



# WOODCHURCH COMMUNITY NEWS

The village community working together

September 2023

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

**OVER 1,000 COPIES distributed every month in the Woodchurch area**

## WOODCHURCH Community Calendar



### Weekly events:

#### Saturdays:

**Boot Camp** 9:00am-10:00am on the Village Green  
**Woodchurch Museum Open** 10:00am-4:00pm

#### Sundays:

**Outpost Church** 10:00am-12:00pm in the S&G Community Centre, Lower Road  
**Karate** 10:00am-12:00pm in the Jean Mealham Centre  
**Woodchurch Museum Open** 10:00am-4:00pm

#### Monday:

**Pilates** 9:00am-10:00am in the Memorial Hall  
**Tai Chi and Qigong** 9:45am and 10:45am at the S&G Community Centre  
**Baby Yoga** 1:00pm-2:15pm in the Memorial Hall  
**Knit and Natter** 2:00pm - 3:30pm in the Jean Mealham Lodge  
**Line Dancing** 2:30pm - 4:30pm in the Jean Mealham Centre  
**Junior Tennis Coaching** 3:30pm-7:30pm on the Tennis Courts  
**Beavers** 6:00pm-7:00pm in the S&G Community Centre  
**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

#### Tuesdays:

**Pilates** 9:00am-10:00am, 10:15am-11:15am and 6:00pm-7:00pm in the Memorial Hall  
**Yoga** 10:00am-11:15am in the Jean Mealham Studio  
**Coffee Morning** 10:00am-12:00pm in All Saints Church  
**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 Jean Mealham Lodge  
**Cubs** 5:30pm-7:00pm in the S&G Community Centre  
**Karate** 7:00pm-9:00pm in the Jean Mealham Studio

#### Wednesdays:

**Pilates** 9:00am-10:00am in the Memorial Hall  
**Museum Volunteers** 9:30am-12:00pm at the Museum  
**Yoga** 10:00am-11:15am in the Jean Mealham Studio  
**Over 60s Pop-In** 2:00pm-4:00pm Tea and coffee and boot fair marquee at the Jean Mealham Centre  
**Blend Youth Cafe** 3:00pm-5:00pm in All Saints Church Term only  
**Rainbows** 5:00pm-6:00pm in the S&G Community Centre  
**Fish and Chips** 4:30pm-7:30pm in the Village Car Park  
**Brownies and Guides** 6:00pm-7:15pm in the S&G Community Centre  
**Morris Dancing Practice** 8:00pm-9:30pm in the S&G Community Centre

Previous editions of the Newsletter can be found on The HUB Web site  
[www.woodchurchhub.UK](http://www.woodchurchhub.UK)



#### Thursdays:

**Art Society** 10:00am-1:00pm at the Memorial Hall  
**Margaret Morris Movement** 2:15pm-3:15pm in the S&G Community Centre, Lower Road  
**BodyBlast** 6:30pm-7:20pm on the Village Green  
**Badminton** 7:00pm-11:00pm at the Memorial Hall  
**Karate** 7:00pm-9:00pm in the Jean Mealham Centre  
**Explorers** 7:30pm-9:30pm in the S&G Community Centre

#### Fridays:

**Little Leaves Forest School** 10:00am - 12:00pm under 5's Play Group based in Woodchurch  
**Adult Tennis Coaching** 5:30pm-6:30pm on the Tennis Courts

### Other Events:

Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> **Dogfest Fun Day** - Scout & Guide Community Centre  
Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> **Morning Worship** - 11:00am at All Saints Church  
**Football** - 2:00pm Woodchurch v Brewmaster (home)  
**Music at The Bonny** - "Moss" - 5:00pm  
Mon 4<sup>th</sup> **CARM** - 10:30am in the Memorial Hall  
**WLHS "Romney Marsh on the front line"** - 7:30pm in the Memorial Hall  
Thu 7<sup>th</sup> **Social Prescribers Surgery** - 1:00pm-4:00pm in The HUB  
Fri 8<sup>th</sup> **Karaoke at The Bonny** - 8:00pm  
Sat 9<sup>th</sup> **Football** - 2:00pm Woodchurch v Mersham (home)  
Sun 10<sup>th</sup> **Holy Communion** - 11:00am at All Saints Church  
**Football** 2:00pm - Woodchurch v Appledore (home)  
**Tom Horton on the Lowrey Virtual Orchestra** - 2:30pm at the Jean Mealham Centre  
Tue 12<sup>th</sup> **WI - Super Shoes** - 7:15pm in the Memorial Hall  
Wed 13<sup>th</sup> **Borough Councillors surgery** - 11:00am-12:00am at The HUB  
Thu 14<sup>th</sup> **Citizens Advice surgery** - 1:00pm-4:00pm in The HUB  
Sat 16<sup>th</sup> **WYT Church tidy up weekend** (and Sunday) at All Saints Church  
**Football** - 2:00pm Woodchurch Res v William Harvey (home)  
Sun 17<sup>th</sup> **Morning Worship** - 11:00am at All Saints Church  
**Elvis Tribute Evening with Natalie Ward** - 5:30pm at the Jean Mealham Centre  
Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> **BCP Evensong** - 6:00pm at All Saints Church  
**A Musical Extravaganza** - 7:00pm at the Memorial Hall  
Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> **Music at The Bonny** - "Thomas Abrahams" - 7:00pm  
**Football** - 2:00pm Woodchurch v Smarden (Home)  
Sun 24<sup>th</sup> **A Musical Extravaganza** - 7:00pm at the Memorial Hall  
Thu 28<sup>th</sup> **BCP Holy Communion** - 8:00am at All Saints Church  
**Citizens Advice surgery** - 1:00pm-4:00pm in The HUB  
**Parish Council Meeting** 7:00pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe  
Fri 29<sup>th</sup> **Ashford Astronomical Society** - 7:00 in the Memorial Hall  
Sat 30<sup>th</sup> **WMH Coffee Morning** - at the Memorial Hall  
**Football** - 2:00pm Woodchurch v Skippers (home)



Greetings Woodchurch,

My name is Ian Philo, and I would like to introduce myself as your new Parish Clerk. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the very near future. I intend to take up the role in full over the coming weeks and will be posting various comments to keep residents informed on Facebook, (other forms of social media will be examined), not forgetting the old noticeboard of course!

Please do not hesitate to get in contact with me at [clerk@woodchurch-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@woodchurch-pc.gov.uk) or through The HUB and I will do my best to assist you in any way I can.

Ian Philo

**At the meeting on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August**, the Chairman welcomed the Interim Clerk, Mary Philo, standing in briefly till the new Clerk Ian Philo takes over the reins.

As part of good risk management, the council is reviewing all its policies and procedures whilst at the same time considering its financial standing in light of all of the work that needs to take place around the parish over the coming year.

The council soon plans to survey the entire parish to discover what residents want to see happen in the village. The results will inform the council for next year's spending and help to set the 2024-2025 precept (the share of your council tax that goes to the parish council).

Highways have provided the council with a free speed toolkit aimed at reminding drivers to keep to the speed limit. Within it are banners that will appear, for a few days at a time, around the village. Proven experience is that erecting banners for short periods is more effective.

The council agreed to buy a new St George flag as the current one has seen better days and will start working on the plan to provide new notice boards around the village.

### **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](mailto:clerk@woodchurch-pc.gov.uk)

**By phone:** 01233 861381

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

**By post to:** Woodchurch Parish Clerk, c/o The HUB, Front Road, Woodchurch, Kent, TN26 2PA

**Through the contact form on the Parish Council Web site:** [www.woodchurchhub.uk/parish-council/](http://www.woodchurchhub.uk/parish-council/)

### **Parish Council meetings**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September**

**7:00pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe**

All Parish Council meetings are open to the public so please come along - as we value your questions and suggestions.

We are here to support the village and so it is important that you let us know the things that are important to you

#### **Upcoming roadworks in and around Woodchurch**

Information from KCC and one.network

##### **Roadworks - Woodchurch Road Shadoxhurst**

**1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Closure in force: Traffic lights

Description: Highways carriageway repairs

##### **Roadworks - Coldblow**

**4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Closure in force: Temporary obstruction (15 minute delay)

Description: KCC Highways patch repairs

##### **Road Closed - A28 - High Halden**

**4<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Closure in force: Road Closed - diversion in place

Description: GTC - Gas works

##### **Roadworks - Bournes Place**

**7<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Description: South East Water repairs

##### **Roadworks - Appledore - The Street**

**12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Closure in force: Traffic lights

Description: Openreach

##### **Litter removal - A28 near Brissenden Green**

**26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Closure in force: Traffic lights

Description: Litter picking and Fly tipping removal

##### **Road Closed - Shadoxhurst Road**

**2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Closure in force: Road Closed

Description: South East Water

##### **Road Closed - Swain Road**

**4<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Closure in force: Road Closed

Description: UK Power fibre works



**How to report highway problems  
including potholes, streetlights and  
broken signs**

**[www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)**

## WOODCHURCH SURGERY UPDATE

The big talking point at the moment is Covid. Why change the habit of the last three years?

The talk, though, is of vaccines and not of deaths and disaster which has to be positive. We desperately want to ensure everyone is as safe as they can be and make Covid be a bit like Flu. We have been doing Flu vaccine campaigns for years and seem to be managing that well.

The government gave us our Flu targets twelve months ago so we have committed time and money to achieve this. We were due to "agree" to the Covid vaccine by the end of August and were asked in July to cancel our Flu clinics and wait until a suitable Covid vaccine has been decided upon and deliver both at the same time.

The past contracts for giving Covid have generally covered the costs of our nurses, however, a huge number of other staff and volunteers have turned out to help in the effort to beat the virus. As a PCN we recognised the need to vaccinate and get the disease under control and we all turned out to get on with it. Now, though, we are fatigued and cannot muster the energy without proper engagement from the health authorities. We are not alone and believe that there has been minimal take up from Kent and Sussex to deliver Covid Vaccines so far.

I'm sure that there will be more about this in the next couple of weeks and that we will find a way to be protected. We are in it together after all. In the meantime, we will carry on with our planned Flu clinics so please come along as planned.

Best wishes and happy holidays on behalf of the Surgery

Jack Hickey, GP

### Social Prescribing

**Are you worried about a friend or relative - do they suffer with mental or physical health needs?**

**Do you find you are struggling with day to day tasks or having difficulties with your mobility or managing your care needs?**



We can offer support and guidance on services and support for you and your family whether it's a blue badge, benefits or community engagement.

We are in The HUB the first Thursday of each month from 1pm to 4pm so please pop along to meet with a team member who will be more than happy to discuss further.

Social Prescribing coffee mornings are also held at Hamstreet Surgery, Charing Surgery and Ivycourt Surgery.

### Surgery Opening Hours

Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm



### Where to find us...

Hamstreet Dental Clinic  
Warehorne Road  
Hamstreet  
Kent TN26 2JJ

Find us on facebook



**Tel: 01233 733848**  
Email: [hamstreetdentalclinic@gmail.com](mailto:hamstreetdentalclinic@gmail.com)



### Little Leaves Stay and Play Forest School Playgroup.

Due to popular demand Little Leaves stay and play Forest School playgroup is now going to be running on both **TUESDAYS** and **FRIDAYS** from September!

Righteous Oaks have been running Little Leaves in Woodchurch for two years now. During that time we've had a whole lot of fun and built up a



real nice, friendly, relaxed environment in which parents, grandparents, and care givers can bring their children to experience and explore a wide variety of natural play.

Every week there are familiar activities such as the mud kitchen, story den, song time, drinks and snacks around the fire, and then each week there will be different activities on offer, such



as a craft, a story-based activity (e.g. hunting for Gruffalo teddies hidden in the woods), or a group activity such as a game. All the activities aim to connect the children with nature, develop self-esteem and confidence, and offer opportunities for the children to learn at their own pace.

We meet in stunning ancient woodland on the Baldshaves Estate, there's no traffic noise, plenty of parking and toilets, and loads of space for the children to let off steam and for you to relax and re-charge in.

For more information or to book your place please visit:  
<https://bookwhen.com/righteousoaks>

See you in the woods!

Helen, Beccy and Gemma. x







# All Saints Church



Dear Friends,

One of the many things I enjoy about ministry is learning about family history, and the links between many of our village families going back many generations. This month we are looking forward to welcoming 65 members of the Henden family to Woodchurch. They are travelling here from all over the world for a grand family reunion, as they traced their family to Henden Place on the Green around 700 years ago. Over the time I have been Rector, I have heard from a Woodchurch family in Australia, and also recently a man in New Jersey who has traced his family back 400 years to Bethersden. I wonder if you have looked at your own family history?



Mike and I are both from Irish descent - we discovered that we are both descended from Irish dockers - Mike's ancestor came to work at the docks in Hull, and my ancestor came to work at Newcastle docks. On Mike's 60th birthday we will be in Dublin. We hope to visit the Anglican Cathedral where his 13th Great Grandfather, Thomas Jones, was the Dean. He became Archbishop of Dublin and Chancellor of Ireland. I haven't found anyone like that in my line, but there was great great uncle Maurice who did some amazing mosaic work in a church in Droitwich Spa. Family trees are interesting - I wonder if anyone will find me in three hundred years time in my descendent line? And what will they think of the history of the 20th and 21st Centuries?

Recently our PCC met to review the mission plan we put together and circulated early last year. We feel that we have made a lot of progress during the year, and we hope that this has been noticeable to our parishioners. We have produced an update and a plan for the next year or so - I hope this is useful. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to ask anything or provide feedback. If you have not yet come to see us, please call in - to admire our wonderful historic building; to pray or meditate quietly; to let your children enjoy our play area - maybe even to join us for worship on a Sunday morning - you will be very welcome.

Every Blessing

Sue

01233 820266. [revsuerose@outlook.com](mailto:revsuerose@outlook.com)



## Citizens Advice Bureau At Woodchurch HUB

Ashford Citizens Advice now holds regular, confidential consultation clinics at Woodchurch HUB.

**Citizens Advice** - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month  
from 1pm to 4pm

These are walk-in sessions so you do not need to book.  
For more information please contact The HUB.



August 2023

## All Saints Church Woodchurch Mission Plan 2023 Update

The Parochial Church Council PCC have been thinking about how the church relates to those who live in Woodchurch (our parishioners), and how we might better serve the needs of our village community. As well as being a focus for faith in the centre of the village, we would like to be a place of generosity, and hospitality, open and available to all. This Mission Plan Update sets out what has happened since we published our vision in April 2022, and sets out our plans for the next couple of years and beyond.

### What have we achieved – with the help of our parishioners?

- Our Youth Worker started in April last year, and we also have a Youth Worker provided by Kent County Council – we run a weekly term time after school café and youth group – Blend - for children aged 10-12
- Our coffee mornings have been a great success – we welcome folks aged from 0-99 (babies up to more mature guests) who enjoy a chat and a cuppa on Tuesdays 10-12
- We set up “Here to Help” – a charitable account taking regular donations which are used to help those in need in our village; we use funds to run the foodbank and provide food vouchers and other help for families and anyone struggling financially
- School links - children regularly visit church, Revd Sue visiting classes, Revd Mike supporting chess club
- We upgraded our heating system, providing a warm space for parishioners during cold winter months
- We installed Wi-Fi for community use



- We have organised a series of concerts and events to welcome people into church and assist with fundraising
- We have started to offer family services and more contemporary worship, an annual pet service, and traditional language early morning communion and evening services
- Village weddings for those who want to marry in church and have a local reception
- We held a Christmas tree festival in 2022 which was very successful
- We have implemented our churchyard plan to balance the need of those who visit family memorials, and to protect and nurture the wild flowers and wildlife - this will continue to be refined

### What are we planning to do next?

- Refurbish our disabled toilet
- Setting up a “prayer station” where adults and children can leave prayers for anyone you would like us to pray for
- Providing a welcome pack for those who move into the village
- Provide improved disabled and pushchair access with a ramp and internal glass doors
- Improve our space for community and intergenerational use of the building
- Offering confirmation classes for children and adults
- Bereavement support, and sessions explaining how funerals are planned, and how the churchyard works
- Improve how we share the story of our building with those who visit; especially for families
- Consider how we can improve our welcome for ad hoc visitors
- To further develop a variety of service styles
- To continue to develop our outreach to those in need in our community
- To find more volunteers for our work in the church and churchyard
- To continue to fundraise in order to realise our plans



Thanks very much to everyone who supports the church (your church) and churchyard in Woodchurch, either financially or by volunteering.

We would like to hear your views! Contact Reverend Sue Rose (Rector) on 01233 820266 or [revsuerose@outlook.com](mailto:revsuerose@outlook.com)



### All Saints Church Fundraising

I have been reflecting just recently that some of the best times I have had in my life have been when I have shared things with others. Not the big ticket events, but a simple picnic, a school sports day or play, watching a film and then discussing it. Being part of a community and sharing is why so many people come to live in wonderful English villages like ours. Events bring people together and give meaning as to why we all choose to live together in a communal setting, and our church is very much at the centre of village life. Still there as a reminder of the past, but used today as a vehicle for the future. Making new memories through special occasions such as weddings and memorial services, but also providing events for the community to come together. Thank you so much to those who both helped and supported us on our Summer Fun day. Enjoyable entertainment, a fun treasure hunt and cream teas - and even the Woodchurch unicorn (a very shy and rare creature) put in an appearance. Everyone had such a wonderful time, and it was so special to see several generations come together to take photos, learn more about the history of our church, and by the number of photos I saw being taken, simply make more memories.

September is the month when I always notice that the nights begin to draw in. We try to hang on to the last vestiges of summer but at the same time draw our curtains a little earlier each night. Our thoughts turn to evening entertainment and what better than an evening of being transported to the Smokey Mountains with our Porchlight Blues Band. Look out for our posters, invite your friends, book your places, and create more memories to take you into winter months.

### *The American Deep South comes to Woodchurch*

#### BLUES, SOUL AND RAGTIME BAND



## PORCH SWING BLUES

### ALL SAINTS CHURCH WOODCHURCH

**Saturday, 4th November 2023**

Doors open 7.00pm Concert starts at 7.30pm

**LICENSED BAR • RAFFLE**

Complimentary locally made *BB King inspired Canapes*

**Tickets £10** available Online:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/all-saints-woodchurch>

or if you prefer, visit: **WOODCHURCH HUB 01233 861381**

(Open Monday-Friday 10.00am-1.00pm Saturday 10.00am-12 midday)

**All monies raised supporting All Saints Church**

**Woodchurch Players**

**TICKET £15**  
**TICKET £15**

**EVENING OF  
CABARET  
& COMEDY**

A musical evening of songs, dance and sketches.  
Including **Jacket potatoes** various fillings and pudding.  
There will be a Bar for wine and soft drinks along with a raffle  
**Cards and cash accepted**

**22 & 23  
September**

Woodchurch Memorial Hall,  
Woodchurch, Kent **TN26 3PF**

Tickets available at: [WoodchurchPlayers.co.uk](http://WoodchurchPlayers.co.uk)  
Box Office: **01233 861 381**

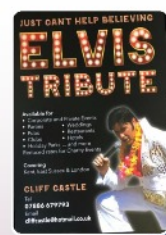
## ELVIS Rocks Woodchurch

**Sunday 17th September 2023**

**5.30pm** Natalie Ward sings popular songs

**6.45pm** Break for BBQ food & refreshments -  
approx. welcome to bring own alcohol

**7.30pm** **Elvis** Tribute (Cliff Castle)



**Tickets: £20** from Woodchurch HUB or  
Richard 07798 566849

**Venue:** The Jean Mealham Centre, Lower Road,  
Woodchurch TN26 3SQ



## Bonny Cravat

August was a lovely month. Although the sun didn't shine as much as we would have liked we have had a great summer seeing lots of new faces in the pub and have had some amazing feedback on our new menu!



We have another jam packed month for you in September, with Lots of music coming up to try and keep that summer feeling going for a little bit longer!

Kicking things off we have Moss on Sunday 3rd at 5pm. We then have the return of karaoke night hosted by Flashback events on Friday 8th from 8pm, Thomas Abrahams on Friday 22nd at 8pm and Lima on Friday 29th at 9pm.

Our next quiz night will take place on Tuesday 3rd October, hosted by the amazing duo Arthur and Ollie, at 7pm. So book in your team now to save disappointment!

We still love to hear your ideas so pop in and let us know what you want to see from us here at the Bonny!

Hoping to see you all for a dance and a sing song this month!

Much love to all, The Bonny Family

## Woodchurch Holiday Club (previously known as The Mix)

The holiday club had two sessions this year. One on the 1st August and the second on the 29th August. Fourteen children attended and had a fun morning. Our age range is five to eleven, although there are a few exceptions.

A great big thank you to our youth leaders, Jessie and Mary, for giving up their holiday time and to Rev. Sue and Kathie our community warden.

Our first session involved a lot of messy activities. We made slime with cornflour and hair conditioner and decorated paper plates to represent the world, glue and paint involved in that one.

The second session was taken up with decorating the new village information cart ready for the next event when it will be needed. Lots of laughter and interesting artwork!

Our intention is to hold holiday clubs during school holidays, as we have in the past. Future dates will be available as soon as we have secured them.

All helpers are DBS checked and have first aid certificates.

Ann Tiplady

## Village Lost Property at The HUB

If you find any lost property around the village please bring it to The HUB. If you have lost something around the Village please let The HUB know as it may have been handed in.

## The Six Bells Inn

The nights are drawing in and Autumn is just around the corner. We are going to say goodbye to our Summer Menu and will be introducing a mouthwatering Autumn Menu. We will be taking the opportunity, after the busy summer period, to recharge our batteries and get prepared for the busy times ahead. The Kitchen will be closed Wednesday 6 September to Saturday 9 September so that we can perfect the new menu. Our fabulous Roast Dinner will be available as usual Sunday 10 September.



We have also made the decision after a lot of deliberation to move our Quiz night from a Wednesday to the First Monday of each month. Our next Quiz night will be Monday 2 October and we strongly recommend that you call to book in your team. There will be no Quiz in September.

We are looking at making some changes, so that the Bells becomes even more of a welcoming home from home and we have been listening to our locals and taking on board some of the suggestions which have been made.

"Watch this Space" as we think the changes planned will make the Bells even more special than she already is.

All of the staff would like to say a huge thank you to you all for making The Bells such a magical place, it is a fabulous place to work and seeing the happy, smiling faces on both sides of the bar makes it all worthwhile.

With love as always, All of us at The Bells x

## Woodchurch Football



Our competitive league fixtures start in September so below are the fixtures. The Sunday team will only be playing on the Green in September (and possibly May if they have any fixtures left) as we have agreed a deal with Appledore to host their games there to protect the Woodchurch village green through the wet months.

Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept - Staplehurst v Woodchurch Res

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept - Woodchurch Sundays v Brewmaster

Sat 9<sup>th</sup> Sept - 2pm KO - Woodchurch Firsts v Mersham  
kippers Res v Woodchurch Res

Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Sept - Woodchurch Sundays V Appledore

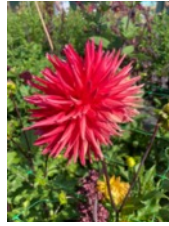
Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Sept 2pm KO - Woodchurch Res v William Harvey  
kippers Firsts v Woodchurch

Sun 17<sup>th</sup> Sept - Saltwood AFC v Woodchurch Sundays

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept - Woodchurch First v Smarden  
Hope FC v Woodchurch Res

Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Sept - Woodchurch First v Skippers Firsts  
Elham Valley v Woodchurch Res

On a gloriously sunny, and typically English summer's day, Woodchurch WI met at Linda Crew's home for an afternoon of flowers, foliage, tea and cake and lots of chatter! Linda runs a small local business, Woodchurch Cottage Flowers, from her home with the help of her good friend, Wendy. Wendy, an ex gardener at Sissingshurst, joined Lin a few years ago and their combined knowledge and experience has enabled the business to expand from supplying small, individual bunches of flowers to providing larger bunches for special occasions, such as weddings and funerals. The on site cottage garden means that flowers are available from April to October and seasonal blooms artfully combined with foliage from the hedgerows and the surrounding fields will always ensure that a wonderful, unique bouquet can be created to suit any occasion. Linda and Wendy each escorted a group of ladies around the thriving plots, explaining en route that they were always planning new growth for the following season.



The business is run on eco friendly lines, and so no chemicals are used to improve the condition of the soil or for the control of pests - everything is done as naturally as possible and even the materials used to arrange and wrap the bouquets are eco friendly. The tour was followed by a very welcome cup of tea (or two) and home made cake and Amy, Joy and Margaret W were the lucky raffle prize winners.



Next month on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> September at 7.15 pm, we will be meeting as usual in the Memorial Hall. Our speaker will be Ann Bauling with a talk entitled "Super Shoes - Empowering Children through the Difficult Journey of Cancer". The competition will be "Something Violet". Do join us if you can and guests can always be assured of a warm WI welcome!

### Save the Date

**WI Christmas Market - Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November**  
**In the Memorial Hall - 10:30 - 2:00**  
**Would you like a table?**

To reserve your table:  
contact Josie on  
[josie.mackie@btinternet.com](mailto:josie.mackie@btinternet.com)  
Cost: £10 per table



### CRYSTAL CLEANING

#### **Fed Up With Housework/Ironing?**



Crystal Cleaning is here to keep your home in good shape

Experienced cleaners,  
Reasonable rates  
for more information contact  
Jo on 07909 228802

### **Compter MOTs in Woodchurch**



TLC for laptops,  
phones & tablets.

Improve security &  
extend the lifespan  
of your device.

- Scan for viruses
- Improve speed
- Resolve WiFi problems
- Mac and PC
- Free home visits as standard

**Contact Catherine**  
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### Woodchurch Local History Society



During the months of July and August our society takes a break from monthly meetings in the Memorial Hall. Our social event for the summer was a visit to Godinton House on Thursday August 3rd when we toured the gardens and viewed the annual exhibition of contemporary sculptures. A cream tea in the old billiard room nicely completed the afternoon.

Our yearly programme, which started in February, has talks by experienced speakers on aspects of local and regional history.

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September our speaker for the evening will be Jon Chaplin. Jon is one of our founder members and his talk will be about 'Romney Marsh on the Front Line'. This is actually a tribute to one of our previous members, Adrian Luff. The presentation will be in the Memorial Hall at 7:30pm.

Adrian had planned his presentation for March 2014 but unfortunately ill health prevented him from doing so. Adrian has since passed away but Jon has undertaken to deliver the talk for him.

Adrian did his National Service at RAF Rye (situated at nearby Guldeford) from 1954-6. The establishment was a Chain Home Radar Station during WW2. Four tall masts and a receiving station helped detect oncoming German aircraft - remains of the site can still be seen today. Adrian eventually gave lifetime service to the Ministry of Defence, being responsible for radar projects throughout the UK.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Woodchurch Local History Society (WLHS) the half yearly fee from September to December is £6. If you wish to attend as a visitor for this talk an entrance fee of £3 is payable at the door. There is no need to pre-book - just turn up on the evening. All are welcome.

Thanks, Geoff [01233 860393](tel:01233860393).

**Could you help us to preserve the history of our village?** As the age of many village residents increases we are at risk of losing a lot of Woodchurch social history. Woodchurch Museum is looking for volunteers to meet with residents and record their memories of past village events so that they can be preserved. If you would like to help us record some of these memories, or you have village memories that you would like to share, please contact the Museum, through Woodchurch HUB, for more information.





Thank you to everyone who came along to our Flower & Produce Show on 29<sup>th</sup> July, to all those that entered and to all those that supported us to enable us to bring back the Show – a great day and a wonderful atmosphere

#### Cup winners detailed below – congratulations to all!

| Award                            | Awarded for  | Winner         |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Sweet Pea Challenge Cup          | Highest score for the 3 sweet pea categories               | Tina Rooks     |
| Roses Challenge Cup              | Highest score for the 3 rose categories                    | Theresa Peel   |
| Ethel Robinson Cup               | Highest score for Floral Art                               | Lizzie Wood    |
| Percy Barton Cup                 | Highest score for Vegetables & Fruit categories            | Chris Stafford |
| Woodchurch Gardening Society Cup | Highest score for Home Produce                             | Glynis Dougal  |
| Kirkwood Cup                     | Highest score for Crafts                                   | Claire Peal    |
| Sidney Goudge Cup                | Highest score for Art                                      | Rosie Warne    |
| Woodchurch in Bloom Shield 1     | Highest Score children up to 8 years                       | Harry Burgess  |
| Woodchurch in Bloom Shield 2     | Highest score for children 9-12 years                      | Emily Ashlee   |
| Dewhurst Cup                     | Highest score for photography                              | Donna Ashlee   |
| Spink Challenge Bowl             | Highest score for Flowers, Floral Art & Vegetables & Fruit | Chris Stafford |
| Hartwell Laidler Bowl            | Highest score overall                                      | Lizzie Wood    |



Actress Anna Calder-Marshall helped to open the revival of the Flower & Produce Show in Woodchurch on 29<sup>th</sup> July.

The show started 136 years ago and was always an important event in Woodchurch, lasting until 2019.

Linda Crew from Woodchurch Cottage Flowers and Woodchurch in Bloom volunteers decided to bring the popular show back this year. Organisers were delighted to receive over 350 entries for a range of categories: Flowers, Floral Art, Vegetables & Fruit, Home Produce, Crafts and Photography with the addition of two children's classes to help make the event an inclusive one.

While the judges were deciding on the winners, villagers enjoyed tea, coffee and home-made cakes 'on the lawn'. A variety of traditional stalls and displays could be found on the village green, including a performance by the Woodchurch Morris Men.

As in 1889, the proceeds from the Show are going to All Saints Church in Woodchurch.

The next Flower & Produce Show will be back in 2025!



## WOODCHURCH CARNIVAL IS COMING

**WHEN?** Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024

**WHERE?** The parade will be officially opened by one or two celebrities outside the school on Bethersden Road at midday and then head off on a circuit of the village.

**WHY?** The date has been chosen to coincide with the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day. It will be a day for celebration and fun.

**WHAT?** After the parade gets back to the Green at about 13:00 hours, there will be an official opening of the carnival by a celebrity. There will be bands and arena events; competitions; funfair and stalls; great selection of food and drink; a bar or two. This will continue into the evening with a mystery event.

LAST YEAR THE CARNIVAL ATTRACTED 3000 PEOPLE. WE WOULD LIKE TO BETTER THIS.

Don't forget, this is YOUR carnival. If there is something that you would like to see there or if you have a good idea or if you want to be involved, please contact the committee via The Hub or Facebook.

WANTED – SOMEONE WILLING AND ABLE TO TAKE ON TIKTOK (no age prohibited)

**Woodchurch Village Shed** has had a good month. As you know we meet every Thursday from 10am to 1pm at the Community Hall.



Members of the Shed have been busy with minor repair work at the Hub and Pavilion, members have undertaken work at the Community Hall, tidying up some of the area ready for when the foreign scouts came. Members have also done some basic carpentry jobs to improve things for the use of people who use the Hall.

We are currently putting in our planning permission for our own workshop.

If you are interested please come along it is only £3 a visit and £20 pa to join.



For more information please contact Joyce via The HUB - [enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk](mailto:enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk) or 01233 861381

#### August 2023 Draw Results

|           |     |                |     |
|-----------|-----|----------------|-----|
| 1st prize | £50 | Mary Burden    | 532 |
| 2nd prize | £30 | Jenny Styles   | 154 |
| 3rd prize | £20 | Colin Whitaker | 103 |





# WOODCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL

# QUIZ NIGHT



**RAFFLE  
GREAT  
PRIZES**

**Saturday 7th October**

**7 for 7.30pm start - Teams of up to 6**

**£5 per person - Prize for winning team**

**To book a table phone Joy Rubie 01233 861483**

*Please feel free to bring your own food and drink.  
Tea, Coffee and Cakes will be available during the interval*

Woodchurch Yard Together ("WYT")

Our next volunteer gardening weekend in the  
Churchyard is:

**16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>  
September**

**Memorial Hall Coffee Morning  
30<sup>th</sup> September  
in the Memorial Hall**

## Woodchurch Memorial Hall

Woodchurch Memorial Hall are looking for new trustees!

Do you have fundraising and grant application experience/  
interest? Or could you help with our social media presence?

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that we're now keen to progress.

For more information, please contact Nick Jones on  
07706 656148

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**Thursdays 7pm—9pm**


**Sundays 10am—noon**

For more information contact Mark Carley on 01233 861395



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## WOODCHURCH COMMUNITY NEWS

The Woodchurch Community News is distributed **free of charge** to over 1,000 houses each month in Woodchurch and surrounding areas. If you would like to become an advertising sponsor then please visit The Woodchurch HUB Web site - **The HUB > Newsletter Advertising**

If you would just like to help us with the costs of production please go to **The HUB web site** and click the **"Donate"** button.

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In July we were pleased to have the scouts from Husburg near Hamburg, Germany for a week. An advance party arrived on the Thursday bringing both tents and food. They are not keen on our food as I think the last time they came over they tried Marmite which put them all off!



On **Saturday** a coach arrived with 52 enthusiastic, though tired, scouts and after eating everyone investigated the village and used the activities on site - Archery, Shooting and Bouldering - plus we taught them how to play Viking chess. All went to bed early and slept soundly.

**Sunday** morning everyone was awake early looking for coffee or tea. The German young leaders were well advanced with breakfast so we got out of the way. That morning we joined forces with the outreach church for tea and cake. Lunch was a wonderful roast dinner at the Six Bells.

**Monday** saw us visiting Canterbury and the Cathedral and then on to Dover Castle. Once the mist had cleared they could see France from the castle. Then back to Woodchurch and after tea they got to ring the bells at All Saints Church.

On **Tuesday** we hiked. Some started in Woodchurch and hiked to Dover, others started at St Margarets and also hiked to Dover. Both groups stayed overnight in a scout hall in Dover and some of the oldest Young Leaders spent the evening in Dover town.

**Wednesday** it was up to London - some by coach and others by train. We all enjoyed exploring London using travel cards before meeting up in Leicester Square for the journey home. By the time we got back to Woodchurch Janet and Lye had tea waiting for us.

On **Thursday** we took the steam train to Bodiam Castle from Tenterden. The train was packed and it unfortunately broke down on the way. We were told that it was because of "the wrong coal" - which makes a change from the "wrong type of snow" - but we arrived at Bodiam in the end. After visiting the castle we all piled back onto the train - only for it to break down again on the way back to Tenterden! To make the best of the day it was decided that we would stop at the swimming pool when we got back to Tenterden.

**Friday** was an early start as the Germans needed to leave at 03:30 to catch the ferry. We all waved them goodbye until the next time - hopefully in 2025.

During the month of August, just a couple of weeks later, we had 12 Canadian Scouts from Toronto visit us for 4 days. The program with them was fun, though much less hectic. I would like to thank all leader and parents who helped during the camp, also the Parish Council for allowing us to fly the German and Canadian flags on the Green.

**In Woodchurch we need to find an additional leader to take on a new role of Squirrel leader** - for both boys and girls from 4 to 6 years olds. It would only be for 1 hour once a week - time to suit. Police checks would be required. If you are interested please contact Julian West on [julian.west@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:julian.west@tiscali.co.uk) or 07887 748692

### Poppy appeal



The 2023 poppy appeal will run from 26<sup>th</sup> Oct - 11<sup>th</sup> Nov and once again I am looking for more collectors so that all households in the village can be visited.

At the moment 100s of houses cannot be reached due to a lack of volunteers. I, and the small team of collectors, will give you all the help, support and advice you may need.

The final total raised last year in Woodchurch was £2,014.76 and hopefully that total will be surpassed this year with your help. If you can help and want to join the team of collectors then please contact me. You will be made very welcome.

Chris Dudman - [chris.dudman@btinternet.com](mailto:chris.dudman@btinternet.com), 07767 378649, 86 Lower Road

**Woodchurch Rainbows** will return for the new term on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September from 5 pm till 6 pm



If you are 5 and about to start in year 1, why not come and join us for a taster session on 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> September?

Make new friends and have fun. 4 yr olds may join us from January, once they have had one term in reception.

Jess and Tracy look forward to seeing you. For more information ring 01233 861236 after 7 pm.

### Woodchurch Brownies and Guides



return on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September from 6 pm till 7.15 pm

Look forward to welcoming you back for an exciting term leading up to Christmas.



If you are between 7 and 10 why not come and see what brownies is about?

Join in activities games and make new friends and if you are between 10 and 13; why not join us at guides?

Taster sessions for both on 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> September

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Fran. Tracy and Sonia

**If you are over 18 and would like to join us as an adult helper please contact the above number**

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