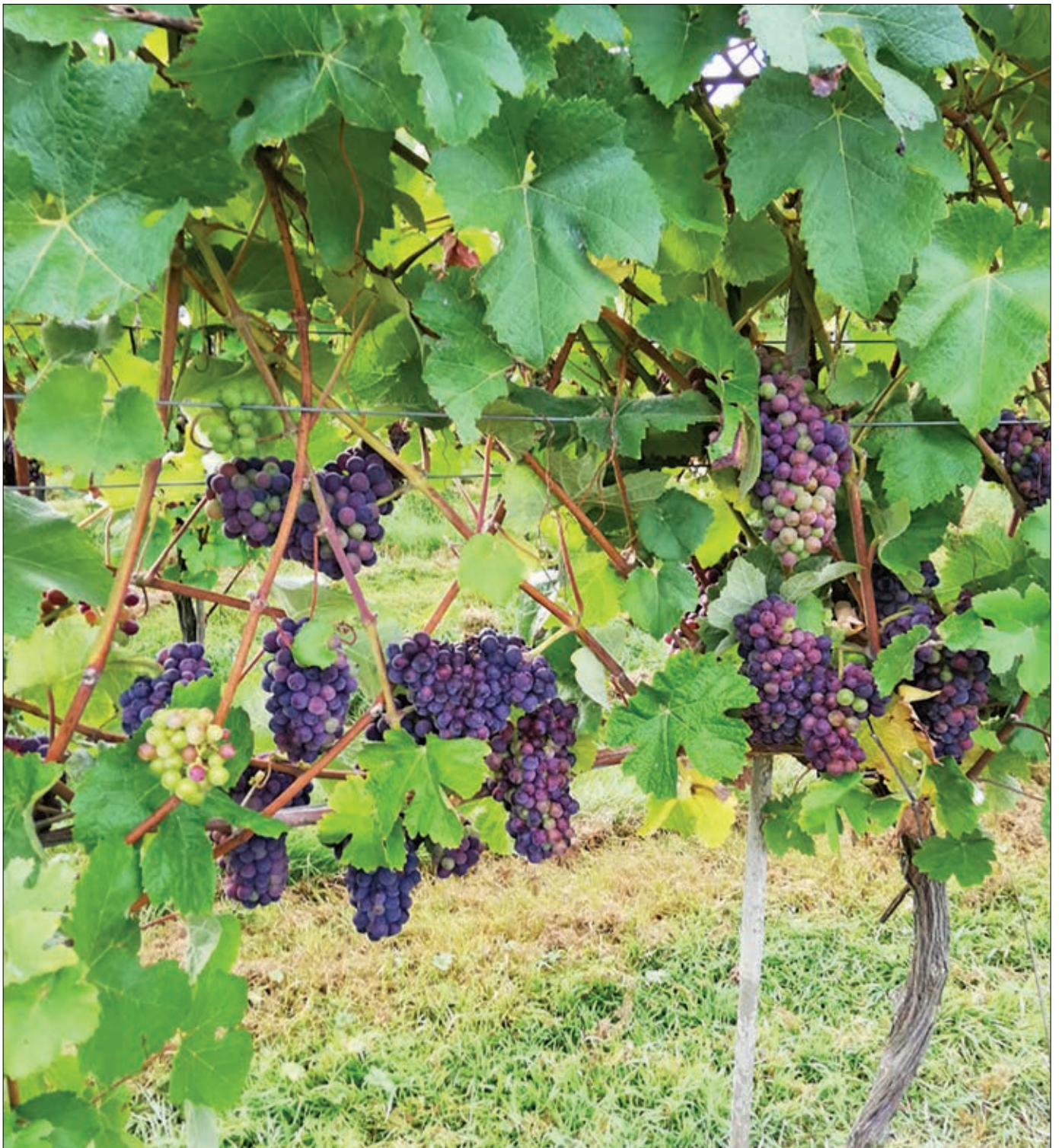


Rolvenden & Newenden *Parish Magazine*

2023
OCTOBER
ONLINE





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From the Minister's Desk

I've just had an early morning cuppa with Lee who is painting our conservatory; we often put the world to right over a cuppa. This morning we were discussing retirement and I began to dwell on my own two years of retirement, having been a rural parish priest for nearly 10 years. I always knew it was going to be tough. Coming late to ministry, St Thomas' Groombridge was the only parish where I was vicar and we could not have been happier there. As so often happens, I was a complete change from the person they had had before, not least their first female Vicar. John was once presented with a birthday card which read 'to the Best Vicar's Wife ever'. He treasures it still.



Unfortunately, in the week of my retirement there was a sudden resurgence of Covid in the village and so all plans for a parish picnic following my final service were cancelled. We had to quickly make our retirement-project home in East Hill look like a family home as we had family staying that weekend. We began to put up some pictures and photos to make it look like our family home. Unfortunately, I stepped back to ensure John had got the picture hook in centrally and I tripped over a wire and fell backwards, breaking my elbow and wrist. Next day, I took my final service in a sling which earned me my final Brownie points, simply for turning up! I was in a lot of pain and felt relieved that there was no party to go on to. That followed later, in September, when the weather was perfect and the village was in a better state of health.

But then home to what? My arm prevented me from getting stuck in to all the work on the house that was needed and would have pre-occupied me in those first weeks of retirement. No Mary, bringing round her lovely soup? Or Beverley, saying she was off to Morrisons and did I need anything? Or, Roz, offering to push the Hoover round. Suddenly, as a former parish priest, we were uprooted from where we lived and worked and had fun and friends, to a new house, new town, new community. It was quite strange and very lonely. It was rather like a bereavement, and I wondered if I had done the right thing.

I have often quoted Sarah James, a former Warden of Readers in Rochester diocese, who said as she retired 'It is time to blossom where I'm planted'. And now I tried to cling on to that notion. Although I felt older and slightly 'on the shelf', the diary full of various hospital and doctor's appointments, I still felt that God could use me. I'm not sure I have yet blossomed(!), but I can certainly sense new blossoms of me happening, and my life is beginning to fill up again with good things: more family time, quite a lot of decorating still to do - which includes learning lime-plastering skills, being part of the ministry team here, gardening, singing. It is important to make the effort to become part of a new community - because it will not come to us; we have to leave our comfort zone to embrace it.



My ministry in Groombridge was a ministry of love. I believe that is our first calling as Christian sisters and brothers – to love one another, as God loves each one of us. It was a two-way love: I tried to love them, even the ones I sometimes found difficult (!), and I received back from them love a hundred-fold. And now, two years on, I'm adjusting to retirement and my new life in Tenterden and the surrounding villages. There's so much going on here!

Maybe I should stop wandering up and down hospital corridors and Tenterden High Street, smiling and saying 'hello' to everyone. I could get away with it when I was wearing a dog-collar, now people probably just think I'm slightly odd. Anyway, 'Cheers' to retirement and the autumn of our lives!

Sharon Francis

St Peter and St Mary Flower Rotas for October 2023

Sunday	St Mary	St Peter
Oct 01	Sylvia K	HARVEST Flower Arrangers
Oct 08	Elizabeth M	HARVEST Flower Arrangers
Oct 15	Elizabeth M	HARVEST Flower Arrangers
Oct 22	tba	Janet Broadbent Kempton
Oct 29	tba	Janet Broadbent Kempton
Contact:	Sylvia Kellett 01580 240463 Sylviakellett@eplusmail.com	Rosie Edmonds 01797 252196 rosie.edmonds@hotmail.com

Brass Cleaning at St Mary: Lin Lodge

St. Peter's Church: Normally open between 10.00 and 5.00pm. If you need access outside of these times, please contact Frances Jones or Rosie Edmonds.

Should arrangers be unable to do any slots please swap with someone else and let Rosie know.

Flower Festival: THANK YOU TO ALL OUR FLOWER ARRANGERS, You have surpassed yourselves with ingenuity and generosity, and your willingness to take part is so appreciated. *Thank you, Sylvia*

❖ From the Registers ❖

Funeral

4th September – Michael (Mike) Saker at St Mary's

Interment of Ashes

17th August – Christopher (Chris) Hickmott-Arnold at St Mary's





‘Minister of the Month’ October 2023

I first began to think about Licensed Lay Ministry – or Reader Ministry as it was then called – in the early 2000s. With its purpose defined as ‘Preaching, Teaching and Leading Worship’, it seemed a good fit for someone who had been a teacher since her early twenties. At the time, beyond training for ‘The Bishop’s Certificate’, I pursued the thought no further. Over the years I explored various other avenues, being generously supported and encouraged by the Clergy with whom I worked. By 2007 I’d arrived back ‘at base’ and began the three year training towards Licensed Lay Ministry.



If I’d thought that ‘ministry’ was mainly about teaching, I was to discover differently, for I have learned far more than I think I have taught! Sometimes that learning has been about the darker side of life, as those with whom I come into contact have talked about sadness and loss, loneliness and personal difficulties. But I have also learned from watching others about the generosity of human nature, dedication and the sheer delight of a life of faith. Part of my job as a Lay Minister is to show that ‘Church Life’ and ‘Life beyond Church’ flow seamlessly into one another. And so the conversations that take place when out with my walking group, (for instance), are as much a part of my ministry as those in church. That’s important to me!

One of the greatest inspirations to my faith has been in the natural world, and I know that so many others can identify with this. I have very many happy memories of walking in wild and lonely landscapes with husband Clive, and (now grown up) son, David. As the years pass, we aren’t able to be quite so adventurous, but I’ve managed to ‘plug the gap’ through discovering a delight in photography, drawing and painting. And if I should still be ‘at a loose end’, I only have to look out of the window, to see the beckoning finger of a garden full of jobs to be done!

Being a Lay Minister has been a gift. It has changed me as a person. I hope that I’ve been able to give something back, too ... but I guess only God knows the answer to that! *Alison Gilbert*



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**



The Church of England

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

Sunday 1st October: The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Harvest Thanksgiving

9.30am St Peter's Newenden
Eucharist

6:00pm Harvest Evensong St Mildred's (Tenterden) *Live streamed and online thereafter*

8am St Mary's Rolvenden

Holy Communion

11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden

Celtic Morning Prayer

Sunday 8th October: The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

9:30am St Peter's Newenden
The Eucharist

6:00pm Sung Evensong (Tenterden) *Live streamed and online thereafter*

11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden

The Eucharist

Sunday 15th October: The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am St Peter's Newenden
The Eucharist

2.00pm Forest Church (Rolvenden Churchyard)

6:00pm Sung Evensong (Tenterden): *Live streamed and online thereafter*

11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden

Matins

Sunday 22nd October: The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am St Peter's Newenden
Celtic Morning Prayer

6:00pm Sung Evensong (Tenterden) *Live streamed and online thereafter*

11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden

The Eucharist

Sunday 29th October: Bible Sunday

9.30am St Peter's Newenden
Eucharist

8:00am St Mary's Rolvenden

Holy Communion

11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden

Celtic Morning Prayer

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



Rolvenden Gardening Society



Autumn Show



This was held in Rolvenden Village Hall on Saturday, 9th September. A very hot day had been forecast and it didn't disappoint as temperatures reached around 30degs in the afternoon. We were unsure of the number of entries because of the heat, but in the end, there were 109 entries from 15 members. However, several classes had no exhibits, notably cabbage, shallots, raspberries and chrysanthemums and there were only 3 floral arrangements, thanks to Jan Gambier.

Two other areas which were a disappointment were the lack of dahlias, probably because of the weather, and no entries at all in either children's class.

However, the display of vegetables and fruit was very good, particularly among the tomatoes and apples, and there were several onions. Bill Burvill was just one member who entered some wonderful vegetables, including 2 large



butternut squash. Amongst the flowers were some lovely fuchsia sprays and an unusual pure yellow begonia from Tony Abrahams, who also entered the men's cookery class with Richard Coleman and made apple and blackberry pies. There was good support for the women's cookery classes too.

Finally, everyone who entered received a certificate of rating.

The top 3 prize winners were:

1st: Tina Tompsett with 9 x Firsts, 4 x Seconds, 2 x Thirds.

2nd: Bill Burvill with 8 x Firsts, 3 x Seconds, 1 x Third.

3rd: Jean Clifton with - 7 x Firsts, 2 x Seconds, 2 x Thirds.

Tina was a worthy first prize winner with all of her wonderful exhibits- a true champion!

Despite the very hot afternoon, several people came along to view the show and catch up with friends over a welcome drink. The raffle was a great success with £144 made for the funds. Thank you to Jean and Ian Clifton for running this and to our two young raffle number callers!

In his closing speech, Tony thanked the committee and helpers who were in early to set up, the ladies making the drinks and Rita Walters and Maralyn, who covered for an absent Sue Clout as show secretary for the day. Jan Gambier did sterling work in setting up the exhibits and Tony Abrahams for sorting out the prize winners.

Finally, Tony thanked everyone for coming and pleaded for more entrants to the shows. We were a thriving society pre-pandemic and it would be great to get back to those numbers again. As our motto used to say "Show what you grow!"

Next event: Annual meal 7th. October in the village hall.

Maralyn Button.

Friends of St Peter's

After the excitement of the Duck Race, something a little calmer when the 'First Thursday' talks begin again in November. Help us raise funds to support the fabric of this beautiful church

Thursday November 2nd *Derek Wright 'Growing up in Liverpool'*

Thursday December 7th *Ray Fysh 'The murder of Sarah Payne'*

2024

Thursday January 4th *Nick Hudd 'Romney Marsh'*

All the talks begin at 12noon and finish by 1pm. Donations welcome.

Why not support a local business and book a meal afterwards at Nibbles or The White Hart. *Frances Jones*

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Rolvenden Primary School – September Update



Photograph: Jane Mason

We were pleased to welcome the children of Rolvenden back to school at the beginning of September for another exciting year of learning. The staff have been busy over the summer with two classes moving into new locations and the general site looking a lot fresher – you may have noticed our brand-new school identifier signs from the road! The new EYFS intake have settled in well and are already enjoying getting to know and playing with the older children.

This term, the learning in each of our classes will be as follows:

Hazel Class will be participating in lots of activities in which they will learn about themselves and will also spend time getting used to being at 'big school'.

Oak Class will be studying a brand-new unit for 2023 – 'Amazing Activists'.

They will be learning about famous figures from history such as Rosa Parks, Emmeline Pankhurst and Greta Thunberg and exploring the similarities and differences between them and their respective causes.



Willow Class will be learning about the Ancient Egyptians and studying the digestive, skeletal and muscular systems within human beings.

Holly Class will be studying World War 2 and are already looking forward to their trip on the Kent and East Sussex Railway later this month as part of an 'evacuation experience'.

If you have a child who will be starting in September 2024, we would like to invite you on one of our Open Day tours. These will be led by the Headteacher, Mr Ben Vincer, and will give you the opportunity to experience Rolvenden at its best – when the children are actively learning in class. These tours are available on September 15th, 21st and October 5th at 9:00, 11:30 and 1:30pm and can be booked online at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/rolvendenps> or by phoning the office on 01580 241444.

Finally, if you are handy with a paintbrush, we would love to hear from you! We have several areas of our site which could do with a refresh and if you have a couple of hours spare where you could come and splash a coat of paint on a door or building, please do let our office know on 01580 241444. We can be flexible on time and will provide the brushes and paint!

Ben Vincer
Headteacher

Gentlemen Read On

Much has been written recently about Prostate Cancer, it is a big killer in the male population. I had severe pains in the left side of my lower back, I was admitted to A&E, where it was found I required to be treated by Urology specialists. Yes, the examinations are uncomfortable. I had a Biopsy, and am pleased to say that there was no Cancer. But I needed to have surgery, an operation called a TURP. You can research for yourselves what this involves. I am now in recovery which takes several weeks.

So boys, if you are having any trouble with your waterworks, please go and get checked, it could save your life. John Walters

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Art Classes Adult & Children



Rolvenden Pre School Report



Rolvenden Pre School is pleased to share the news that Kate has achieved her NVQ3 and is now a fully qualified practitioner. We are also excited to welcome our new member of staff, Aga, who will be starting on her qualification journey soon.

The new school year has got off to a flying start, with seven new children all busily finding their feet with us. It takes a little

time for everybody to settle in and find their place within the setting and we are enjoying watching as the children build new relationships. We are also finding out each child's unique interests and will be investing in some new resources to meet their individual needs.

This is an exciting and busy time, anybody in the village who would like to get involved in helping us with gardening / story telling / craft / or other interests please get in touch, we would love to hear from you!

Interested? Please do get in Touch for an informal chat

We are open, at the moment Monday to Thursday.

Call: 07729718181 or see Facebook page @rolvendenpreschool

Want to try something new... here are two invitations

Rolvenden Hand Bells

The Rolvenden Hand Bell Ringers will be practising their ringing on Thursday afternoons in the body of the church from October onwards. Time still to be fixed but is likely to be early afternoon. If you would like to join the group then please contact Linda Smith on 01580 241783. Ringers do not have to read music as numbers are used instead.



Church Bells

If anyone would like to learn how to ring the church bells at Rolvenden, then please contact the Tower Captain, Linda Smith on 01580 241783. Ringers must be able to climb the tower steps to the ringing chamber.



Flower Festival Report 2023

Our recent Flower Festival and Art Exhibition has been an outstanding community event. The components of flowers, music, art, refreshments, raffle, crafts, bookstall and happy people coming together to make a memorable Bank Holiday.

A steady flow of visitors attended on all three days, and the church headcount was up by 150 on last year at 789, perhaps the perfect weather helped.

Our visitors from near and far were appreciative of the flower arrangers' individual interpretations of this year's theme 'Arranging Shakespeare', and we were fortunate to enjoy the calm atmosphere in church enhanced by music provided by our gifted musicians.

Our arrangers do excel themselves each time at a Festival. They give careful thought to their chosen topic, selecting the appropriate flowers, foliage and props to bring to life a line of poetry or title of a play. Their generosity in giving of their time, talent and financial support through providing flowers is very much appreciated, not only by our visitors but also by St Mary's PCC.

The aim of the Festival is to be an event which is valued by our community, provides an opportunity for volunteers to partake, friends and families to meet and enjoy time together; as well as welcoming visitors from further afield who travel to join in.

St Mary's relies on this annual specific fundraiser to help us to cover our annual outgoings, and keep the church open. These include our running costs, insurance, energy bills, mowing the churchyard, our contribution to clergy salaries and the normal upkeep of a grade one listed building.

These outgoings currently run at around £1,100 a week.

So the breaking of the mythic 5k barrier by £200 was a real morale booster this year. To all who take part in so many different ways to make the weekend a good one,

Thank you all! Sylvia



Weather and Nature Notes

Looking back at my rain records we had about average for August with 75mm. The Summer period of June, July and August felt fairly comfortable, but as we have entered the meteorological Autumn a heatwave has come with it breaking another weather record this year, the most continuous days it has been 30 degrees and over in September. As I write there is relief on the horizon from the humidity and heat, a good rain would do some good as there are still large cracks to be found in some ground.

After my mention of hops last time, I decided to get on a bike and wobble off in pursuit of a little nostalgia to find a hop garden. As I said before there are very few around now, grapes are in favour these days with vineyards popping up everywhere instead. On the journey the sun was bright and very warm, sheep laid under trees seeking any shade they could find. As I peddled along the narrow lanes to the accompaniment of twittering swallows and chiffchaffs, the odd dragonfly raced beside me then left me standing as they sped along in pursuit of airborne prey, in contrast speckled wood butterflies were happy to just bask in sunny spots on the road or verges. An Autumnal feast awaits birds and mammals that enjoy rose hips and blackberries scrambling through the hedges and windfall apples in orchards. Haws are colouring up for later, also here and there strings of glossy red berries of black bryony drape themselves in



the hedge attractively, but definitely not one for human consumption. A few photos of hops later, my return journey was equally pleasant.

My eye was caught the other day by the once familiar characteristic behaviour of a small Summer visitor. From a perch this little bird flies out grabs an insect and returns to the perch, and repeats, this is the feeding technique of a spotted flycatcher. They are charming little birds to watch, but sadly another in decline. I remember Chris Packham doing a piece on them on Springwatch once, and he started it with something like, if you are under 50 you have probably never seen one. I used to see the odd one most Summers, one nested for a few years running in a neighbour's garden until about 10 years ago, since then I have seen very few so this was a nice sighting, hopefully it will continue its journey safely and return next year.

The invasive Asian hornet has been making news recently, and is a serious threat to bee populations consequently people get even more wary around any stripey insect. From pictures I have seen, generally speaking the Asian hornet appears to be mostly dark with a yellow band on its abdomen, whereas our own native European hornet has a mostly yellow abdomen with typical wasp dark markings. I have mentioned insect mimicry before, here is a picture of our largest hoverfly *Vollucella zonaria*, the hornet hoverfly that was in my garden the other day. They are totally harmless with no sting and are not a wasp they just mimic our European hornet for their protection. Their wings sound quite droney like the insect they mimic and their colouring is convincing too, making any creature thinking of eating them think twice, they can then visit flowers and safely feed on nectar and pollen pollinating as they go. The larvae live in the nests of wasps' and hornets as cleaners eating detritus so they are of benefit to each other.



I could hear some scratching from the roof area of my greenhouse, but I could see nothing, I realised it was outside. To my surprise it was a female grasshopper egg laying in a patch of moss on the roof, usually they would be laid in the ground. let's hope that these high-rise eggs will be ok and will hatch next year. I have noticed a few more grasshoppers in my garden this year, let's hope the trend continue

Hazel Beaney



Rolvenden History Group

Friday, 6th October 2023

'Maritime Kent'

A talk by Stuart Bligh



This talk tracks Kent's rich maritime history from the earliest times through to the heights of Britain's naval power in the nineteenth century. This includes early maritime craft, the Cinque Ports, the Spanish Armada, Chatham Dockyard and Trafalgar and also some of the many maritime characters connected with Kent.

Venue: St Mary's Church, Rolvenden

Coffee and biscuits

7.15pm for 7.30pm start for lecture

Everyone welcome - Non-members: £4

<https://therolvendenhistorygroup.wordpress.com/>)



Clock 200 – St Mary’s Clock Restoration

You may be watching the Crowfunder total move up. Or perhaps you are keeping an eye on that minute-hand on the noticeboard near the shop. Both are moving along, for which we are most grateful. And the PCC would also like to thank the enormous generosity of those who have supported the clock restoration in ways other than through our crowdfunding and sponsorship initiatives. We are extremely grateful for all the support from those in the village and beyond. We will report on the full magnificent progress towards the clock restoration sum in November's magazine.



Meanwhile what is there still to come?

■ If you are reading this before the end of September, the 30th sees Tim and Mo's 9 Church Run. They will be visiting all our benefice churches. Do give them a wave and if you have not yet done so, do please consider some sponsorship. You have the following choices:

Online at justgiving.com/crowdfunding/9churchrun

By contacting Tim directly on 07967 438401 or at timjamescole@hotmail.com

Or by putting your details on the group sponsorship form.

There's one in every church.

■ In November there will be a lunch engagement: speaker and ploughman's lunch in the Village Hall. Details are still being finalised but we will get the information out there as soon as we can.

■ At the end of November we have a real seasonal treat:

Come though long expected Jesus'

A concert for Advent by The Wealden Consort

7pm Saturday 25th November Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Rolvenden

Donations on the door.

■ And finally, a reminder about the Rolvenden Clock 200 'Auction of Promises', Saturday 2nd December in Rolvenden Village Hall.

Steve Bryant and Tim are working on getting the promises list underway.

If anyone has any promises to offer, please contact Steve Bryant on 07747 827901 or Tim Cole on 07967 438401. Alternatively, email offers can be sent to timjamescole@hotmail.com.

Judy V

Rolvenden Clock 200 'Just a Minute' Update

At the time of writing, the hands have moved to forty minutes past the hour...

two thirds of the way towards the target for this fundraiser.

THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed so far, it is very much appreciated.

Should anyone like to sponsor 'Just a Minute' in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate a special occasion/sentiment please fill in the form delivered with the August magazine, or collect one from St Mary's. Alternatively, you can go to

The Rolvenden Clock-200 Crowdfunder page and do an online sponsorship.

Sylvia



Newenden Meadow Restoration Field



We finally made hay in that beautiful hot week at the beginning of September.

I took up the two tarpaulins that we had put down in the spring and found a slowworm, a common vole and a family of grass snakes, both male and female and two young. Also there were several sloughed snake skins of a good size. The making of hay and removing it is very important when restoring a field to a wildflower meadow, because it cuts down nutrients returning to the earth and creates the kind of soil more suited to growth of wildflowers.



The soil under the tarpaulins is now free of grass and ready for sowing wildflower seeds. We only sow seeds native to UK, and which are likely to be found in our damp meadow. This is important because our native plants are not only for forage, but also a food plant for many insect larva such as butterfly and moth caterpillars as well as many other insects. Non-native plants such as Himalayan balsam, which grows along the river Rother, is liked by bumblebees and other insects, for its nectar, but is not useful as a food plant for larva. It is extremely invasive and threatens to outgrow and smother our



native food plants such as purple loosestrife, great willow herb, clovers and birds-foot trefoil, and others which grow along the river bank. For this reason we have been pulling up Himalayan balsam which is starting to appear on the Selmes Trust bank this year. Elsewhere it is becoming very difficult to overcome along large stretches of the river.

We will be sowing seeds in the next few weeks and then the sheep will tread them in while they are grazing. When they have spent a few weeks keeping the grass down and gone on to pastures new, we will be planting birds-foot trefoil, vetches and white dead nettle in the field. These plants are currently in pots and awaiting release into the wild. We will also put the two tarpaulins down again in parts of the field, where they will stay until spring so that we can plant more wildflower plants.

The amount of wildflowers growing in the field is very encouraging and we hope they will continue to spread when the growing season starts again in spring next year. *Jillian Eldridge*

Art Exhibition 30/08/2023

This year exceeded all expectations and people just kept coming. There were a couple of quiet times, but also times when the crowd were coming through the door in droves.

We had a large and varied selection of art and crafts for sale and a good amount was sold including a massive number of greetings cards as people stocked up for the year.

Our stewards worked so hard, for which I am truly grateful and even the card machine behaved itself until right at the end.

The refreshments were delicious and the village cake bakers did us proud, so many thanks to them too.

At times it was standing room only in the refreshment area.

Very grateful thanks go to Yvonne and all her helpers for working so hard to provide such tasty treats.

So another year goes by and I believe we have made good profits for the Church.

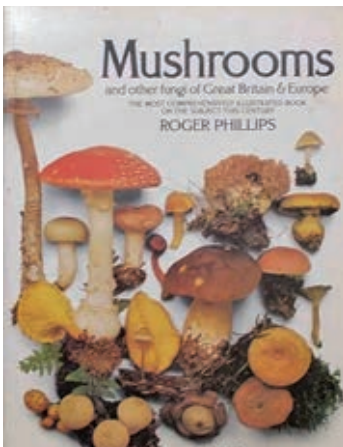
Let's do it all again next year!
Jan Gambier





FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD!

Mushrooms



Fungi have been around for millions of years, there are over 10,000 species that have been identified but probably many more that are as yet unknown. They are neither plant or animal but have a kingdom of their own, which includes toadstools, yeasts, moulds and mushrooms.

The main body of the fungi is underground, playing a vital part in the ecosystem, the mushrooms we find are the fruit of the fungi.

Foraging for mushrooms is very enjoyable but you do need to know what you are doing. Equip yourself with a good book to identify from, the best I know is *Mushrooms and other Fungi* by Roger Phillip which gives excellent steps to help identification, familiarise yourself with the ones that are poisonous and if in any doubt do not eat it.

A few of the most common we've collected here and are easily identifiable are the parasol, the name says it all, the shaggy ink cap which is my husband's first choice, field mushrooms and puffballs. You can quite easily dry them and stored in an airtight jar and, if kept in a dark place, will last for years.



Some fungi can be lethal but we most of us have at some point been very grateful for penicillin, which has saved millions of lives since it was accidentally discovered by the bacteriologist Alexander Fleming in 1928 who had returned to his laboratory after a two-week holiday and found mould had formed in a discarded Petri dish. This was the start of the antibiotic age, unfortunately overuse of antibiotics has led to bacteria becoming increasingly resistant to existing drugs.

Mushroom have been used for centuries for their medicinal benefits and are a very healthy food. They are one of the few non-animal sources of Vitamin D, contain Vitamin B complex, zinc, selenium, anti-inflammatory, antibacterial and anti-oxidant properties. They are low in calories, virtually fat free and low sodium and are helpful with weight loss.



They can be eaten raw but are more nutritious cooked.

If you want to wash mushrooms do so very lightly just before cooking or they will be slimy. I just wipe them with a slightly damp cloth.

There are many varieties of cultivated mushrooms on offer which all have their own flavour. They are incredibly versatile and not only work well with meat, poultry, game and fish but eggs, pulses, rice, pasta, and other vegetables like leeks, onions, garlic, asparagus, spinach, in fact there's not much they don't go well with making them the perfect all-rounder.

They are ideal for a quick lunch either in an omelette or just cooked in butter and garlic with lots of parsley and served with crusty bread.

Lavinia

R	E	V
A	E	S
I	T	I

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 one in the middle.



End of an era!



On a Thursday evening in August three generations of Linklaters walked past my cottage on their way to the Layne field and a session of stoolball. It brought back memories of other summer evenings with Ken and one or two sons coming to play. The first season would have been 1997 I reckon. It started as a church initiative and I recall that church persons struggled to complete that first season. Then there was one of those conversations by the bacon slicer and suddenly we had a

volunteer with children and sporting know-how. The actual rules of the game were home grown from the start. I am still not sure where Ken found the story with barn doors, mangle wurzels and milking stools. But one thing was very certain, Ken's arrival was a boon. He knew all the children, reminded them it was Thursday, made sure newcomers were invited and generally took charge. Like everything else Covid stopped us for two years but last year Ken was back with Judith taking my place as scorer.

So, for some 25 years generations of children have played a weekly game of stoolball. There were no teams, everyone fielded, and each person got a turn at batting and bowling. Individuals who were too shy to play, frightened of the hard ball, despairing of their inability to bowl straight –all finally had a go, thanks to much encouragement from Ken and the older players. Each generation of youngsters gained in self-confidence, learnt the give and take that helps a game along, and spontaneously celebrated those little, important moments, like the first time a complete butter fingers got a catch. If a lot of players turned up it made for a rather crowded game. Did we really have 40 one week? The important thing was everyone had fun and everyone was accepted and respected, irrespective of age or ability.

Over the years various people have helped out by being another adult presence on the field. Rob and Amelia Pursey must get a special mention here for covering for Ken when he was away and encouraging other dads to get involved.



But all good things come to an end. Thank you, Ken, for keeping the game going for so long and thank you Judith for taking over the scorer's clipboard. May you enjoy getting your Thursday evenings back!

Stoolball is not completely dead. The Ewe and Lamb trophy was won in its first year by the Streyte. The Layne will endeavour to wrestle the trophy back next year. In fact, Ken suggested the kit might be dusted off for two adult matches. The kit will be waiting.

And just maybe, when people realise what the youngsters have lost, someone will find the time to give the commitment needed to ensure a weekly game happens and Thursday Stoolball will rise phoenix-like from the ashes!

Judy V



News of the RBD Memorial Concert Season



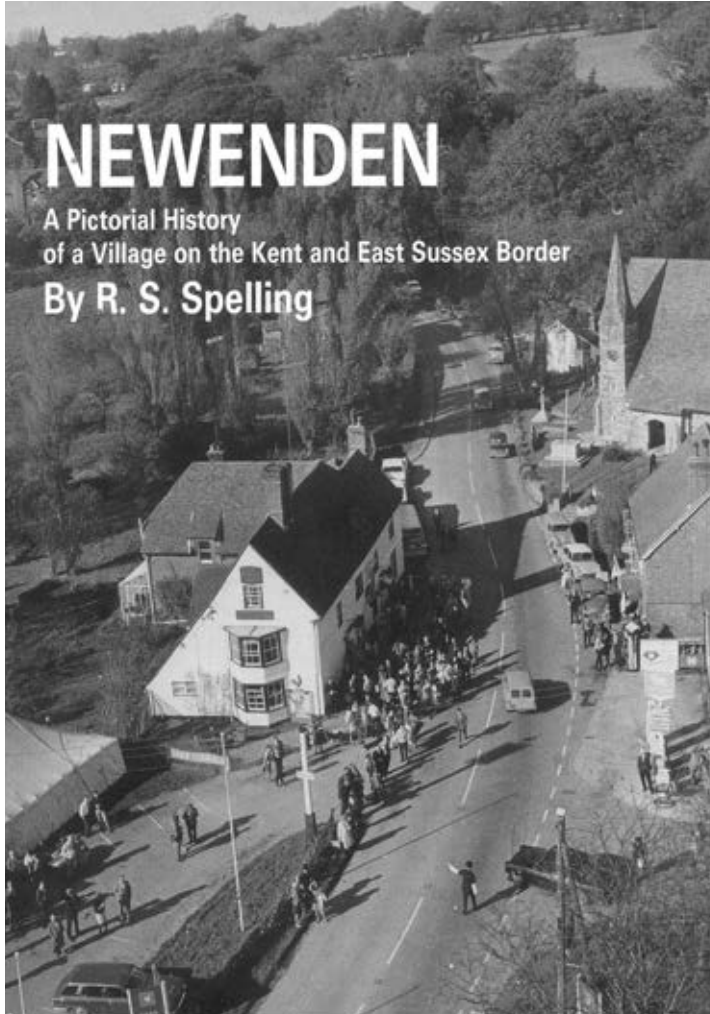
On Tuesday September 12th. the South Korean pianist, Sinae Sung travelled down from the Conservatory in Glasgow to perform for the 15th. annual RBD Memorial concert series. This was the final one for 2023 and the generous audience gave extra donations that resulted in the largest collection for a September recital. After expenses we raised an incredible £647, almost as much as the garden party, which raised £750, so the total for 2023 is an amazing £1,397. This must be a record breaker thanks to the generosity of those who attended. In addition we heard some beautiful music played by Daniel Grimwood and Adrian Bradbury in July and Sinae Sung in September.

Plans are already set for next year's schedule so please mark the last Saturday in July when Mark Viner will be making his first appearance in Sandhurst and Wednesday Sept. 11th, when the piano duo will be returning. Sinae loved playing for such a special audience and hopes that she will be asked again! *Gillian Davis*



It's the little things that count

Little things can be so significant! Sometimes when my brother, Guy, had an exeat Sunday from his school in north London, Mum and Dad would both manage to take the day off from the pub and spend time doing lunch and a



cinema with Guy, before driving home to Newenden. Mum would invariably have some comment on their return about the Tonbridge charcoal burners. They were burning tonight because there had been that wonderful smoke smell on the usual bit of hill just at the end of the Tonbridge bypass, or they had not been there this time, always followed by the hope that they had not given up this wonderful old country tradition. Mum could remember charcoal burning from her childhood in Sussex. My mind would go to the Lake District and the stories of the Swallows and Amazons encountering the charcoal burners in the woods. That was before Mum's revelation.

The story needs a bit of background. Helicopter flights In Newenden maybe more frequent these days, but back then most of

the local air movements were light aircraft centred on Northiam International where the final approach might include buzzing Gate Court farmhouse to alert someone to go and shift the bullocks off the runway. True, one Sunday in mid-October 1967 a helicopter actually landed on Newenden cricket field bringing Jimmy Edwards, the celebrated comedian to unveil the Evening Standard Country Pub of the Year plaque on the front of the White Hart. The Hart was familiar with flying. We had a number of customers who were pilots, commercial, military and private. It was the Cyster brothers who flew in and out of Northiam. This was just how it was.

So I come to the day Dad was bemoaning the fact that his Sunday was going to be blighted by having to drive Guy back to school after the half term break. Making the 7:00pm deadline for getting to school would mean joining the stop-start procession of homeward bound Camber day trippers. John Cyster asked where the school was. Mill Hill? Not far from Elstree then. If Guy were



allowed to use a taxi, London Elstree would work. John would fly Guy, and Mum and Dad would be welcome to come along for the ride.

The deadline met, the return journey was a much more relaxed affair. Leaving London behind, John followed the line of the A21 and Mum began to get the hang of recognising places from 1000 feet. There was the end of the Tonbridge bypass and right on queue a thin whisp of smoke rising from the gathering gloom as the shadows of evening lengthened across the Tonbridge Council Rubbish Dump! Yep!... Mention of Charcoal Burners still makes me smile.

That cover photo is the view from the retreating helicopter - aftermath of two hours plus celebrations in October 1967. Traffic was a bit easier then!

Judy V

NSPCC Quiz Night!

The Rolvenden NSPCC Committee is holding another Quiz Night in Rolvenden Village Hall on Saturday, 28th. October, 7 for 7.30pm start. The Quiz Master will again be Peter Garrott.

You are once again invited to form teams of a maximum of up to 8 people per table. It would be helpful if you could buy tickets in advance or inform us of numbers, please. The cost of each ticket will be £8 payable in cash or by a cheque made out to the NSPCC. Nibbles will be provided but please bring your own drinks and glasses. There will be a raffle too.

Tickets can be obtained from:-

Jenny Field - 01580241736 Maralyn Button - 01580241525

Lin Lodge - 01580240957 Glen Andrews - 07841527500

If you came to our last quiz you will know that, despite taxing our brains, the evening will be a fun occasion and at the same time, raises funds for a very worthwhile charity.

Arthur Mulet - A Celebration of his Life

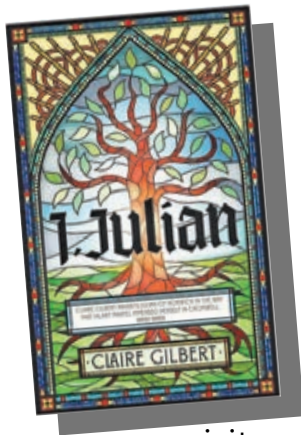
As some of you may know Arthur passed away recently, although he did not want a funeral service. The Star have kindly agreed to host a gathering for us with light refreshments which will be held on Monday 9th October from 1pm onwards. If you would like to attend please contact me on 01580 764760. We are hoping that my mum Beryl will be able to be there and thank everyone for their kind wishes and support.

Carol Harrison



Book Shelf

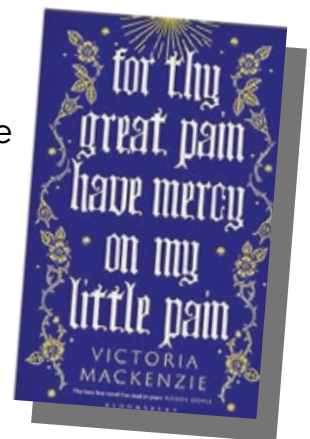
In amongst all the noise of the modern world, there is no better holiday than that journey and destination contained in a book. Sometimes a particular cover beckons you to pick it up, other times it is a review or recommendation and sometimes it is important to pick up and read something that you would not normally be drawn to.



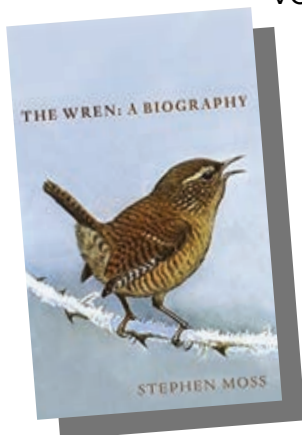
One such cover caught my eye in Waterstones I, *Julian* by Claire Gilbert. It has the most beautiful jacket that catches the eye and shows a window, it could be the window for an anchorite's cell for this novel is about Julian of Norwich, and features an imagined life based on historical research and is the product of a thoughtful reflection upon the author of Revelations of Divine Love. It shows, through the eyes of Julian, the turbulent times of the fourteenth century and the ravages of the Black Death on society and the impact of its repeated

visits on communities and their psychological states. This is a life story that reveals how society works, the use of patronage, the nature of what it is to become an anchorite. At one point in her life, Julian's story touches a small community of women whose worlds have been turned upside down by the plague – they are beguines, women who do not take vows but choose to work within the community. It is a book that has well developed characters, love stories, tragedies and machinations.

For Thy Great Pain Have Mercy on My Little Pain by Victoria Mackenzie is almost a companion piece as it too features Julian of Norwich. This time there are two narrative voices, the amazing Margery Kempe and Julian's. In 1413 it is possible that the redoubtable Margery, mother of fourteen children, daughter of the mayor of Lynn and wife of John Kempe, met Julian. This novel is dramatic, immediate and the different



voices of Margery and Julian are given full force. By any age's measure Margery's life was astonishing. She had visions, was accused of heresy, of being a Lollard, she went on pilgrimage, persuaded her husband that their marriage should become chaste. This is a book that crackles with energy and dramatizes the lives of these wonderful women and the people they moved amongst.



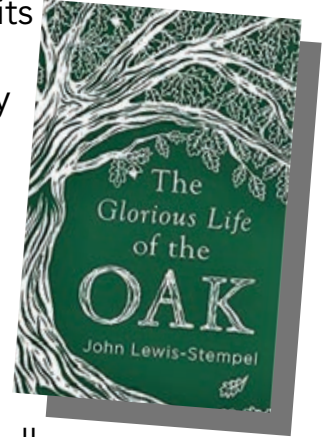
On a different note altogether I would heartily recommend *The Wren: A Biography* by Stephen Moss. It starts in January with the words, 'Several million years ago, deep in



the heart of what is now North America, a bird began to sing.' Each chapter contains information about the wren, its habits, its life cycle, its amazing nest building, its success and all the traditions surrounding it. It is more than natural history. The wren's story is told with passion and the book has many beautiful illustrations. It is a keeper of a book to dip into on darker days, or following an encounter with this bold and beautiful tiny bird.



I have also greatly enjoyed John Lewis-Stempel's *The Glorious Life of the Oak* and *Nightwalking*. The former is full of observations, facts and references to the folk culture of this iconic tree. The latter reminds us to observe, to listen and to enjoy walking in nature throughout the season. There are four walks in each of the seasons and he recounts what he observes.



Sue Hatt



Oasis happens every Monday during term time. It's the drop in place for after you have dropped the children off. Coffee, free ranging chat Your space just to be, just to breath. We look forward to seeing you.

Judy V

Northiam Bonfire Society

**Torchlit Procession and Fireworks
Saturday 7th October**

The Procession starts 7.30pm,
and the Bonfire will be lit approx 8.30pm
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open from 6.30pm. £2





Rolvenden Neighbourhood Watch



Our focus this month is a reminder about **Protecting your property against vandalism and Avoiding the latest scams**

1. Protect your property against vandalism

Vandalism is where property is maliciously destroyed or damaged - frequently without theft being involved. Safeguard your property with our advice below:

Keep it visible

It might feel your house is more secure behind a high wall or fence but the fact it can't be seen from the street could make it a more tempting target.

Make sure your property can be easily seen by ensuring front hedges, fences and walls are no higher than one metre. That way, an intruder can't hide.

Clever use of lighting can also help to keep burglars out: dusk-till-dawn, low-level white lighting, especially in vulnerable, low visibility areas such as the side or the rear of the property. Lights should be a minimum of three metres above ground with vandal-resistant casings.

Create a boundary

By doing this, you're marking your territory so anyone crossing that line uninvited or unauthorised is trespassing. You can do this with a low fence, wall, hedge, flower bed or small bushes. Best to avoid a rockery or large stones as they can be used by vandals. If you're having your driveway done, make it a different colour to that of the road.



Protect what's yours

Be sure to safeguard vulnerable points such as ground floor windows with one-metre high sharp, prickly bushes. Nature's barbed wire, can offer protection and look good too.

Security film – a clear or opaque covering that can be stuck onto windows – makes it harder to smash the glass.

White walls attract vandals with spray cans but anti-graffiti coatings that prevent paint from bonding to surfaces are great deterrents.

Don't make it easy for them

There's more to security than keeping gates closed and doors, windows and sheds locked.

If you have a surface which anyone can sit on – like a ledge or a low wall – make sure it's not 'bottom-friendly'. Planters with prickly plants look nice but are a pain for uninvited guests or anyone just hanging around. Secure the side and rear boundary of your property with a two-metre high fence topped with a trellis, which is lightweight and unable to support a person. It makes an awful racket if anyone tries to use it to gain access.



Keep it tidy

If a property is messy, some people won't think twice about adding to it or simply hanging around in the area.

A neat and tidy property conveys a sense of order. That's why we advise not leaving rubbish, ladders, wheelie bins or anything else that could be used for burglary or vandalism lying around.

For more advice and up-to-the-minute information about the latest crime prevention products, visit Secured by Design:

<https://www.securedbydesign.com/>

2. Avoiding the latest scams

Clairvoyant Scams

These are often sent through the post and play on people's beliefs in powers beyond the realms of what is visible (someone with supernatural ability).

Mailings look personal by use of first names, they offer health and welfare in return for money and ask you to send money to a return address in Europe (usually). They offer to contact a "higher power" on your behalf. Be aware of friendships offered by such people or organisations and be sure of who you are talking to and that they are genuine.

Microsoft 'unusual activity' email scam

This informs you that somebody has signed into your email account from a city such as Moscow. The email goes on to tell you that if this wasn't you, you should follow a link to 'report the user'. This can lead to your details being *phished (*this is when a person pretends to be from a reputable company on a malicious website so you reveal personal information).

Fake Ninja air fryer giveaway

Scammers regularly impersonate retailers in emails offering you the chance to 'win' products. This scam email impersonating Argos says you've been chosen to participate in its loyalty program and must follow a link in order to receive a free Ninja air fryer. You'll then be taken to a survey website and asked questions before being asked for personal information such as your email address, home address and bank details.

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



Parish magazine essential information:

Articles and supporting photographs: email to judyannvinson@gmail.com.

Photos for the cover should be emailed as a jpeg in colour or monochrome to Trevor Lodge on 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 NOVEMBER ISSUE IS

5:00pm TUESDAY 17TH OCTOBER

Note for distributors: ☆ Rolvenden Magazines available for collection on Saturday 28th October. ☆ Newenden Magazines available in St Peter's on Sunday 29th October from noon.

The online version will be available from 1st November 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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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, also see 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.



Welfare Intervention

Having issues with Council Tax, housing, benefits? For help please contact welfareinterventionteam@ashford.gov.uk

Or drop in to Tenterden Town Hall Tuesdays 10:00am to 12 Noon



CARM Meeting Point

Wednesday 11th October

Meetings from 10:00am to noon in Monypenny Lounge
Everyone welcome for a cup of tea and a chat

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

3rd, 17th and 31st October To join phone: 03000 41 31 31



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



Remember to check out Kent Savers for affordable loans
www.kentsavers.co.uk

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

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 October

Monday	Food Waste	Household Refuse grey bin (or black sack)	Recycling green bin (or clear sack)	Garden Recycling brown bin (or white sack)
02 Oct	yes	yes	no	yes
09 Oct	yes	no	yes	no
16 Oct	yes	yes	no	yes
23 Oct	yes	no	yes	no
30 Oct	yes	yes	no	yes
06 Nov	yes	no	yes	no

■ 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

By telephoning ABC on Tel 01233 330646

NEWENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

www.newenden.org/organisations.php

Twitter feed @NewendenPC using hashtag

#Newenden

Parish Clerk: Mr John Leeves.

3, Ben Hall Mill Place, Ben Hall Mill Road

Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 5EE

telephone: 01892 513899

e-mail: john.leeves@newenden.org

There will be a meeting on 7th November.

ROLVENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

www.rolvendenparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Clerk: Mr Peter Settlefield

Wealden House, Grand Parade,

Littlestone TN28 3NQ

email: rolvendenclerk@gmail.com

There will be a meeting on

19th October at 7.30pm in the

main hall, Rolvenden Village Hall. .

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.