



WOODCHURCH PARISH NEWS

The village community working together

April 2021

Contact us: Telephone 01233 861381 Email enquires@woodchurchhub.uk Web www.woodchurchhub.uk

OVER 800 COPIES distributed every month in the Woodchurch area

WOODCHURCH Community Calendar



Weekly events:

Saturdays:

Boot Camp 9:00am - 9:45am on the Village Green

Mondays:

Knit and Natter 6:00pm - 7:00pm in the Pop In Lodge, Lower Road

Beavers 6:00pm - 7:00pm in the Community Centre, Lower Road

Scouts 7:30pm - 9:00pm in the Community Centre, Lower Road

Tuesdays:

Puzzle Club 2:00pm - 4:00pm in the Pop In Lodge, Lower Road

Cubs 6:00pm - 7:00pm in the Community Centre, Lower Road

Wednesdays:

Fish and Chips 4:30pm - 7:30pm in the Village Car Park

Thursdays:

Pizza Van 4:30pm - 7:00pm in the Village Car Park (every other Thursday)

Explorers 7:30pm - 9:30pm in the Community Centre, Lower Road

Other Events:

Fri 2nd **Good Friday Outdoor Service** 10:00am at All Saints Church

Sat 3rd **Scouting Taster Session (11+)** 10:00am - 3:00pm Community Centre, Lower Road

Easter Vigil 6:00pm - 10:00pm at All Saints Church

Mon 5th **Scouting Taster Session (6 to 10 yrs)** 10:00am - 3:00pm Community Centre, Lower Road

Sat 10th **Spring Safari** All day Saturday and Sunday Around the village

The Electoral Commission

YOUR VOTE MATTERS
DON'T LOSE IT

Elections are taking place in your area on 6 May



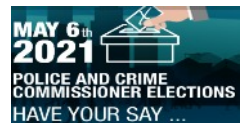
Kent elections on the 6th of May

There will be elections held in Kent for the following:

- Kent County Councillors
- Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)



In Woodchurch, polling will take place in the Memorial Hall Annexe (subject to confirmation) between 7am and 10pm on Thursday the 6th May.



If you are not on the electoral register you will need to register by **midnight on the 19th April**. This can be done online at

www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Sat 10th **Village Big Spring Clean Up** From 8:00am meet at The HUB

Sun 11th **Holy Communion** 11:00am at All Saints Church

Sat 17th **Great Garage / Yard Sale** 10:00am - 4:00pm throughout the village

Sun 18th **Morning Worship** 11:00am at All Saints Church

Thu 22nd **Woodchurch Parish Council Meeting** 7:00pm - 9:00pm (Zoom)

Sun 25th **Holy Communion** 11:00am at All Saints Church

Mon 26th **Nightingale Walks - Boldshaves** daily at 6:00pm - 7:00pm until 16th May

Previous editions of the Newsletter can be found on The HUB Web site
www.woodchurchhub.UK





WOODCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL • **UPDATE** •

This month the Parish Council has been discussing some new projects which we would like to start working on to benefit the village.

The first of these is regarding the bus stop as you enter the village from Tenterden, opposite the Brattle estate. We feel this bus stop needs some TLC and we would like to improve its appearance as well as its function. Various ideas have been considered to achieve this - we would like to add some seating within it and possibly installing a window so it is brighter inside. We have been considering the possibility of getting a local art group involved in helping us make the bus stop more appealing, and this is where the rest of the village comes in! Do you know of any local artists who might like to help us transform the bus stop? Do you have any ideas of what you would like to be changed at the stop or how you feel it should be decorated? Do you know of someone who is handy with tools who would want to help alter the structure? All suggestions are welcome- we would like to make this a project where the community can get involved and we have something which we can be proud of, which villagers are pleased to use.

The Parish Council has also been developing a wellbeing initiative to help support the community, so watch this space for more details in the upcoming newsletters...

Windmill update- Your feedback has been combined into a report that will be sent to Ashford Borough Council in preparation for consideration at their asset management meeting. Thank you to everyone who let us know their thoughts as to why the Mill is such an important part of the village.

The community PCSO Kate Richards has also been out and about in the village following concerns raised by some members of the community. Kate has been up at the school on a couple of occasions to monitor the parking situation at the busy drop off/collection times and she has also been on The Green speaking to people about littering on the playpark. She will continue to keep an eye on these issues and has let us know how much she is enjoying catching up with villagers when she is walking around.

Thank you to everyone who has let us know when they spot problems or risks in the village, particularly around the play area on The Green. We can only fix what we know about, so it is great to have updates if things

aren't right. If you have any concerns, please let us know by popping a note through the door at the Hub, calling 01233 861381, emailing us at enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk or leaving a message on the Parish Council Web site

www.woodchurchhub.uk/parish-council

Finally, there have been a couple of significant planning consultations which have been announced in the last month - The development on Appledore Road (near Bridge Close) and another development at Kirkwood Avenue. Please ensure that if you have any feedback on these you let us know as soon as you can. Be aware that the Kirkwood Avenue development now has a planning application in process. Your Parish Council is only a Statutory Consultee and does not have the power to approve or reject planning applications, so your comments placed onto the ABC site are consequently important. This can be found by going to <https://planning.ashford.gov.uk/Planning> and searching for the Application Reference 21/00474/AS. If you would like any support with making a comment on the website, please let us know by getting in touch through the Hub.

There is a consultation survey with this newsletter - please do complete this and send it back to the Parish Council as we wish to represent your views on this matter and need your feedback to do so. The survey can also be found online www.woodchurchhub.uk/kirkwood-avenue-development/

Repairs to the play area

The Parish Council is aware of some damage to the surface in the children's play area. The contractor has been contacted and will be carrying out the necessary repairs. It is important that the new surface is given time to cure before being walked upon so please can you ensure that you **STAY OFF** any area that has been repaired until the hazard tape has been removed.

Woodchurch Players

The committee have been meeting every month via Zoom, to say 'Hello' to each other if nothing else! Having said that, our technical crew are organising the Kent Drama Association's Radio Play Festival Awards Event, which will be recorded at the Memorial Hall in April. Just Tim, Eliot, Beth Fenton (who is Chair of the KDA at present) and the adjudicator are involved and the recording will be broadcast on YouTube at a set date for members to watch. Hopefully, we will then be in a position to plan some outdoor summer entertainment, including a parade around the village, and - fingers crossed - get some auditions going for a pantomime in January 2022! All fingers and toes crossed.





All Saints Church



Dear Friends,

It has been wonderful to return to All Saints church for our Sunday services. This time last year we had locked up our churches and started our first national lockdown. I could not have imagined what lay ahead. Mike and I moved to the Rectory in a brief period of relaxation of the rules back in September. It has been an unusual and challenging time. However, as Easter dawns this week, it feels like we have much to be thankful for, and much to be hopeful about. We are thankful that as the days lengthen we can see new growth around us. Flowers in our garden, birds and wildlife around us, lambs in the fields. We are hopeful seeing the success of the vaccination programme, and the drop in infection rates.

As Christians we celebrate new life. A passing from darkness to light, which seems especially significant this year. It is a time of renewal, and in church we renew the promises made at our baptisms, and commit to live our lives as good Christians. We celebrate in church with music, flowers and by saying Alleluia! (We don't say Alleluia during Lent). We rejoice at Easter that Jesus Christ is risen.

A Happy Easter season to all in Woodchurch. I look forward to meeting many more people as restrictions are lifted.

Every Blessing

Reverend Sue Rose

01233 820266 - revsuerose@outlook.com

The Rectory, Bull Lane, Bethersden, TN26 3HA



WOODCHURCH IN BLOOM

INCORPORATING
WOODCHURCH GARDENING SOCIETY

What's next in 2021

April:

- **HOPE** - building our permanent pebble butterfly is now planned early April subject to restrictions, availability and weather.
- **Spring Safari** - over the weekend of 10th/11th April, there will be a trail around village planters and other village areas showing off the best Spring has to offer. We would also like to include front gardens on the trail map so if you'd like yours to be on the map, please let us know by 1st April, by emailing woodchurchinbloom@hotmail.com
- **'Drop & Swap'** - we will hold our next 'Drop & Swap' event on Saturday 10th April for anyone who is happy to donate or swap any seeds/seedlings/plants.

May:

- **Wildflower meadow** - on the 1st, 2nd & 3rd May between 3 and 4pm, we hope villagers will come along and help us plant out wildflower seedlings in a designated area on the Green extension. For those villagers that have been kindly growing seedlings over winter, we hope you will be able to bring them along at some point over the dates and times above to plant out too. Thank you to everyone that has supported us with this. We will of course ensure that restrictions at the time are strictly adhered to as with all our Woodchurch in Bloom activities.

July:

- **Front Garden competition** - we also wanted to make you aware now that the popular Front Garden competition is returning this year! Please see below for further details so that you can get planning!

August:

- **Sunflower competition** - Help fill the village with Sunflowers!

SUMMER SUNFLOWER CHALLENGE

Taking the lead from Woodchurch Surgery Sunflower competition, Woodchurch in Bloom invite villagers to fill the village with sunshine and grow as many sunflowers as possible!

There will be a vote on the largest sunflower face and the tallest plant over the August Bank Holiday weekend.

If you need seeds these will be available outside the side gate of the church and the bench at Kirkwood Avenue over Easter weekend.

WE RECOMMEND YOU START PLANNING TO SOW YOUR SUNFLOWER SEEDS NOW!

Join in and bring sunshine to our village

Getting in Touch:

Linda Baker - THRIVE lead: 07795 383945

Philippa Jones - Chair: 07774 608281

WoodchurchinBloom@hotmail.com

The Old Post Office Coffee Shop

Thank you so much for your continued support and excitement for the opening of The Old Post Office Coffee Shop. Although the current situation has been a challenge for us, works are coming on nicely and we will keep you updated on our progress. Hope to see you soon! The Old Post Office Team

Temporary Road Closure - B2067 Brook Street, Woodchurch, Tenterden - 19-21 April 2021

It will be necessary to close part of B2067 Brook Street, Woodchurch, near Tenterden, currently planned from Monday 19 April 2021, with estimated completion by 21 April 2021.



The closure is to enable works to provide a new electricity supply to be carried out by ALS Civil Engineers Ltd, working with UK Power Networks.

Due to the nature of these works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside the working hours.

Woodchurch Football Club

Our competitive matches resume from April 10th. FA guidelines say we are not allowed spectators, however as it is a public space and people are allowed to meet in groups of 6 at the time of the restart we just ask that people respect current social distancing guidelines if they come to watch our game .



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planning
application?**



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JO FURNEAUX
HEALTH + FITNESS COACH

BootCamp on Woodchurch Village Green returns from Saturday 3rd April at 9am. We are excited to get back together in person after months on Zoom!

This class is a 60 minute blend of cardio & resistance exercises, great for building your overall strength and fitness. We work individually, in pairs and as a team and have some fun along the way. Sessions comply with Covid-19 guidelines.

Newcomers are very welcome so if you would like to come along for a free taster session, please call Jo Furneaux on 07961 978068 to book your place or for further information.



**MUSEUM 150+
Lottery Draw**



Museum 150+ March Lottery Draw

Support your local museum- you could win a £50/£30/£20 prize every month. An annual ticket costs £12 in September. Now selling for £5 for 5 months. For more information please contact Joyce Nash via The HUB - enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk or 01233 861381

1st prize	£50	Sally and Barry Stephens	1384
2nd prize	£30	Terry and Brenda Roberts	317
3rd prize	£20	Claire Town	981

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THE BIG THIN *Red line*

We trust all are well and remembering that the light is at the end of the tunnel with COVID roadmap now out.

We have been very busy planning for you all as a community to come together and celebrate, we had to move the date for Picnic on the Green "take 4" to meet guidance. The new date set is 7th August.

We have secured three bands already and looking at an old favourite for the final addition. We will keep you up dated with all the other bits this year we plan to bolt on so it's a great day for the village. A cry for help our friend "Johnny Quo" cannot make it this year, so we are looking for a PA or DJ that can fill in through the acts, if anyone has someone they know we would appreciate it.

If any groups or organisations would like to use the day to promote themselves PM us on face book or through links below.



Internally our group is growing and we have started now to send out the joining packs, this is an open organisation that anyone can join and we are dedicated to supporting others and having many events that are fun for members.

Last year we started the community award

scheme and gave 2 awards again this year we are looking at awarding again. Individuals or groups will be recognised for the award, the 7th August is the award day so please let us know any nominations you may have.

Our final words are again a big thanks to all of you out there supporting others in many ways, directly and indirectly, its this spirit we respect and is part of our group ethic, that's what makes this village stand out above others, well done!

You can find us on facebook or contact me personally on patrick7171@hotmail.co.uk or 07584075008.

Knit and natter

I am hoping to re-open the knit 'n natter group, weather permitting, on Monday 29th March at the Pop-In. The lodge etc has been completely cleaned and outside chairs cleansed so we can sit outside, socially distanced.

Puzzles

The same goes for "puzzles" - to start in the same format on Tuesday 30th March



LEADERS NEEDED FOR BEAVERS AND CUBS

Woodchurch Beavers and Cubs are in need of leaders for these sections.

If you have some spare time, like inspiring children and are looking for a challenge, please contact Julian West on 07887 748692 or julian.west@tiscali.co.uk

Many thanks, Julian and team



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Woodchurch Surgery Update

The last couple of weeks have seen an increase in "normal activity" which combined with vaccinating and cleaning down after appointments has tested our sanity. However, it is great to be seeing people in our refurbished premises and good to have Covid at least nearer the middle of our minds rather than the front. The numbers locally have definitely been low but are higher than they were last week so it is still out there in the community.

We were invited to be involved with the project to vaccinate the under 50's but with the pressure of getting second doses for the cohorts 1-6 and building up normal traffic we had to hit the eject button. We have been talking about pooling our resources Ashford-wide and effectively creating our own Mass Vaccination Site in Ashford. The discussions are very preliminary and reflect that we really want to take part while recognising our limitations.

The national talk this last week has been that the Astra Zeneca remains safe and is the preferred vaccine if you have ever had a very severe allergic reaction to anything and needed adrenaline. There are negotiations being made at a much higher level than I'll ever be party to about the distribution and we only know what is in the press. I'm not sure if Brexit has any role to play in complicating this further for us or not.

Moving forward the Surgery nursing team has been working to get the routine monitoring back to normal as much as possible. We rely on income from monitoring certain chronic diseases which then goes to pay for other services. Early in the first lockdown the government amazingly protected this income and based it on our performance in the previous year which allowed us to divert resources to the vaccination program and respond to the pressures of Coronavirus. We are now expected to resume normal services.

Although we can be very proud of our statistics on the whole reflecting the work the admin and nursing team has done during the pandemic they are not to our usual meticulous standard and so they are leading the charge on getting back to normal with the "chronic disease management". It may be an opportunity to manage our chronic diseases in a different way and co-ordinate with some of the other local surgeries, or to give people a kind of personal health plan that is shared more formal than previously. Reviews are essential to prevent complications so if you have any chronic illness and have been shielding or been wary of getting tests done at the surgery I would encourage

you to re-engage. We have seen an increase in complications in some of these groups that we put down purely to less monitoring during the pandemic which has occurred for a variety of reasons.

The dispensary has been busier than ever and we intend to keep our delivery drivers doing a daily service. We have managed to continue on a 3 day turn-around for routine prescriptions and have had to cope with some supply issues and we appreciate the support of anyone affected by this.

The doctors are getting back to some normality too and as things have picked up to normal we are going back to the more traditional timing of appointments. We have never been fans of a "triage doctor" with some poor soul sitting in a room fielding calls as quickly as possible so we will mix up telephone calls with face to face appointments with the traditional 10 minute appointment slot. It will therefore be important that when making contact with the reception team that you can be clear that your problem is effectively what you would have previously come in to see the doctor about. If the problem is more admin/medication based then email or econsult is a better way to free up the appointments for more pressing medical issues. If you don't do technology then a really thorough explanation of the issue to the reception team would be helpful. We still get excited by a hand-written note through the door too so despite all the technology there is still space for a pencil.

We have gone from pretty much a waiting time of a few days for routine things to everything being dealt with on the same day during the pandemic. With the change in appointments we will see a little bit of a wait at times for routine things. If a problem is urgent please highlight this and we will obviously accommodate what we can as per "the old days". Our admin team are wonderful, real people who have worked hard and enjoyed your support through lockdown so please continue this even if the first answer starts with a "no". By hook or by crook nothing is unsurmountable so together we will come to a solution to help sort out any matters we can.

Hopefully this gives a bit of an idea what can be expected in the next couple of months. I've just put my Easter holiday back another year having already been put back once. I'm getting used to the idea the same will probably happen this summer - we live in an amazing area so mustn't grumble.

Best wishes on behalf of the Surgery Team
Jack Hickey - GP

Parish Council Planning Consultation for Land to the North of 14 and 15 Kirkwood Avenue

Ashford Borough Council have agreed to extend the consultation period for this development until the 23rd April 2021, to allow for the residents of Woodchurch Parish to have their say via their planning application portal.

In addition, to better understand local opinion, your Parish Council is requesting all interested residents to participate in a short consultation (either online or on paper format), and return their answers to the HUB by the 15th April 2021. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Planning application overview

Erection of four 2-bedroom and three 3-bedroom bungalows with associated access road, parking and landscaping plus, the provision of a new public amenity space (biodiversity enhancement) to be managed by a newly formed Management Company. The proposed development will reflect Kirkwood architecture and be constructed from brick with a mixture of pitched & hipped, half hipped & gable slate roofing.

Either complete the questionnaire overleaf and return to The HUB, or go to www.woodchurchhub.uk/kirkwood-avenue-development to complete it online.

The full planning application can be viewed in full and commented upon at: <https://planning.ashford.gov.uk/Planning>
Application Reference: **21/00474/AS**

Your Parish Council is only a Statutory Consultee and does not have the power to approve or reject planning applications. Your comments placed onto the ABC site are consequently important.

Please complete the questions below and return to The HUB by 15th April 2021.

Please enter your name and postcode. These will remain confidential and will only be used for the management of returned responses.

Name:					Postcode:				
1. What is your opinion on developing on this land?									
Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Against	Strongly Against					
2. What is your opinion on the overall layout of proposed development?									
Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Against	Strongly Against					
3. What is your opinion on the proposed dwelling sizes? (2 and 3 bedroom bungalows)									
Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Against	Strongly Against					
4. What is your opinion on the proposed dwelling architecture? (Brick with a mixture of pitched & hipped, half hipped & gable slate roofing)									
Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Against	Strongly Against					
5. What is your opinion on the provision of the proposed managed public amenity space? (The provision of a new public amenity space (biodiversity enhancement) to be managed by a newly formed Management Company)									
Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Against	Strongly Against					
Other comments									

Woodchurch in Bloom - Front Garden Competition 2021

We are all looking forward to a much better and hopeful year. As we know being outside is a great mental boost. Gardening and watching nature can be great stress busters. So, let's do a bit to encourage more nature into our gardens no matter how great or small.

Woodchurch in Bloom will be running the 2021 Front Garden Competition with wildlife in mind. Social distancing will be observed at all times and contact can be made via telephone and emails. Extra points will be awarded for making your front garden more wildlife friendly. So, make your garden more welcoming to the amazing wildlife we have and not just somewhere to park the car or a place for the rubbish bins. It doesn't need to cost a lot, nor take much more effort but it will mean so much for our wildlife and environment.

Wildlife needs three basic things: WATER, FOOD, and SHELTER. Supply one or all these needs and extra points will be awarded and will be a big bonus to our wildlife.

An application form can be found overleaf, however these can also be obtained by:

- Access an online copy via www.woodchurchhub.uk/front-garden-competition
- Emailing Woodchurchinbloom@hotmail.com
- Or pick up a copy from the HUB



Parish Council planning consultation - Land north of 14 and 15, Kirkwood Avenue
Please complete the questions below and return to The HUB by 15th April 2021

Please enter your name and postcode. These will remain confidential and will only be used for the management of returned responses.

Name: Postcode:

1. What is your opinion on developing on this land?

Strongly Support ☐ Support ☐ Neutral ☐ Against ☐ Strongly Against ☐

2. What is your opinion on the overall layout of proposed development?

Strongly Support ☐ Support ☐ Neutral ☐ Against ☐ Strongly Against ☐

3. What is your opinion on the proposed dwelling sizes? (2 and 3 bedroom bungalows)

Strongly Support ☐ Support ☐ Neutral ☐ Against ☐ Strongly Against ☐

4. What is your opinion on the proposed dwelling architecture? (Brick with a mixture of pitched & hippped, half hippped & gable slate roofing.

Strongly Support ☐ Support ☐ Neutral ☐ Against ☐ Strongly Against ☐

5. What is your opinion on the provision of the proposed managed public amenity space? (The provision of a new public amenity space (biodiversity enhancement) to be managed by a newly formed Management Company)

Strongly Support ☐ Support ☐ Neutral ☐ Against ☐ Strongly Against ☐

Other comments



Front Garden Competition 2021



Woodchurch Front Garden Competition is open to all residents in Woodchurch Village.

Open to FRONT gardens which can be viewed from the road or footpath.

Entry is Free.

Closing date is 12th July 2021. Judging, by an independent adjudicator, will take place after this date.

This year extra marks will be awarded for front gardens that have been gardened with wildlife in mind, ie. putting up a bird box or planting for pollinators.

Entry Form

Name of entrant

Address of garden

Postcode

Contact phone number

Do we have your permission to take photos of your front garden? YES/NO

Which category are you entering?

Small front garden(less than half a tennis court) ☐

Large front garden ☐

Hanging baskets and containers ☐

Please tell us what gardening you've done with wildlife in mind. (ie Planting, boxes, water, log piles etc.)



Another month has flown by and it feels as if we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel, despite the recent doubts regarding vaccine supply for the month of April. We have now passed the spring equinox and everything seems more hopeful and promising as the days continue to become longer. Let's hope that we can now stay on track in the battle against the virus and that the restrictions will gradually, but inexorably, be eased until Woodchurch WI can once again meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.15 pm in the Memorial Hall. Of course, we want to be as safe as we can be, so this might not be until after all the restrictions are lifted on the 21st June, which means that the first meeting indoors would be on the 13th July, but at least we now have something to work towards. Sandra, our Programme Secretary, has arranged a full and varied line-up for the remainder of 2021, so we will be ready to go whenever we finally get the "green light".

Sue Howell was the intended Speaker for April, with a talk (appropriately for spring and the start of summer) on Laura Ashley, whose romantic, floaty, floral summer frocks were very popular in the '70s, '80s and '90s. Sue's choice of topic would have been particularly fitting for a WI meeting, as, apparently, Laura Ashley's inspiration to start the production of floral fabrics for clothing and home furnishings came in the 1950s from a Woman's Institute display of traditional handicrafts at the Victoria and Albert Museum! However, you can rest assured that we won't be missing out on this interesting talk, for Sandra has already re-scheduled it to a more convenient future date.



The WI Zoom Quiz for March was won by Josie and the next one is planned for Tuesday, 13th April at 7 pm. All members are welcome to participate and stimulate those little grey cells; please contact Josie for further information. It's a little bit of fun to alleviate the boredom of lockdown and I can promise that none of the questions are too difficult, provided they are not sport related, of course!

Easter this year falls on Sunday, 4th April and the picture below shows the beautiful Easter bags each member will be receiving to mark the occasion. Happy Easter

[The Great Woodchurch Spring Village Garage Sale](#)

A repeat of last years successful village up-cycling, for sale and "give-aways" will be held on

Saturday 17th April from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. There is no charge if you wish to be included on the map. Please let us know at The HUB or by email to enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk with your name and address by Sunday 11th April.



[Woodchurch Community Calendar](#)

As we move into a brighter new year, we are anticipating that village events will begin to return to a normality. As restrictions ease and your club/society becomes more active, please let us know so that you can be included in the Community Calendar.

The Community Calendar directly feeds into the Newsletter calendar and so it is important that you help us to keep it up to date. Please send event details, and updates, to enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk.

The full Community Calendar can be found at www.woodchurchhub.uk/community-calendar - where you can also add your own event suggestions.



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In memory of Bernard Gardiner

It is with regret that I have to inform all our friends in Woodchurch that Bernard Gardiner passed away on 15th February 2021. He had been admitted to hospital with pneumonia, and although that responded to treatment, he suffered a fatal heart attack before he could come home. His cremation took place at Rawdon Crematorium, Leeds on 4th March 2021. Donations can be made in Bernard's name to the Rare Breeds Centre.

In memory of David Bird 31/05/1929 - 07/02/2021

David Bird moved to Woodchurch, with Lindy, his wife in 2002. They came from Gloucestershire, wanting to be nearer children and grandchildren, and were delighted to find their cottage in Coldblow Lane, where many hours were spent working on their garden. They soon got to know their new neighbours and they found everyone very welcoming. Both David and Lindy were greatly appreciative of the support they received after David was involved in a serious car crash on Coldblow Lane.

David was born in Germany in 1929 and moved back to England just before the Second World War started. After the war ended he spent 5 years in the Army, and then worked in industry in the UK and Germany. He spent many years working in Germany and raising a family of 4 children, before returning to England to have a complete career change in 1983. He and Lindy started growing flowers for Lindy's dried flower business. This they did for a number of years before looking for a new home in the South East of England.

David enjoyed his retirement years in Woodchurch, going for long walks with his dogs, in the local woods and farmland, and often to the beach. Sadly, having suffered a number of strokes, he passed away in February, and his funeral was at Woodchurch parish church in March.

Photocopying and Laminating at The HUB

We can now scan, print, copy and laminate A3 pages and can print booklets.

Photocopies (per side)	A4 b/w - 10p, A4 colour - 15p A3 b/w - 15p, A4 colour - 20p
Laminating (per sheet)	A4 - 15p, A3 - 25p

The Woodchurch Local History Society (WLHS)

meets on the first Monday of the month in the Memorial Hall, Woodchurch. Our meetings start at 7.30 pm and the usual format is to hear an invited speaker talk for about an hour. This



would be followed by the availability of tea or coffee. with a biscuit or two and a chat amongst friends. Our speaker's subjects range from historical aspects of Woodchurch to the wider field of Kentish history or beyond. Sometimes, members of our society will give presentations on their specialised topics. All talks are intended to appeal to the general public rather than to the specialist.

Our annual subscription is normally £10 but for this year we will expect a fee of only £5 to last for the remainder of the year.

We hope to start our meetings in May or June (the latter more likely). All newcomers are welcome - please just to pop along to see if it's for you.

Thanks, Geoff (Chair).

2021 Spring Village Clean Up

To help our industrious village litter pickers and the growing number of individuals who regularly clear the ditches and hedgerows in and around the Woodchurch, please come and join us on Saturday 10th April to participate in with our Spring Village Clean Up.



Bags, high viz jackets and litter pickers will be available - but if you have your own then please bring them along. See you outside The HUB from 8am.

ARE YOUR EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY CALENDAR?

Have you put your event dates in the Community Calendar? Although we are still early in the year we are already seeing clubs and society event clashes. Email your event dates to enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk to make sure they are included in the calendar.

Advertising in the Parish Newsletter

If you would like to advertise your business or rental property in future editions of the Newsletter please go to www.woodchurchhub.uk/the-hub/newsletters/parish-newsletter-advertising/ or contact enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk for more information.

Woodchurch Scout Group

Woodchurch Scout Group are about to come back to life, we have been waiting for so long to get back to the normal.



We are going to start with a taster to see if we can show the young people what we do. This will be on Saturday 3rd April from 10.00 to 15.00 we will be meeting in the Scout and Guide Community Centre this will be for Boys and Girls we will be going to the woods for the day, there will no cost. Please parents need to come and fill in a form with details of there son/daughter, please wear some old clothes and boots as may be wet in some parts.

On Monday 5th April it will be the turn of younger ones this is for 6 to 10 year olds both boys and girls, it will be the same instructions as for the scouts.

Beavers start on Monday 12th for 6 to 8 year olds. They meet at the Scout and Guide Community Centre from 18.00 to 19.00

Scouts meet on Mondays 12th from 19.30 to 21.00 they are from 10 to 14 years old

Cubs meet on Tuesday 13th from 18.00 to 19.00 they are from 8 to 10 years old

Explorers meet on Thursday from 19.30 to 21.30 they are from 14 to 18 years old

All sections are open to both boys and girls

Any questions please contact me on 07887748692

Julian
Group Scout Leader

Woodchurch Bell ringers

Woodchurch Bells have been quiet for now nearly a year now, not only because of the virus but also a shortage of ringers. We only have 4 ringers, we used to ring for the services on a Sunday but most of the time we can not make enough ringers. This has also been a problem for manning ringing for weddings.

So my appeal is for more villagers to come forward to learn how to ring, or ringers in the village who have not rung for years to come and keep the bells going. If you are interested please give me a ring you can be from 11 to 90 years old, my number is 07887 748692.

Julian

Meet our Parish Councillors

Dr Clare Silcock

I've been a member of the Woodchurch Parish Council since May 2018 and have lived in the centre of the village for just over nine years. Since taking a step back from my career in the pharmaceutical industry, I have been able to take an increasingly active role in village life beginning with leading the PTA (FOWSA) at the village school at which both my sons were/ are taught. As part of this team, we organised some tremendously successful village events including the fantastic 2018 Summer Fete and 2018 Christmas Fair. This gave me the opportunity to see how much enthusiasm and excitement there is for the Woodchurch community to come together, especially in the sunshine! I've found being a Parish Councillor a huge privilege and have enjoyed working with my colleagues on the Council to take small but steady steps to improve the vibrancy and diversity of life in Woodchurch and to be able to support all kinds of local initiatives designed to do the same. I'm passionate about keeping our village community alive and thriving and, Chair of Governors at the school, I'm particularly focussed in making sure young families can choose our village as somewhere they can raise their children. For my sins, I am also responsible for leading the council on budget/ finance matters! Like many people, I can often be found striding around the village so please feel free to stop me and share anything you'd like the Council to be aware of or change. We can't solve everything but there is a huge willingness to try!



How to contact your Parish Council

In person: By talking to one of your councillors - details on the Parish Council Web site

By email: clerk@woodchurch-pc.gov.uk

By phone: 01233 733994

Through The HUB: Place your correspondence in a sealed envelope marked "Parish Council" and deliver to The HUB

By post to: Woodchurch Parish Clerk

Keg Barn, Hornash Lane, Shadoxhurst, Kent, TN26 1HX

Through the contact form on the Parish Council Web site:
www.woodchurchhub.uk/parish-council/

Woodchurch Cottage Flowers
(Artisan florist and flower grower)
Profile of a village business

All our beautiful cottage garden flowers grown on our small holding, are seasonal, sustainable and scented.

Our bouquets capture a touch of bygone days using not only our own British grown flowers which are so much better for the environment but also by adding a special something gathered from the fields and hedgerows that surround us, to give a gorgeous country feel.



We are also providing flowers for DIY weddings, bridal bouquet service, mix buckets for flower arrangers, and farewell flowers. Our rustic jam jar arrangements are proving

extremely popular with our customers.

We choose to work with nature, grow to organic principles and leave virtually no impact on the world we live in as our blooms are not imported or coated with chemicals. Grown not flown!

This year we will be holding several exciting workshops aimed for beginners onwards and will be having an open weekend 14th - 15th August supported by the wonderful organisation Flowers From the Farm.



You can read more about us on the website pages where you can also find a full description of all the services on offer.

www.woodchurchcottageflowers.co.uk

call or text for a flowery chat on 07960449235

Follow us and like us on Facebook and Instagram



My name is Katie - I am the new CARM Meeting Point Coordinator, replacing Holly Lewis who left us at Christmas to become a teacher. If the government roadmap doesn't encounter any hiccups, we hope to open the MPs as soon after 21 June as possible. In the meantime, I would love to put a brief 'watch this space' notice in your April Newsletter to remind people we will be returning. I think these social drop ins will be more needed than ever after the year we have had.

Kind regards, Katie

Pop-In Boot Fair

We can't hold boot fairs for the time being but we still need to raise money to run the Jean Mealham Pop-In Centre for the over 50s. We are therefore arranging to meet individuals at the marquee at the Pop-In to view the masses of items we have for sale.

Further details from Clive or Shirley - 01233 860139 for an appointment to view.



The Woodchurch Parish News is distributed **free of charge** by The HUB to over 850 houses each month in Woodchurch and surrounding areas. There are also past village residents and friends of Woodchurch who receive a copy as far away as Canada, the USA and Australia.

The HUB is a not-for-profit organisation that exists to help support the residents of Woodchurch, the village clubs and societies and also village businesses. It is managed entirely by volunteers. The Newsletter is partially funded by advertising and the rest through fundraising and voluntary donations. If you would like to make a donation to help with the costs of production then please go to The HUB web site and click the the "Donate" button. www.woodchurchhub.uk



Many thanks from The HUB team.

The HUB will remain open "virtually" during April.

If you are in need of support during the lockdown, or need access to facilities offered by The HUB (e.g. printing, photocopying or laminating) then please phone 01233 861381 or email enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk.

