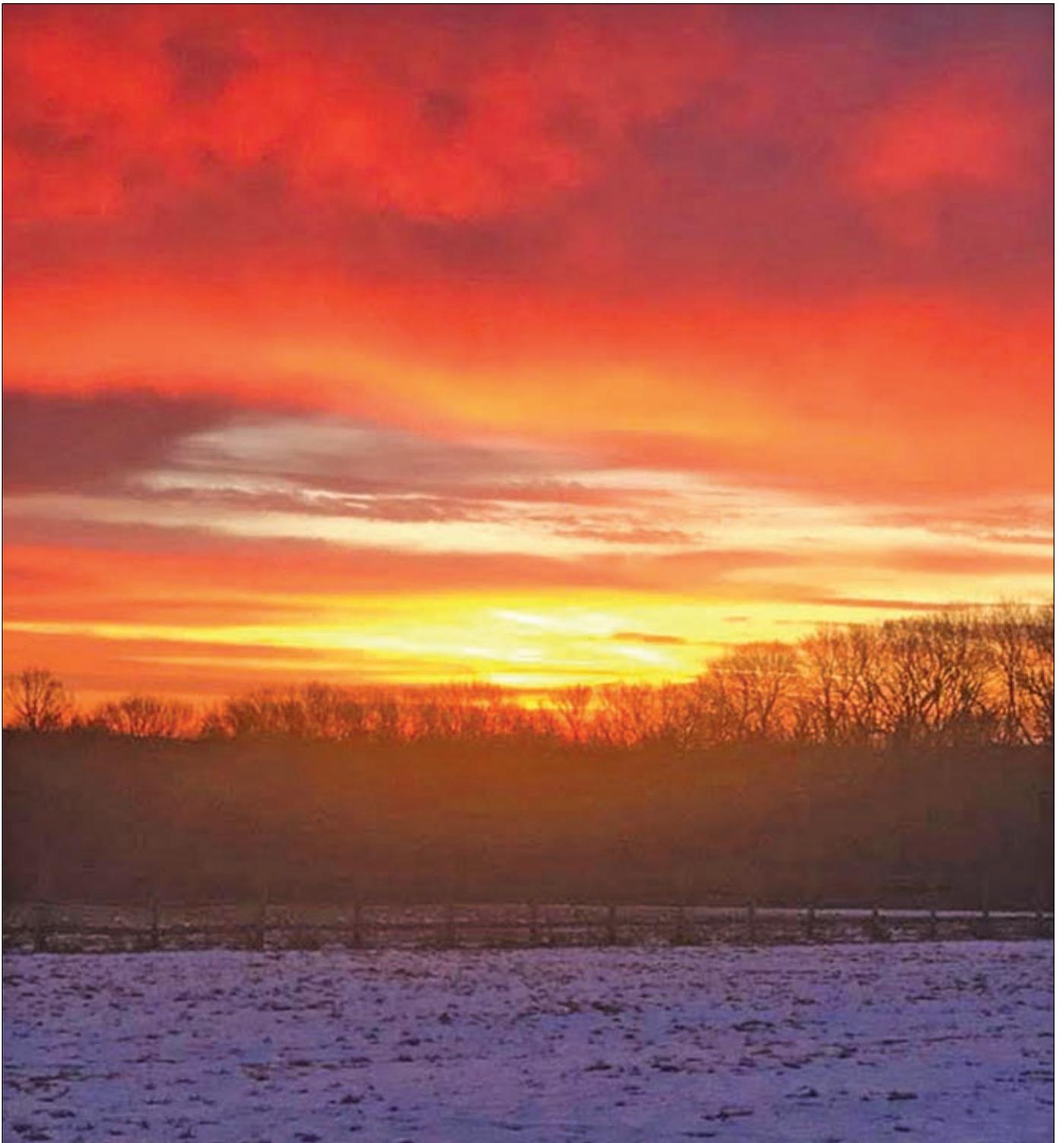
Thank you

And we are taking this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who completed the Reader Survey in the December Magazine. Your answers are giving us some useful information as we look at how to manage the Mag for the next 5 years.

# Rolvenden & Newenden

*Parish Magazine*

2024  
FEBRUARY  
ONLINE





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## Minister's Letter

Anyone who has ever moved house will be familiar with the inevitable trip into the loft that comes as a part of the move. Lofts can hold a wealth of treasures and also a store of junk: those things we didn't quite want to get rid of last time we moved; the stuff that may one day have a use; the items that are of sentimental value...a first pair of shoes for a toddler, an item of jewellery from a departed relative, toys that once brought so much fun and pleasure into young lives.



As we look through these items they bring back a flood of memories that far exceed the objects themselves. Then there is the decision to be made – do we keep them or let them go?

This sort of decision can make us think: if we could only save what we could carry what would we pick up? We often use the scenario of a fire, but as we watch the news – both home and abroad, war, natural disaster and the weather have displaced countless people and they have had to discard all their belongings including their very home in a split second.

Should we be faced with such awful situations, in reality we would probably not want to carry any possessions as we would be more bothered about the people and pets around us. Photos, books and tech equipment bring their own pleasure, but we can certainly do without them and many are replaceable. Even keepsakes, whilst they hold sentimental value are nothing compared to those we love.

What actually defines us is not so much the things we have – but the people with whom we travel through these lives. It is the interaction and journeying together that often give the meaning and purpose to our lives rather than the possessions we have.

So here we are at the beginning of 2024. As we embark on the new year, it is a good time to reflect on what it is we actually want to hold on to. It could be that our memories of 2023 are in part made up of accumulated clobber interspersed with little gems. It is likely that some of the last year has already been lost from the memory bank, but little gems remain. Moments in time that have shaped each of us by their uniqueness, or through the extravagant compassion and grace revealed.

I hope that 2024 will bring you moments to wonder, gems to remember, that irrespective of material possessions, those accents of love will define the year ahead.

*Jeanette*







## Rolvenden Meeting Point (CARM\*) Review of 2023

2023 has been a good year for us. We have gained 7 new members, making us one of the largest Meeting Points of the 10 under the CARM umbrella.



CARM generously pays for the hire of the lounge at Monypenny for our monthly meetings and other help towards our outings. CARM is a charity based in New Romney which supports older people in rural areas. The support includes befriending Meeting Points and reminiscence sessions.

We hold our meetings at Monypenny on the second Wednesday of every month from 10:00am to 12 noon. Occasionally, we have a speaker, and the quiz is very popular. Hi Kent, the hearing aid charity, visit 4 times a year, February, May, July and November to service hearing aids.

We supply tea and biscuits, (and sometimes cake!), for £1.50 and £1 to enter the raffle. Which is mostly supplied by our members.

We have been on a couple of trips in 2023. In July we sailed up the Medway on the Kentish Lady. This trip included a fish and chip lunch. In September we visited Teapot Island, and a few members of the Appledore Meeting Point joined us. We are always looking for suggestions for outings.

Our members enjoyed a Christmas lunch at the Bull and the following day, being our usual meeting day, we had our Christmas raffle. Our membership is mostly pensioners, but we welcome all, whatever their age, especially those living alone.

*We look forward to meeting new members in 2024.*

*\*CARM – Caring altogether on Romney Marsh*

*[www.carmromneymarsh.org.uk](http://www.carmromneymarsh.org.uk)*



### **ROLVENDEN VILLAGE MARKET**

**Thursdays 9 till 11am in the Village Hall**

Selection of fresh and home produced goods including fresh fish, homemade cakes, meat, sausages and cheeses, honey and bee products, wild bird and pet foods. Also knitware and assorted crafts.

Refreshments include speciality fresh cooked breakfast or home made cakes and sausage rolls.

**Stallholders welcome, for details contact Market Manager**

**Lindy Alton on 07594 660950**



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# The Church of England

IN TENTERDEN, ROTHER AND OXNEY SERVICES  
IN CHURCH AND ONLINE DURING FEBRUARY

## Sunday 4th February: Second Sunday before Lent

8am St Mary's Rolvenden  
Holy Communion  
9.30am St Peter's Newenden  
The Eucharist  
11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden  
Celtic Morning Prayer  
6pm *Benefice Evensong for Candlemas Wittersham*

## Sunday 11th February: Sunday next before Lent

9:30am St Peter's Newenden  
The Eucharist  
11am St Mary's Rolvenden  
The Eucharist  
4pm *Evensong (Tenterden): Live streamed and online thereafter*

## Wednesday 14th February: Ash Wednesday

7pm *St Mildred's Tenterden The Liturgy of Ash Wednesday*

## Sunday 18th February: The First Sunday of Lent

9.30am St Peter's Newenden  
The Eucharist  
11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden  
Matins  
4pm *Choral Evensong (Tenterden): Live streamed and online thereafter*

## Sunday 25th February: The Second Sunday of Lent

9.30am St Peter's Newenden  
Celtic Morning Prayer  
11am St Mary's Rolvenden  
The Eucharist  
4pm *Ecumenical Evensong Methodist Church Tenterden*

## Saturday Morning Reflective Services for Lent, with optional breakfast

9am 17th February Appledore  
9am 24th February Wittersham

### And during the week

Morning Prayer Will be said Monday to Friday at 9am in Tenterden Church.  
*This service will not appear online.*

### Beginning the Day with God

A ten-minute reflective service, *online only from Monday to Saturday.*

### Ending the Day with God

A ten-minute reflective service, *online only from Monday to Saturday.*

### Holy Communion

Will be celebrated at St Michael's every Wednesday, and at Tenterden every Thursday. Both celebrations will begin at 10am, and last about twenty-five minutes

*These services won't appear online.*

To access our daily online worship, visit: YouTube St Mildred's, Tenterden  
Online services, can also be accessed through the daily bulletin, Connect Up!

To receive Connect Up!  
please visit our website: [www.tentroxchurches.co.uk](http://www.tentroxchurches.co.uk)

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## Slowing down Rolvenden



Could you display this banner on your hedge or fence? There are smaller notices for displaying on wheelie bins.. Would you stick a '30 MPH Campaign' notice on your bins to help get the message across? Denise would love to hear from you.

And then there's Speedwatch, aimed at improving safety and quality of life for

everyone in the community by educating drivers to reduce their speed. In cases where education is blatantly ignored and evidence of repeat or excessive offences is collated, enforcement and prosecution can follow.

The data collected can also be used to support requests for road safety improvements in the area.

Denise established the Rolvenden Speedwatch team 5 years ago and the team is still doing a great job....BUT more volunteers are needed. Attendance is very flexible, so you don't need to commit to a regular day/time.

*If you want to know more, do please get in touch with Denise.*

*Email: [duckscrossing33@gmail.com](mailto:duckscrossing33@gmail.com)*

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## Car Scheme

If you think that your heart is big enough to brighten the day of local resident then keep reading!

We need people like you to give a few moments of your spare time and make their day less lonely by helping people get to essential medical (GP, dentist, hospital) and social appointments.

Many residents in the Ashford borough don't have anyone to easily talk to and feel isolated as a result. You can change this by becoming either one of our Volunteer Drivers or Transport Office Administrators, both roles will help connect people across the Borough and any expenses you incur will be reimbursed. We pride ourselves that these are flexible volunteering opportunities and we guarantee that being a volunteer for us will make you smile.

*For more information email: [transport@ashfordvc.org.uk](mailto:transport@ashfordvc.org.uk)  
or call on 01233 665535.*



# **Rolvenden Parish Council - What next?**

You may have seen the announcement on Rolvenden Parish Council's website that was posted on 19th December 23:

## **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**

*That due to the resignations of Neil Cackett, Lisa Barwise and Linda Walker vacancies have arisen in the Office of Councillor for the Parish Council in Rolvenden Streyte Parish Ward, and the resignations of Denise Curtain and Deborah Bray vacancies have arisen in the Office of Councillor for the Parish Council in Rolvenden Layne Parish Ward.*

*If by 11 January 2024, (14 days\* after the date of this notice) a request for an election to fill the said vacancies is made in writing to the Returning Officer at [vote@ashford.gov.uk](mailto:vote@ashford.gov.uk) or, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent TN23 1PL, by TEN electors within the above wards of the said Parish, an election will be held to fill the said vacancies, otherwise the vacancies must be filled by co-option. A separate request to be submitted for each vacancy.*

The parish is split into two wards:

The Streyte with 6 Councillors. Currently Edward Barham, Steve Bryant and Kate Walder + 3 vacancies

The Layne with 3 Councillors. Currently Jordon Kelly + 2 vacancies

## **VACANCIES**

*Rolvenden Parish Council is urging five enthusiastic and engaged members of the community, three to represent the Streyte and two for the Layne, who want to make long-lasting change. Have innovative ideas or have concerns about a specific issue to stand as councillors for the opportunity to make a real difference.*

*The work Rolvenden Parish Council does is exciting and rewarding. An integral part of a councillor's role is engaging with local people, groups, and businesses to determine their needs, making decisions on the services and projects the council should take forward, and getting involved to ensure services meet the community's needs.*

*You must be 18 or over, an elector and have been a resident or worked within 3 miles of the Parish for the last year.*

*If you would like to be considered, please complete the questionnaire on the Parish Council website and forward to Peter Setterfield, Parish Clerk at [rolvendenclerk@gmail.com](mailto:rolvendenclerk@gmail.com) by 2nd February 2024.*

*You will find up-to-the-minute information on this issue on the parish council website: [www.rolvendenparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.rolvendenparishcouncil.org.uk). Contact details for the Parish Clerk are on the back page of the Mag blue sheets.*



**Friends of St Peter's Church – Newenden  
First Thursday Talk  
12 noon Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February  
In St Peter's Church**

Our February speaker is Dr Nick Hudd – he comes with a lifelong interest in history, most particularly in the Rye and Romney Marsh areas. He has given talks about the Marsh, and led tours of the churches there, for over forty years.



**Romney Marsh**

**Place of water, sky, churches,  
desert, history and mystery**



The First Thursday Talks last for about forty-five minutes. Entrance is free but the Friends welcome donations.

And after the talk you might like to have lunch at The White Hart Inn or at Nibbles.

Please note the White Hart Car Park is for patrons of the pub – you can come to the talk and then patronise the pub, but to avoid a fine, please do remember to drop into the bar and register your vehicle before you come across the road to the church.



## Rolvenden Pre-School



As I write this piece, Christmas is just behind us and we had a lovely time joining in with the Primary School play 'We Three Kings' as well as enjoying a party for all the children at the pre-school with a visit from Father Christmas.

Now we are hitting the ground running with new children joining us for the new year. Places are still very limited and we are working hard to offer as many sessions as we can without compromising on the level of care and education given by our dedicated staff team.

Last term we had the lovely Sarah from Tesselation Dance

coming to us for weekly dance sessions, which the children really enjoyed. This term we are looking for something new to offer - if anybody from the local community can recommend any sporty activities for our little ones we would love to hear your ideas.

It is also that time of year when we look to make improvements to our garden, ready for the better weather. We love to re-use and re-cycle so if anybody is having a clear out or work done at home and has any of the following items, we could put them to good use: guttering / pipes for water play; decking boards for balance beams; sturdy crates for building with; gazebos / canopies for den making; wooden pallets; large planters; large empty cable reels for tables; endless other items that could be re-purposed! Please do get in touch if you think you could offer us something useful. We believe that children learn best when given open-ended resources that stimulate their imagination and their own unique way of doing things. Why not try this at home too - make use of real-world items like kitchen utensils (ensuring they are child safe), empty packaging and natural items found outside to bring fresh ideas to your children's play?

***Stay in touch with us on Facebook @rolvendenpreschool or email us on rolvendenps@gmail.com.***



## Rolvenden Primary School January Update



At the end of 2023, the CREATE Theatre at Rolvenden was filled with the sound of singing as the children performed two festive-themed shows – ‘The Stars are coming out for Christmas’ and ‘We Three Kings’. The former showcased the incredible talents of our older children whilst the latter cast our youngest children along with children from our friends at Rolvenden Pre-School. ‘The Stars are coming out for Christmas’ saw the children take on the roles of the various festive symbols (trees, cards, dinner etc.) and ‘compete’ to be voted the true star of Christmas in a TV-style talent show. ‘We Three Kings’ was a modern take on the classic nativity, told from the perspective of ‘Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar.’ Every child in the school participated and we were so proud of each and every one of them for their enthusiastic performance.

During December, the Friends of Rolvenden School organised the second annual Christmas Present Wrap in which every child was able to select, wrap and take home two presents for people in their family. This event is a non-profit



event and ensures that every child feels involved in the giving aspect of Christmas. Whilst this event in particular does not raise any money, the other events which FORS organise, such as the Disco, stall at the Festive Fayre and Woodland Day raise considerable amounts each year. Currently, this money is being spent on upgrading our meeting room into a dual function meeting/sensory room for children who benefit from a therapeutic, sensory stimulating approach.

*Ben Vincer*  
*Head Teacher*



## **The Garden Studio Newenden** **Caroline Anderson**

MA. MA. BSc. MBACP. UKRC. CertEd. Creative Arts Psychotherapist and Art Tutor  
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## Weather and Nature Notes

On the first day of December the start of meteorological Winter, it seemed appropriate a shower of tiny dust-flakes of snow fell although didn't settle. There were a few frosty mornings, but the month was mostly mild with plenty of showers amounting to 127 mm (approx 5") and rather dull. Over the Christmas and New Year period gales and rain caused problems in some parts of the country, but fortunately this area escaped the worst of it. It felt like 2023 was continually breaking records, globally it was the hottest year on record and for the UK it was the second warmest. There will be variability in the daily weather but the trend sees the mean temperature rising. I measured a total of 1112mm of rain for the year (about 43.5 ") which is the most since 2016 when I started. Generally the UK had above average rain but not record breaking. The rains continued in to January producing about 2" of rain in the first 5 days, this was then replaced with drier weather with cold winds and hard frosts, suddenly it felt like Winter had arrived especially when snow showers fell on the 8th with the possibility of more in the forecast. On one of these very cold days, where my partner works, a new calf was born outside. A chilly introduction to the world after nine months of warmth inside it's Mother, I look forward to seeing her. It is always special to see a Kingfisher, my only views ever seem to be an occasional speedy blue and orange blur inches above the water heading the other way. Like the proverbial number 49 bus I haven't seen any for some time, then my best view came unexpectedly as Gill's Kingfisher that visits her from time to time, surprised us with a well-timed visit as we chatted. A stunning flash of blue appeared and perched beside the pond. It immediately spotted a



tiddler which it dived in to capture with a small splash then returned to a bench with its meal before flying off. It is an impressive skill how they dive, grab the fish, then quickly get enough lift off to exit the water with extra weight, It must take a bit of practice for the young, but needs to be mastered quickly if they are to survive. Longacres Garden Centre in Ashford has a large pond that is unfortunately situated close to a very busy road. As I was browsing I recognised above the cacophony of lorries and cars, a peeping whistle, dashing to the water side I saw my second surprise kingfisher sitting on a reedmace on the far side, a failed fishing attempt had it hover over the spot to see if it was worth another go, but no, it moved a little closer to me and surveyed the water, then noticing me decided to fly into the privacy of a tree covered area. And the third of my trio of Kings over Christmas was seen along the river where you would expect to see one, even on a dull day it's feathers glowed so bright, it whizzed along with low purposeful flight until it came to a suitable perch to fish from. Third time lucky as this time I had a camera although light conditions were poor, I managed to get a distant photo.

I had a new companion whilst gardening the other day, alongside my usual friendly (hungry) robin and blackbird a slightly wary cock pheasant looked resplendent in the sunlight on that frosty morning. This very handsome fellow had discovered fallen hips from the roses that had been pruned. He plucked at the bunch I gently threw across to him, he then stayed most of the morning foraging through the borders.

A lonely big round bunch of mistletoe high in a tree stands out from a distance growing along Mounts Lane, especially when the trees are bare. It has been



there several years, but I could not say how long. It is a slow growing poisonous plant, relying on its host for water and nutrients, but being evergreen it can photosynthesise, so is semi-parasitic. It is very high up out of reach so I cannot see if it is a male plant or a berry bearing female. I would guess if it was female it would be more likely that there may be more bunches nearby that have grown from berries wiped on branches from birds feeding. Like Christmas trees and holly it is a seasonal decoration that people like to have; kissing under mistletoe is apparently not an old tradition but was popularised in Victorian times. After the festivities they are then cast aside and forgotten about for another twelve months, but this bunch may catch your eye all year.

*Hazel Beaney*



# The BigWrap Thank you!



With sincere thanks to the community in Rolvenden, Rolvenden Layne and Newenden for supporting Big Wrap 2023 - you are amazing!

A massive thanks to Lyn and Yve and all at The Star for not only hosting a fabulous event evening in December but also generously sponsoring a KESR Santa Special for a family of 4 as a first prize for the raffle! Thanks also to The Star Bar team who sold raffle tickets and squares to win cash prizes (some of which was kindly donated back to Big Wrap!) which raised a stunning £454.00.

Many many thanks also to Cindy's Boutique, Hole Park, Huntley's Butchers, Julian's Fish & Chips and The Ewe and Lamb locally for the support with raffle prize donations.

Following a wonderful year of 13 well supported fundraising events and generous donations we are proud to announce that together with Christmas Cheer donations we were able to share the amount of £17,510 between 83 families in the local area.

On our Big Wrap Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, volunteers wrapped nearly 700 donated gifts for the 214 children of the 83 families. All gifts were put in family Christmas sacks, and we prepared Christmas crackers and festive chocolates and biscuits for all.

Thank you again for your ongoing support and if you wish to add to your diary, Big Wrap Day 2024 will be held on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November in St Mildred's.

Because you never know what troubles the person next door may be going through.

[www.thebigwrap.co.uk](http://www.thebigwrap.co.uk)



# Rolvenden and District Gardening Society

## URGENT APPEAL!

### We are looking to appoint new Committee Members!

At the moment we have just 7 committee members which will go down to 6 in the Autumn of 2024. Fresh ideas are needed for our enthusiastic Garden Society members for days out, gardens to visit, ways to promote our Society etc.

Perhaps Committees are not your thing, but helping out now and then is. We would love to hear from you if you would be happy to play a supporting role by taking on the odd job to ease the workload around organising and running a show or some of the admin associated with trips away, for the day or longer.

**If you would like to know more then please contact  
our Chairman –  
Tony Abrahams on 01580-240343.  
Email [tonymarieabs@googlemail.com](mailto:tonymarieabs@googlemail.com)**



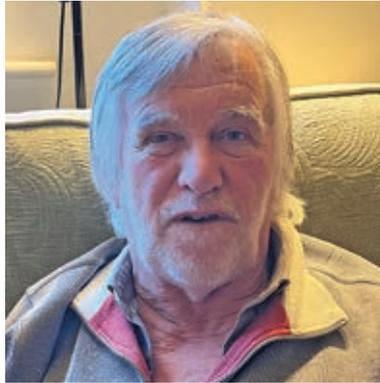


# NEWENDEN



## NOTES

This month Jane and Anthony Dawson sat down with Peter Bourne



Peter is a man of action. Although he has handed over the position of Managing Director of the Bourne Group to his son, Jonathan, Peter is still playing a vital role in the business, which he inherited from his father, John Bourne. Plagued by hearing loss, there is clearly no diminution of his acuity nor his energy.

Peter's parents, John and Muguette Bourne, had no idea that they were expecting twins. When she felt the birth was imminent Muguette took the bus to Tenterden and settled herself into Kench Hill nursing home. Michael was born first and, to her surprise, Peter arrived a couple of hours later. It quickly became clear that Muguette would need help with her twins and back home in Newenden, Tish Garman became their much loved nanny.

As was common with twins, the boys were dressed identically until they reached an age when they could choose their own attire. Peter remembers them being dressed in Sunday best and the two boys walking with their parents along Lossenham Lane to church, feeling really uncomfortable, especially as the boys did not have friends of their own age in the village. At age 3 they began at nursery school in Rolvenden, around the time their sister, Ann, arrived. In due course all three would attend Mickeldene Infants School, where classmates included Joanna Lumley.

At age 7, Michael and Peter were packed off to boarding school in Hastings. For twelve weeks on end they wouldn't see their parents, even though Hurst Court School, Ore, Hastings, was only 12 miles away. The boys began to revel in sport and academic studies. In due course Peter won a scholarship to Tonbridge School, both boys following in the footsteps of their father and grandfather. Peter played many sports, including cricket, to a very high standard. He recalls with pride that both he and Michael played at Lords.

Michael and Peter's paths diverged quite early on, Peter always being the more academic, and it was no surprise that they chose very different higher education courses. Michael pursued his interests at Cirencester Agricultural College while Peter enrolled at Strathclyde University to study German and Economics. He graduated with a 2.1 and took his MA at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada, where he



loved the ski-ing and ice skating. From Canada he enrolled at Sydney University, Australia, to do his PhD and to lecture in Economics. Peter maintains close contact with university friends, even after all these years, and is planning a bicycling holiday in Puglia with Strathclyde friends in April.

By the time Peter returned to the UK, his father's company had become the largest lime supplier in the South East and had its own agrochemical company. Postwar political policy focused on increasing farm production, almost at any cost. Land was drained, forests were cut down, hedge rows were removed in order to increase land available for farming. Much damage was done to our countryside in order to reduce dependence on imported food. There was great demand for lime and agrochemicals. In the following decades the emphasis changed and much of the harm done to the environment is being healed by re-wilding. Bourne's has moved with the times. Peter sold off the agrochemical business in the 90s for £1 and propelled Bourne's into supplying landscape materials, topsoil and aggregates for brown field developments and for golf courses. Michael left the business to develop a successful farm shop and asparagus growing business on a farm outside Tunbridge Wells.

Bourne's were well placed to supply all requirements for rooftop gardens, especially in London, and when Peter's son, Jonathan, joined the company, he was able to cut his teeth on the contract to supply landscaping materials for the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in East London ahead of the 2012 Olympics. Jonathan's elder sister, Nicola, is working to establish an Equestrian centre on part of Rother Valley Farm and developing a campsite at Sandhurst and is also a village councillor.

Peter is President of Newenden Cricket Club and was instrumental in the construction of the John Bourne Sports Pavilion in 2000. Grants amounting to £100,000 were obtained from the National Lottery (Sports England) and the South East England Development Agency, and Peter, along with others, organised the first Day/ Night cricket match played by amateurs in England. This attracted the interest of Sky TV and Peter was taken to task on camera by Cricket Correspondent, Jonathan Agnew, for Newenden's claim to be the birthplace of cricket. Nonetheless the match raised £10,000 towards the cost of building the pavilion.

Now Peter has been invited by the Selmes Trust to oversee the completion of the new village hall. He is working with a team of local residents, craftsmen and volunteers, to complete the project. He is full of admiration for the team of volunteers, including Alan Seal, Derek Wright, Dave Wheeler and Richard Gould. Much has been achieved inside through their combined efforts but the main stumbling block at present is the exterior cladding on the road side of the pavilion. Since the building was given planning permission the requirements have changed, in light of the tragic Grenfell Tower fire in London. £10,000 is required to obtain the cement based cladding, in case of an accident on the road and vehicle fire. Money is also required to complete the electrical installation, which must be carried out by a professional contractor.

Peter invites all villagers to visit the site, view progress, and perhaps offer support, at 10 am on Saturday mornings. Like so many of us, Peter cannot wait to see the project completed so that the village, which he loves and of which he has a lifetime of memories, can once again have a suitable place for meetings and social gatherings.

**Anthony Dawson**

***Welcome back Anthony. It is great to have Newenden Notes once more! Edit***



# FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD!

## Maple Syrup



Sugarbush is the name of a group of maple trees used for producing maple syrup.

Canada provides around 75% of the world's maple syrup and the majority of that comes from Quebec.

Pure maple syrup is expensive to produce and depends entirely on the time and climate. It can take up to 40 years for a tree to be tapped for sap and takes between 40 and 50 litres sap to make 1 litre of syrup, which is about the yield of each tree annually. It is important not to over-tap a tree. A well looked after tree can produce for 150 years. Harvest depends entirely on the temperature, so varies in each area, so March until possibly the beginning of May.

The most important time is when the nights are just below 0c and the daytime just above, the alternative freezing and thawing creates pressure in the tree that encourages the sap to flow.

The sap when tapped looks nothing like syrup, it is 98% water and 2% sugar, in the past the sap was boiled until the water evaporated and just the syrup remained, now of course it is a highly sophisticated process.



The Aboriginals taught early settlers how to harvest the sap and produce the syrup, it is now part of Canada's culture and makes a huge contribution to the economy, an export value of 323.9 million.

**There are three grades of syrup:**

- 1) extra light, light or medium
- 2) amber,
- 3) dark, the darker the colour the richer the flavour.

There are several benefits of using maple syrup instead of other sweeteners. First of all, it is completely natural with nothing added. It contains 24 different antioxidants which can reduce the damage caused by free radicals which can cause inflammation and contribute to various chronic diseases. It has a lower score on the glycaemic index so helps keep blood sugar stable. May protect against cancer, is better than sugar for the digestive system, may help antibiotics to work, contains important minerals and vitamins.

There are many ways of using maple syrup apart from pancakes and muffins. Use it instead of honey on porridge, in granola, salad dressings. It is fantastic used to glaze roast parsnips, carrots, sausages, duck, gammon, salmon. I also use it in marinades for pork or chicken. A very simple one is, 1 Tbls Dijon mustard, 2 tsp maple syrup, 1 Tbls olive oil, 1 clove of garlic crushed.

A classic in Quebec is their baked beans which uses maple syrup instead of molasses, it is a more delicate flavour. This is often served at the maple farms, known as 'sugar shacks' to celebrate the harvest.



*Lavinia*

T	I	E
I	E	L
S	R	N

**Get those little grey cells working**

See how many words you can make out of these 9 letters.

**Two rules:** Only use each letter once in a word and you must use the middle one.



# Rolvenden Clock 200 - Big Thanks to the Village

*Dear Rolvenden Villagers,*

When we realised what we were up against last year with the necessary restoration work required for the Rolvenden Church clock, the daunting task of raising the sum of £25,000 to pay for the extensive work was upon us. When we sat down to work out a fundraising campaign plan, the task ahead of us and the ultimate goal seemed a very long way off - until Rolvenden village really showed what a united family we can be.



I am very pleased to announce that after only five months of fundraising we are in the fortunate position to have gone over our target of £25,000 thanks to the amazing support and generosity of our village community. This has been achieved with a combination of solid support for our



fundraising events and initiatives, some very generous personal donations and also some clock specialist grant support. We tackled this campaign on all fronts, and we cannot thank all of you enough for getting onboard and showing such an amazing community spirit that will always be remembered.

The campaign comprised a range of fundraising events to include the Rolvenden Clock 200 BBQ in August, the 9 Church Run in September and the Auction of Promises in December. We also set up special initiatives such as Sponsor "Just a Minute" with the opportunity to sponsor one of 60 minutes for £60 in memory of a loved one or a significant event, such as a wedding or a birth. "Just a Minute" proved to be very popular and well supported.

As we got the Rolvenden Clock 200 campaign underway what struck me immediately was the positive feedback from everyone taking an interest, so many people have said that the clock is an important part of village life to them and their families. I heard stories of childhood memories of hearing the clock chimes when growing up and how those sounds have been a part of daily village life which is actually missed since the chimes fell silent over a year ago. Other thoughts were how the clock presents an image of our village to all those who visit and this is why restoring it to its original beauty is such an important goal.



All of our events were very well supported with the Auction of Promises being a particular highlight of the campaign. With a total of 80 Lots up for grabs with a wide range of original ideas the evening was a lot of fun and a great success. Going way over our expectations we made the incredible figure of £9,270 pushing us right over the line on the night. Big thanks go to Steve Bryant for all his work with us on this event and all those who so generously bid on the night.



There are a lot of people to thank not just for donating but for supporting us in many different ways - Lyn & Yvonne @ The Star, Elsie @ The Ewe & Lamb, Mahen & Malar @ The Village Shop, Ed Hoad @ Korker Sausages, Matt @ Level Partnership, Mo Jalloh, John Dyas, Rob & Amelia Pursey, Jacques Desrosiers, Roy Green, Sue Cartwright, Tabitha Fox, Anthony Gray and of course the highly efficient team at Rolvenden Church! Our events and fundraising success would not happen without the team.

So, now it's time to get on with the job! We are presently in the process of applying for our faculty from the Canterbury Diocese of the Church of England, which is a project detail related permission that all churches must apply for when carrying out work to their building.

We expect this to take a few months to process so we anticipate a Spring start for the project.

*Next time I will let you know more detail about the actual work being carried out.*

*Thank you all so much once again!*

*With Love in Christ, Tim Cole - Church Warden*





*Last September a FaceBook post featured a shrouded arrival of some importance at the Morgan Motor Museum...*

## **What was under the cover?**



For many years, sat in the corner of the CM Booth Collection workshop, draped with the Union Jack, was the chassis of a Morgan that was a legend of its time. The Harold Beart Morgan was the fastest unsupercharged car (up to 1500cc) that propelled him around the world-famous Brooklands Track in Weybridge, Surrey.

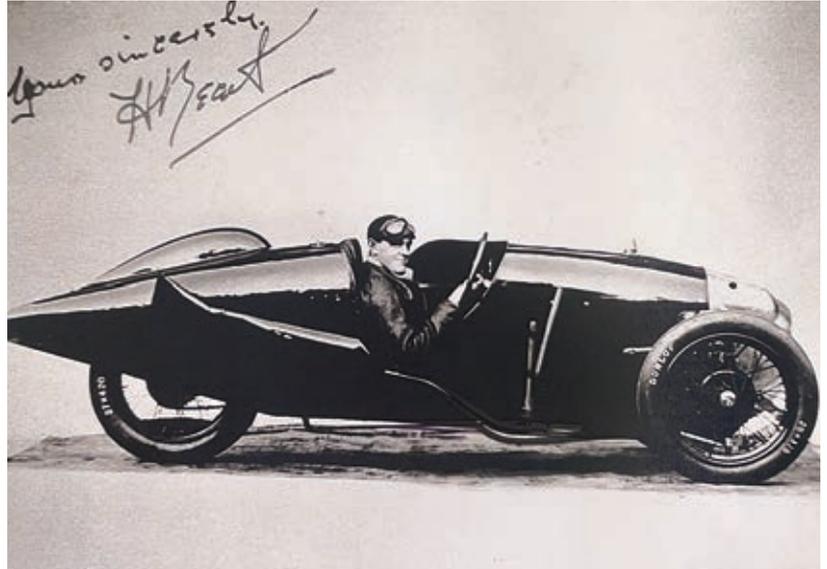
Harold was a Morgan Agent, and he built the vehicle between 1924-1925; it featured many special components to withstand the notoriously varied terrain of the track. These included larger diameter tubes for the front crosshead, steel sliding axles, stronger rear forks, and shock absorbers for all three wheels. The first major record to be set by Harold and his car, occurred on the 19th August 1925 where the flying kilometer record was set at 104.68mph, thereby confirming its status as the fastest unsupercharged car which elevated Harold's amongst the racing community and as a Morgan agent.

Further enhancements were made over the years, the original Blackburne KMB engine was replaced in 1926 with a JAP water cooled engine. Later in the 1920s, the chassis received more modifications, which included lowering, larger shock absorbers and stronger steering connections.

From this point its history seems to dry up, plus the Second World War clearly had an impact on the vehicle. It reappears again in 1948 without its body. One can only assume that it was used for the war effort in some way. The famous Morgan agent FH Douglass was selling the vehicle still fitted with the JAP engine that was added back in 1926.



From the end of the 1940s, the vehicle changes ownership several times amongst the members of the Morgan 3 Wheeler Club, but they were seemingly unaware of the historical significance of the vehicle until it was acquired by a close friend of the Collection who then offered it to us in 1998.



As with all restorations, things do take time to complete. The chassis was completed quickly, but missing parts required the assistance of others to help get the vehicle back on the road. We were fortunate that the Collection was able to secure the original pressure fed floor level fuel tank, plus the JAP engine. However, everything was damaged in some way on the engine; therefore a replacement engine has been constructed, but happily using the Beart twin carburetors.

The wooden frame was completed here and the car then went to another club member living near Gloucester for the panels to be made replicating the original 1920s configuration. The car was away for nearly 2 years, as he only does this work part time. It came back in September 2023.

The new year will herald more fine-tuning of the restored vehicle, which will include painting it dark red using traditional hard painting techniques that have been mastered over many years.

**Nick Sermon**

**Footnote: You Tube has a 7 minute video:  
Brooklands Motor Racing Circuit 1906 to 2022.**





# Home Grown Histories

*The December meeting of the Rolvenden History was a seasonal social with wine and plates of food to share.*

No lecture but seven members brought in something to show and talk about. What was interesting were the glimpses each item gave into the history of this community.

The first object was a London Fire Brigade yellow helmet worn by Bob Cooper. Bob gave us reflections upon the Moorgate Underground crash, the IRA bombing campaigns and planting of secondary devices. But the local twist came with the change in employment terms which removed the requirement for a full-time London fireman to live near his station. It was an attractive proposition to move to areas where house prices were affordable bringing new people with a new perspectives and new ideas into the community.

Duncan Murray brought a plaque recording the building of the Rolvenden Working Men's Club, now the White House. He incidentally gave an insight into the economics of building in the late 1920s. The original roof was wooden shingles, cheap and likely to rot. The replacement tiles were concrete, not too expensive but not inclined to rot. However, the additional weight caused the walls to bow. You may have noticed the distinctive buttresses at the sides. These were not an original feature.

Victor Kellett's fascination was holes and hollows visible around the parish. Take the pond in Sparkeswood Avenue; was it evidence of the extracting of iron ore and the smelting which followed? He brought samples of a grey stone, Marl, a mixture of clay and calcium. Pockets of marl rich soil were a useful local source of lime farmers used to improve the soil. All you will see on the ground is a roundish dip in a field where the marl was dug out. Victor wondered about such a dip in the top end of the Thoburn Fields which just might be an old marl pit, but equally could have been a mud wallow made by a more recent resident pig.

We had more evidence of the farming life from Margaret Hewitt with the stencil her father had used to mark his hop pockets with the details of Forsham Farm. Her memories included childhood trips to London, the annual visit to the hop-factor, the agent who would sell the hops to the brewers. For much of the last century hops were an important crop for Rolvenden farmers, all would have had stencils and dealings with the factors.

Margaret Lowrie brought photos and newspaper cuttings about various farms her family had owned from the mid-1800s onwards. Another insight into one of the key factors for an agricultural community, who owned how much land when. And we also learnt that a farmer's need for additional income is not new. In Margaret's case there are hints that smuggling may have helped the family finances.

Michael Hook took us back 5000 years or more, to the people of the stone age who moved around here. As a boy Michael picked up an odd-looking piece of stone, tiny, shaped, a flint cutting tool of some sort. His 'eye was in' and ever since he has spotted small flint tools and arrow heads, walking across fields, anywhere where the soil was being disturbed. Rolvenden was forest then and the flints would





have been traded because it is not a stone that occurs naturally here.

Judy Vinson raided her grandmother's writing box for a Christmas card given to her Granny by her husband on their wedding day, 25th December 1914, and for the sheet of flimsy paper typed by the Red Cross Department for Wounded and Missing in 1919: eyewitness accounts of 5 days in March 1918 retreating on the Somme front. Men who had survived described the conditions and horror of war. Somewhere in all that confusion Private Wickens disappeared. The dedicated thoroughness of the investigation team holds a certain fascination...

*Enough! It was our Christmas meeting, and we lightened the mood with a quiz about Rolvenden. Everyone got a prize!*

*Rolvenden History Group meets the first Friday of the month in St Mary's. We take a break in January and February. On March 1st we welcome Bob Ogley to talk on 'Doodlebugs and Rockets'.*

*If you would like to know more about RHG please do check out our website: <https://therolvendenghistorygroup.wordpress.com/about/>*



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The talk will be given by John Walters who grows and shows many varieties of orchids.

We look forward to an interesting, informative and entertaining evening.



# Rolvenden Neighbourhood Watch February

Happy New Year – wishing you all a safe 2024

Our focus this month is on recycling electronic goods safely and fire prevention.



## 1. Recycling electronic devices safely

If you are looking for a safe, secure way to get rid of unwanted mobiles, tablets or laptops and reduce your environmental impact, KCC can collect your devices for free as part of its

Device Recycling scheme: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/rubbish-and-recycling/device-recycling-scheme>

## 2. Fire prevention tips

Test your smoke alarms now

You are around 10 times more likely to die from a fire if you don't have a working smoke alarm in your home. Test your smoke alarms at least once a month.

Would your smoke alarm save you?

Get the facts:

- fit smoke alarms on every floor of your home, including in each bedroom
- working smoke alarms correctly positioned in your home can save your life
- have a plan for how you'd leave your home if your smoke alarms go off – make sure everyone in your home knows what it is
- do not put a smoke alarm in a kitchen or bathroom
- do not paint over a smoke alarm
- you need to replace smoke alarms every 10 years



## Did you know?

- cooking appliances are the main cause of fires in the home
- around 5 accidental dwelling fires a day are started by smoking
- faulty electrical appliances cause over 3,500 fires in the home each year
- nearly 3 accidental dwelling fires a day are caused by candles

- never put a smoke alarm in a kitchen or bathroom

Fire safety – it only takes one accident to start a fire (there is a video and audio described version on the website at the end of this article)



Cut the risk of fire in your home

**Top tips for reducing fire risk in your home:**

- take pans off the heat or turn them down if you need to leave the kitchen while cooking
- always stay in the kitchen when cooking, especially if you're cooking with fat – never leave children in a kitchen cooking unattended
- keep matches and saucepan handles out of the reach of children
- keep tea towels and cloths away from the cooker and hob
- keep electrical appliances clean and in good working order to prevent them triggering a fire
- use one plug per socket
- keep heaters clear from curtains and furniture and never use them for drying clothes
- stub cigarettes out properly and dispose of them carefully
- put candles in a holder and keep them away from things that may burn – never leave them burning when you're not in the room
- if your clothes catch fire, remember stop, drop and roll
- a lot of fires start at night – do some checks before you go to bed

**If a fire starts, get out, stay out, call 999. Do not tackle fires yourself – leave it to the professionals.**

*Here is the above fire prevention information electronically:*

<https://firekills.campaign.gov.uk/>

*Siân Reeves,  
Rolvenden Neighbourhood Watch*

**Reporting crime to the police**

Serious crimes in progress dial 999, other incidents via 101 (phone) or online using Live Chat:

<https://www.kent.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/> If deaf or speech impaired, text 'police' and your message to: 60066

# QUIZ NIGHT

Save the date for our popular NSPCC Quiz with Tina and Peter Garrott which will take place on Saturday, 23rd March in Rolvenden Village Hall.

Details to follow in March's edition. If you need to know more please call Jenny Field 01580 241736.



# Parish magazine essential information:

Articles and supporting photographs: email to [judyannvinson@gmail.com](mailto:judyannvinson@gmail.com).  
Photos for the cover should be emailed as a jpeg in colour or monochrome to Trevor Lodge on [stmaryrolv@aol.com](mailto:stmaryrolv@aol.com).  
To keep the cover photos in tune with the month, Trevor likes to keep seasonal photos on hold waiting for the season to come round the following year. Any keen photographers who want to contribute, please send your photos to Trevor.



**THE DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH ISSUE IS 5:00pm TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY**

Note for distributors: ☆ Rolvenden Magazines available for collection on Saturday 24th February. ☆ Newenden Magazines available in St Peter's on Sunday 25th February.

The online version will be available from 1st March accessed via the Parish Council websites for Newenden and Rolvenden Parish Councils, for which arrangement we are most grateful. *Judy V*



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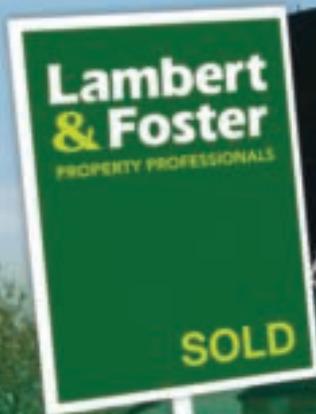
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All aspects of decorating interior and exterior, wallpapering a specialty. Also carpentry, window, and door renovation. Wall and floor tiling. City & Guilds (decorating). Fully insured. Call Alan for a quotation and advice. 01797 458164. Mobile 07804969256

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**CLAIR'S FOOT CARE**

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FUNERAL DIRECTORS



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YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT  
4TH GENERATION  
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**01580 763340**



**[office@twfuggle.co.uk](mailto:office@twfuggle.co.uk)**



**01580 766003**

**20 ASHFORD ROAD, TENTERDEN, KENT. TN30 6QU**



**Golden Charter**  
Funeral Plans 

**PROUD MEMBERS OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

# 'My Village Store'

Telephone: 01580 241314



\* Groceries \* Fruit & Veg \* Off Licence \* Bacon  
\* Cheese \* Delicatessen \* Home Cooked Meats  
\* Tobacconist & Newsagent \* Lottery



**IN-STORE POST OFFICE Telephone: 01580 241245**

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## **EC30, a coffee shop and so much more!**

Located adjacent to Ivy Court Surgery, just off the busy High Street, yet very much in the heart of Tenterden.

A vibrant place to meet with friends, or to quietly relax inside, or outside on the terrace. Enjoy good quality

locally roasted coffee, hot and cold drinks, cakes and sandwiches.

EC30 is part of a registered charity, encompassing the coffee shop, run by Sharon and a team of volunteers, plus a range of community services and a popular charity shop.

Rooms on the premises are available to hire too

For more information email: [info@ec30.co.uk](mailto:info@ec30.co.uk) , also see [www.ec30.co.uk](http://www.ec30.co.uk).

EC30, Recreation Ground Rd, Tenterden.

Open: Mon- Fri 9am – 4pm; Sat 9am – 3pm



## **The Tenterden Family Foodbank**

makes available foodboxes for people who suddenly find themselves in difficulty due to late credit payments, unexpected bills, loss of

job etc. Each foodbox contains balanced mix of foods to constitute 40 meals and are readily available at Tenterden Social Hub, (01580 762882), EC30 (Monday to Friday 9-4, Saturday 9-3) or by calling 07805 840493) Most needed items are always cereals, pasta, tins of meat and fish, long-life milk, pasta sauces, coffee and tea and all tinned soups and vegetables.

Please support this any time you are shopping... just buy an extra tin or two and pop them in the donations boxes in the supermarkets in Tenterden. Every tin and packet makes a real difference. Or you can leave a financial contribution when you shop in My Village Store Rolvenden or drop items into the collection box in St Mary's.

## **The Old Schoolhouse Larder**

The Old Schoolhouse Larder is a Tenterden based registered charity supporting vulnerable families with children who are finding it difficult to provide meals every day. Open weekly, families are able to choose a top-up selection of nonperishable groceries and household & hygiene products. Vouchers allowing families to select fruit & vegetables from the Tenterden Friday Market and from the Market Square Farm Butcher are also available.



**Remember to check out Kent Savers for affordable loans**  
[www.kentsavers.co.uk](http://www.kentsavers.co.uk)



## **CARM Meeting Point**

Wednesday 14th February

Meetings from 10:00am to noon in Monypenny Lounge  
Usual cup of tea and a chat plus Hi Kent will be with us

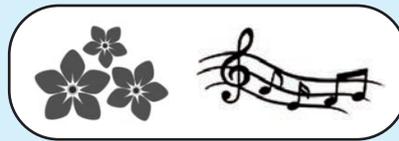
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## **KCC Mobile Library Service...**

Visits Rolvenden every 2 weeks on a Tuesday:

- High Street between 11:30am and Noon
  - Monypenny between 12:10 and 12:55pm
- 6th and 20th February

To join phone: 03000 41 31 31



Below are the regular weekly days/times. Please see page 10 in the December Magazine for the Christmas arrangements.

## **Memory Café and Friends every Friday**

St Andrews Church Hall, Ashford Road, Tenterden every Friday 2 – 4pm. An informal setting for people with short term memory loss or dementia, their family, friends and carers to meet in an informal setting for tea and cake.

## **Musical Memories – every Tuesday**

Highbury Hall, Highbury Lane, Tenterden every Tuesday 10:45am – 12 noon. A singing for health group. Not only will it be good fun, but singing is scientifically proven to promote good health and a feel-good factor. Refreshments will be provided.

## **Monthly Lunch Club 4th Wednesday**

Little Silver Hotel, St Michaels Tenterden 12:30 for 1:00pm.  
A mixed group made up of Memory Café visitors, Musical Memories participants and assorted friends of those living with dementia or short term memory loss.

Occasionally we have tea rather than lunch, please enquire.

Jan Bridger

Tel: 01580 762932 Mob: 07445971791

Scan the code to be taken to the Kent  
Domestic Abuse support website



# There is NO excuse for domestic abuse

If you or someone you know is being physically, sexually, economically or emotionally abused by another person, this is domestic abuse.

**Victim Support: 0808 16 89 111**

If you are in immediate danger,  
or suspect someone else is,  
call 999

**The Samaritans: 0845 79 09 090**

**Childline: 0800 1111**

**Mankind: 01823 334 244**

**[domesticabuseservices.org.uk](http://domesticabuseservices.org.uk)**

Please act NOW and call any of these numbers if you feel unsafe or suspect someone you know may be at risk of domestic abuse or bullying.

**VS VICTIM  
SUPPORT**

**SAMARITANS**

**ChildLine**  
0800 1111

**ManKind**  
Initiative



## Waste Collection Dates for February

Monday	Food Waste	Household Refuse grey bin (or black sack)	Recycling green bin (or clear sack)	Garden Recycling brown bin (or white sack)
05 Feb	yes	yes	no	yes
12 Feb	yes	no	yes	no
19 Feb	yes	yes	no	yes
26 Feb	yes	no	yes	no
4 Mar	yes	yes	no	yes

- Yellow sacks, where supplied, will be collected weekly
- Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment, put out alongside your Grey Bin or black sack) in clear plastic bag, but not light bulbs, see below. Textiles, Clothes and Shoes, put out alongside your Green Bin (or clear sack) in clear plastic bag
- For all queries about recycling or waste disposal:  
On-line, see ABC website: [www.ashford.gov.uk/waste](http://www.ashford.gov.uk/waste)  
By telephoning ABC on Tel 01233 330646

### NEWENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

[www.newenden-pc.gov.uk/](http://www.newenden-pc.gov.uk/)  
Parish Clerk: Mrs Lauren Dobson.  
C/o Carpens, Hobbs lane,  
Beckley. East Sussex, TN31 6TT  
Telephone: 01797 260364  
e-mail: [enquiries@newenden-pc.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@newenden-pc.gov.uk)  
There will be a meeting on  
6th February 7.30pm in St Peter's.

### ROLVENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

[www.rolvendenparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.rolvendenparishcouncil.org.uk)  
Parish Clerk: Mr Peter Settlefield  
Wealden House, Grand Parade,  
Littlestone TN28 3NQ  
email: [rolvendenclerk@gmail.com](mailto:rolvendenclerk@gmail.com)  
*For the time being, check website  
for forthcoming meeting details.*

*Members of the public have a statutory right to attend  
as observers. At the discretion of the Parish Council  
Chair people may be invited to speak.*