

The village community working together

February 2022

Contact us: Telephone 01233 861381

Email enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk Web www.woodchurchhub.uk

OVER 900 COPIES distributed every month in the Woodchurch area

Woodchurch Community Calendar



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



Weekly events:

Saturdays:

Boot Camp 9:00am-10:00am on the Village Green

Mondays:

Pilates 9:00am-10:00am in the Memorial Hall

Tai Chi and Qigong 9:45am - 11:45pm at the

S&G Community Centre, Lower Road

Knit and Natter 2:00pm - 3:30pm in the Pop In

Lodge

6:00pm-7:00pm in the S&G Community **Beavers**

Centre, Lower Road

BodyTone 6:15pm-7:00pm at the Memorial Hall **BodyFlex** 7:15pm-8:00pm at the Memorial Hall **Scouts** 7:30pm-9:00pm in the S&G Community

Centre, Lower Road

Tuesdays:

Pilates 9:00am-10:00am, 10:15am-11:15am and

6:00pm-7:00pm in the Memorial Hall

Little Leaves Forest School 10:00am - 12:00pm under 5's

Play Group based in Woodchurch

Community Warden 1:00pm-3:00pm in the HUB Puzzle Club 2:00pm-4:00pm in the Pop In Lodge,

Lower Road

Cubs 6:00pm-7:00pm in the S&G Community

Centre, Lower Road

Wednesdays:

9:00am-10:00am in the Memorial Hall **Pilates** Museum Volunteers 9:30am-12:00pm at the Museum

2:00pm-4:00pm Tea and coffee and Pop-In

boot fair marquee at the Jean Mealham

Pop-In Centre

Rainbows 4:15pm-5:30pm in the S&G Community

Centre, Lower Road

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

Car Park

Thursdays:

Art Society 10:00am-1:00pm at the Memorial Hall

BodyFlex 6:15pm-7:00pm at the Memorial Hall

BodyTone 7:15pm-8:00pm at the Memorial Hall Annexe Badminton 7:00pm-11:00pm at the Memorial Hall

Explorers 7:30pm-9:30pm in the S&G

Community Centre, Lower Road

Other Events:

Thu 3rd Carnival Community meeting 6:30pm at the Pop-Sat 5th Gillians "Souper Lunch" 12:15pm to 2:30pm at the Memorial Hall Sun 6th Morning Worship 11:00am at All Saints Church

Mon 7th **CARM** 10:30am in the Memorial Hall Hi Kent NHS hearing aid aftercare 10:30am to 11:30am in the Memorial Hall or Annexe

WLHS AGM and "The Aldington Double Murder"

7:30pm in the Memorial Hall

Tue 8th WI - Flying for Fun 7:15pm in the Memorial Hall

Wed 9th Borough Councillors Surgery 11:00am to

12:00pm at The HUB

Fri 11th Carnival Masquerade Party in the Memorial Hall Sat 12th Beachwood Pizza Van 5:30pm in the car park

Out of a Suitcase "God of Carnage" in the

Memorial Hall

Sun 13th **Newspaper collection** by The Scouts

Holy Communion 11:00 at All Saints Church

Tue 15th PCSO Drop in session 1:00pm to 2:00pm at The

Fri 18th Out of a Suitcase "God of Carnage" in the

Memorial Hall

Sun 20th Morning Worship 11:00am at All Saints Church

Thu 24th **Woodchurch Parish Council Meeting**

7:00pm - 9:00pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe

Fri 25th **Ashford Astronomical Society** - The Tiny Aliens

on our Planet 7:30pm in the Memorial Hall

Sat 26th Beachwood Pizza Van 5:30pm in the car park

Sun 27th Holy Communion 11:00am at All Saints Church

To view the full calendar go to

www.woodchurchhub.uk > Community Calendar

Would your club/society like to organise the Village **Green Christmas Tree for December 2022**

Believe it or not, we are already thinking about the organisation of the village 2022 Christmas celebrations. Following on from the success of previous years, we are asking Woodchurch clubs or societies if they would like to apply to organise the tree celebrations this year. If so, please contact the Parish Council or The HUB by February 17th

WOODCHURCH SURGERY UPDATE

This time of year always seems a bit flat for some reason although could be full of the optimism for the year to come. Self-imposed New Year resolutions' restrictions are either imbedded or forgotten, and hopefully the positive lifestyle measures are set to stay. Perhaps the lifting of Government restrictions also marks a positive change and their view that the Omicron strain is much less severe would mirror what we have seen locally. Sadly, there remain some exceptions. Within Health and Social Care the restrictions largely remain unchanged, so we will still be "masked-up" in the Surgery and will still require patients to wear a face covering.

I've spoken to a few people who are frustrated that after 2 years of isolation they have developed Covid, however that 2 years was well spent avoiding what may have been a catastrophic infection. The vaccines have been effective but the uptake since the initial flurry of boosters has been low. Having been successful in boosting the vulnerable groups we are no longer ordering stock as much has been wasted recently. So, anyone needing any of the doses at any age please use the mass vaccination centres.

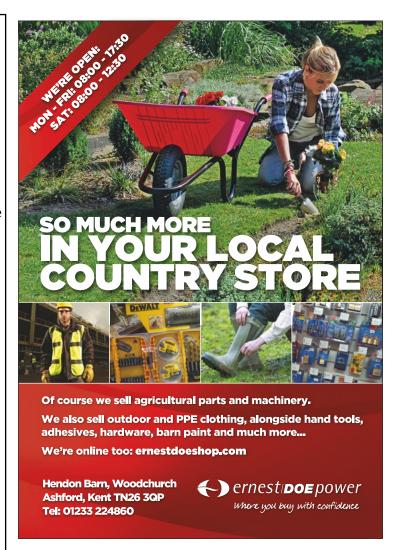
We remain in the Flu season and have lots of Flu jabs in the fridge so please call to book in for a flu jab (or nasal for the children) while there are some left.

During my "research" I have found some things to look forward to in February for health promotion. The most eyecatching was National Impotence Day which shares the 14th with National Reproduction Day. While I can't see many men waving banners for Impotence, it is an important part of many people's lives that many still shy away from talking openly about. It can be a sign of other important things such as diabetes and heart disease so, by ignoring it we may be missing other complications. Solutions vary but can be as simple as taking a tablet so well worth mustering the courage and talking to any of the health care team to start the conversation.

On a different note we are aware of campaign locally from national pharmacy chains that offer delivery of prescription medication. Please do not sign up to giving them any money without talking to us first. I'm aware of a few people that were expecting deliveries that never happened partly because their software is not compatible with ours. This led to them being without medication for some time and being out of pocket. We already have a daily delivery from the Surgery if you struggle to collect your medication so if you need this please talk to/email dispensary.

So, we are one month in to 2022 already and I wish you all the best on behalf of The Surgery.

Jack Hickey - GP





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+ All Saints Church

Dear Friends,

We have some exciting things lined up for 2022, so I am hoping and praying that this year it will be easier to do all of the things we have planned.

I would like to welcome Karen Stevens from Woodchurch to our benefice team. Karen has taken over as our Benefice Co-ordinator, and she will



helping me with communication and administration work. Her email is benefice.co-ordinator@hotmail.com.

We have now completed the electrical installation work in the churchyard for our new heating and lighting system in church. However, EDF, our electricity supplier have proved to be very difficult to deal with, and we currently are being told that they can't connect us up with a new meter until April!! We were really hoping to be able to show off the new system, and feel much warmer in church by now!

I am excited that our new Youth Minister, Jessie Banach, has started working to plan our new after school youth group for 11-13 year olds in Woodchurch. We will be looking for volunteers to help out on a rota when the club is up and running after the Easter school holidays.

We have an exciting concert in church in March - do join us to listen and watch the Heart of Kent Show Choir on 12th March - tickets will be available from the Hub. We will be raising money for our church building fund, and proceeds from the bar and raffle will go to Macmillan Cancer Support.

We are looking forward to Jubilee celebrations in the Summer, I know that there is a fantastic carnival planned in the village. I am also looking forward to lots of weddings and christenings this coming year - so get in touch if you would like to make a booking.

Blessings to you all, Reverend Sue

Ticket printing at The HUB

If your club or society is organising an event that requires tickets to be printed, these can be produced at The HUB. Tickets are printed on A4 sheets for ease of handling, can be serially numbered and are individually micro-perforated. For more information please contact The HUB.



The HUB can also be a central village location for the booking and/or selling tickets for your club/society events.



Where to find us...

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The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

As part of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations being planned for the June bank holiday weekend, there is a plan for communities across the UK to light beacons to mark the occasion. You can learn more about the national plan for the Beacon lightings at www.queensjubileebeacons.com. Woodchurch PC would like to get involved in this national event, and would like feedback from the village as to whether we light a beacon and, if so, which type of beacon should we have. To let us know your thoughts please visit www.woodchurchhub.uk and complete the feedback form from the link in the "What's New in Woodchurch" area.

The Section 106 Process

When any new development is considered in Woodchurch, your Parish Council has the opportunity to request a S106 agreement between the applicant seeking planning permission and the Local Planning Authority (Ref www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-obligations). The agreement provides for a legal framework to secure both financial and non-financial contributions from a development. Projects usually focus on additional infrastructure to support new housing growth (e.g., sports buildings, recreational sites, spaces, improvements to services, etc). Once a sum has been requested (based on evidence) it can then only be spent on that specific project. To this end, your Parish Council is currently developing a register of potential S106 projects and would like to invite Woodchurch residents to suggest suitable projects. please visit www.woodchurchhub.uk and complete the Section 106 suggestion form, or contact Councillor Molloy directly at ciaranwoodchurchpc@gmail.com.

The role of your Parish Council with respect to local planning application.

As you know, there are a number of significant planning applications underway within Woodchurch, namely Bridge Close, Front Road and Kirkwood.

As your Parish Council are a "Statutory Consultee", for each of these and indeed any future applications, Ashford Borough Council Planning department are bound to notify your Parish Council and request comments. Unfortunately, the Parish Council does not have the power to approve or reject these planning applications, but only to make comments based on local knowledge, planning law (if possible) and village opinion. The weight of your Parish Councils comments is consequently the same as for each Woodchurch resident. For this reason, individual comments forwarded to the ABC Planning Department are always encouraged. As this is usually via the ABC online portal (ref: Ashford Borough Council | Planning Applications), should technological help be required, representatives from your Parish Council and the Hub, will be happy to assist.

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/

Parish Council meeting dates, agendas and minutes can be found at www.woodchurchhub.uk/parish-council/

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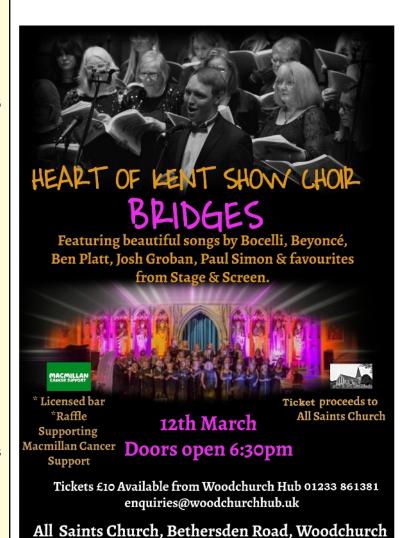


Book online in advance to attend.

You can use the discount as many times as you like but proof of postcode required when placing order.

www.rarebreeds.org.uk

Offer open until 1 September 2022.



Woodchurch Karate

A new you for 2022. - Come and train with us at Woodchurch Karate.

3 sessions per week at the superb new dojo in The Jean Mealham Centre, Lower Road, Woodchurch.

We are led by Sensei Mark Carley. Mark is an internationally experienced 4th Dan(level) black belt within Gima-Ha(UK) Karate-do with over 35 years of knowledge as well as being a long time qualified karate instructor.

Woodchurch Karate is a small club that is always open to new members with or without martial arts experience. We meet 3 times per week at the times listed below, upstairs at The Jean Mealham Centre.

> Tuesday 7-9pm Thursday 7-9pm Sunday 10-12noon

Contact: Steve Nicholson-Root 07484 130781

Six Bells Park

Residents of Six Bells Park along with residents from the village and Shirkoak Park recently spent the evening at the Sinden theatre in Tenterden to watch the adult version of Robin Hood entitled Rubbin Wood. The main characters were superb even though they corpsed on a couple of occasions. The next venture for Six Bells residents will an Easter buffet with a Easter bonnet competition to be held at the Six Bells pub.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP DEVELOP A BUSINESS/CLUB DIRECTORY FOR THE NEWSLETTER, PLEASE CONTACT THE HUB

Borough Councillors Surgery at THE HUB

If you have something to discuss with David Ledger or George Sparks, our Councillors from Ashford Borough Council, they are available at The HUB on the second Wednesday of each month from 11 am to midday. No appointment required.

Need a planning application?
Call 01233 861177 vernacularhomes.com





Support your local museum- you could win a £50/£30/£20 prize every month. A ticket now costs £9 for 9 months. For more information please contact Joyce via The HUB - enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk or 01233 861381

December 2021 Draw Results

1st prize £50 Vicky Redmond 708 2nd prize £30 Chrissie Northfield 503 3rd prize £20 Nicola Davy 783

Woodchurch Museum

Volunteers have already started getting the museum grounds ready for the opening in April. Work undertaken so far has been the sweeping of the path and the collection of leaves. However, there is still lots more to do in order to have things ready. If you have time to spare on a Wednesday morning between 09:30 and 12:00 then why not join the rest of the volunteers? You will be made very welcome.

The opening date is set for Good Friday, April 15 between 10:00 and 16:00.

NOODCHURCA

Woodchurch Local History Society

Our Talks Programme for the year starts on Monday February 7th in the Memorial Hall, Woodchurch at 7:30pm. We will firstly have our AGM (mainly of interest to members) and

this will be followed by a 30 minute illustrated talk on a double murder occurring in the village of nearby Aldington in 1961. The murders followed the delivery of a love letter into unintended hands - a crime of passion!. The identification of the killer was the direct result of some brilliant police work by an ordinary 'coppper'. If you're interested in possibly becoming a member of our society then please come along on Monday February 7th. We meet on the first Monday of the month in the Memorial Hall at 7:30pm. The annual subscription fee for the WLHS is £10 and that covers a programme of 7-8 talks during the year by experienced speakers. If you would rather 'pay-as-you-go' then the charge will be £3 at the door - no need to book.

Our March meeting will be on Monday 7th and we will be welcoming our speaker, Stephen Harmer (Head Gardener, Tonbridge School) who will talk on the

'History of Sissinghurst Gardens'. Our speaker will talk about the history of Sisinghurst Gardens from Saxon times to the present, focussing on the design details and ideas rather than general gardening.Please come if you are



interested in history as well as gardening. You will be welcome.

Hope to see you either on February 7th or March 7th. Thank you, Geoff 01233 860393.

80 Trees for 80 Years

July 2021 marked the 80th anniversary of the Association of Jewish Refugees. To commemorate this milestone AJR launched a special campaign, 80 Trees for 80 Years, which will see 80 native oak trees planted around Britain in honour of people and places that symbolise the enormous contribution made to support refugees who escaped from Nazi Europe. In 1939, Great Engeham Farm in Woodchurch was established for housing Jewish refugee Kindertransport children. On Thursday 27th January (Holocaust Memorial Day) one of these trees was planted on Woodchurch Green to commemorate the contribution Woodchurch Village made in helping the Jewish refugee children who escaped from Nazi Europe.





Woodchurch Players

Many thanks to the intrepid villagers of Woodchurch who braved the dark, cold evenings to support the Players in their first pantomime for two years.



It was probably the most difficult production we have ever put on in the Memorial Hall. Thanks particular to Emma Priest who directed, Tim and Elliot for immaculate and imaginative lighting and effects, back-stage and front of house helpers. Rehearsals were difficult, with covid and isolations, when the cast had to frequently miss out on valuable rehearsal time.

However, the show went on and feeling the 'audience atmosphere' during my stint on front of house, they all seemed so pleased to be (at last) 'out and about', they were determined to enjoy themselves no matter what. From the Chairman and Players Committee thank you all,and next.....

'Out of a suitcase' Theatre Group - will be visiting us on 12th and 18th February with the comedy 'The God of Carnage' by Yasmina Reza.

Next production by Woodchurch Players..... 'The 39 Steps' directed by Ben Vincer. On stage in the Memorial Hall 19th - 21st May.

The Old Post Office Coffee Shop are recruiting

Front of House team member. We are looking for a friendly and enthusiastic Front of House team member to join us in the Coffee Shop.

The job would involve taking orders, making a variety of drinks, serving food and drinks to customers, as well as helping with closing down, cleaning and washing up. You would need to be a good team member and work well under pressure in a busy and fast-paced environment. Previous experience is preferred but not essential as full training would be given.

Hours to include: Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm (with some flexibility during busy periods), excluding Tuesdays. We may

also ask you to work some weekends and holidays.

Kitchen Assistant. We are looking to employ a kitchen assistant/cook to join our small and friendly team.

This job would include working

as part of a team in a busy atmosphere.

The role includes a wide range of skills, from food preparation, cooking and baking, using a variety of kitchen equipment (mixers, contact grills, knives), helping unload deliveries, washing kitchen appliances, work surfaces and

The role would include weekday and weekend work (excluding Tuesdays).

A Level 2 Food Safety Certificate is required.



WOODCHURCH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Woodchurch WI had a change of venue for our first meeting of 2022, as the Players were busy rehearsing for their annual pantomime in the Memorial Hall and so when Richard Carley very kindly suggested that we might like to meet at the Jean Mealham Pop In Centre in Lower Road, we were delighted to accept. The room was slightly smaller than we are used to, and so it certainly seemed cosy, warm and welcoming on a bleak, rainy January evening.

Jenny Webb was our first speaker of the New Year, with a brief outline of her year as Mayor of Ashford in 2019-2020. She explained that having been a Conservative Councillor for many years, she was initially encouraged to pursue the possibility of becoming Mayor by her close friend and fellow Councillor, Peter Feacey. Jenny learnt that the Mayor of Ashford is the Borough's first citizen and he/she is elected for a year's term of office at the annual meeting of the Council in May. During that year the Mayor is expected to be impartial and has no voting powers, thus it is not a job that would suit everyone. Responsibilities of the Mayor include the chairing of meetings of the full council, upholding and promoting the purposes of the constitution, hosting a number of civic events, representing the Borough at ceremonial occasions and attending a wide range of events to which he/she is invited. Once elected, Jenny threw herself enthusiastically into her new role. Initially she had great ambitions for improving every aspect of life in Ashford, but she quickly realised that, having only a limited period of time available, it would not be possible to do everything she wanted to do effectively. She, therefore, selected three charities worthy of her support and concentrated her efforts on them. These were:- the Ashford Volunteer Centre Befriending Service, which helps to alleviate loneliness for those over 50, Home-Start Ashford & District, which offers support and friendship for young families and Ashford Sea Cadets. At the end of her term of office in October 2020, she was delighted to be able to present a substantial cheque to each charity. Over the year, despite the pandemic, Jenny attended many events, including Kennington WI's 100th birthday celebrations, the Appledore Flower Festival, various local schools, tree plantings, a Friday night with the Street Pastors and even Woodchurch's own Jean Mealham Centre. In conclusion, Jenny said that her year in office had truly been a year packed with joy, laughter and friendship. Indeed it had been an entirely wonderful experience and she felt privileged and honoured to have been able to serve in such a way! Thank

you, Jenny, for a lovely start to our New Year!

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 8th February in the Memorial Hall at 7.15 pm. Tony Harris, a previous Woodchurch WI speaker on the little ships of Dunkirk, will be making a welcome return visit with a new topic entitled

"Flying for Fun" and the competition requiring members to get creative and make a colourful paper aeroplane ties in with this subject.

Finally, don't forget to tell your friends about "Gillian's Souper Saturday" on 5th February in the Memorial Hall 12:15 pm until 2:30 pm, 2 for £15, and all proceeds to



be shared between the school and the surgery. Tickets can be obtained from Woodchurch Hub.

GILLIAN'S "SOUPER" LUNCH HOSTED BY WOODCHURCH WI

CHOICE OF HOMEMADE SOUPS
SATURDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2022
12.15 for 12.30 until 14.30
IN THE MEMORIAL HALL
£7.50
Including Gateaux, Coffee & Tea

PROCEEDS TO GO TO WOODCHURCH SURGERY AND SCHOOL

BUY YOUR TICKETS FROM THE HUB OR RING GILLIAN ON 01233 861245

Peter Sherwood Memorial Donations for The HUB

All of us at at Woodchurch HUB would like to say a big **Thank You** to the family and friends of Peter Sherwood for their very generous donations made in support of The HUB at Peters funeral.



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Our key needs for the carnival to be a success are mainly around participation, we really need:

Registered Floats, Stalls and more volunteers.

Funding remains a challenge with target set at £5k to make the dream become a reality. We have applied for Lottery grant funding and are currently waiting to hear whether our bids have been successful.

To register your interest in helping with the Carnival, or to register a float, stall or arena display, please go to the website www.woodchurchcarnival.uk, email us on enquiries@woodchurchcarnival.uk or contact a member of the carnival committee directly.

We are now beginning the Carnival marketing campaign, so if you would like to promote a business, either in the Carnival program or on banners on the day, please contact us. If you would like to be a sponsor in any other way, we would also like to hear from you as soon as possible.

The Open Day (Saturday 15th January):

The open day was well attended, thank you for all your support. We learned a lot on the day from everyone who attended - both about carnivals past and also some great ideas for this summer. Many registered as volunteers on the day and we also had our first registered floats - but we still need more. With visitors sharing their experiences from past carnivals, others were reassured that making a float or joining the parade is not as hard as it sounds.

A massive thanks to Woodchurch Museum - the display and film from carnivals over the years was great. It is planned that it will go mobile for others to see in the future.

The village Carnival Mascot was revealed, and this will be launched later in February





We have already had a number of stalls registered. The Woodchurch Scouts well be running several fun games stalls and they will also be selling hot dogs. The committee have tracked down some of the original carnival side show stands (including the revolving horse) and these are now being repaired.

The main arena:

We are looking at the entertainment in the main arena and have already had a few groups booking. This is open to anyone and if you have something you think others would like to watch or join in, please contact us through the Web site registration or by email.

Get involved: The Carnival is very much a village event and this needs your help. This is the perfect opportunity for groups and organisations to show off. We do need more volunteers... Is this something you can do? Please let us know.

Dates for the Diary:

- 3rd February Carnival meeting Jean Mealham Pop-in Centre
- 11th February 2022 Carnival Fundraiser Masquerade party

Working together we can make the dream come true! #WoodchurchCarnival





FREE NHS Hearing
Aftercare

Your local clinic is held at Woodchurch Memorial Hall 10:00am to 11:30am

Monday 7th February, Monday 9th May Monday 1st August, Monday 7th November

Tel: 01227 760046 www.hikent.org.uk