

# WOODCHURCH COMMUNITY NEWS

*Our village community working together*

*December 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

#### 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

#### 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

**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

**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** - maintenance and gardening 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

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** 6:00pm-7:00pm on the Memorial Hall

**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

#### Other Events:

Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> **Christmas Tree Lights on The Green** - 3:00pm-6:00pm on the Village Green

**Music at the Six Bells** - Northwood Acoustic Duo - 8:00pm

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> **Morning Worship** - 11:00am at All Saints Church

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> **CARM** in the Memorial Hall

**WLHS Members evening** - 7:30pm in the Memorial Hall

Wed 6<sup>th</sup> **BCP Holy Communion** - 11:00am at All Saints Church

Thu 7<sup>th</sup> **WI Carol Concert** - 4:00pm at All Saints Church

Sat 9<sup>th</sup> **Woodchurch Christmas Market** - 10:00-2:00 at the Jean Mealham Centre

**Christmas Music and Refreshments** - 2:00pm at All Saints Church

Sun 10<sup>th</sup> **Holy Communion** - 11:00am at All Saints Church

**Evensong** - 4:00pm at All Saints Church

Tue 12<sup>th</sup> **WI - "St Nicholas - Andrew Ashton"** - 7:15pm in the Memorial Hall

Thu 14<sup>th</sup> **Parish Council Meeting** - 7:00pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> **Ashford Astronomical Society - Christmas Quiz** - 7:00 in the Memorial Hall

**Music at the Bonny** - Thomas Abrahams - 9:00pm

Sun 17<sup>th</sup> **Morning Worship** - 11:00am at All Saints Church

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> **Quiz Night at the Bonny** - 7:00pm

Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> **Christmas Carols and Concert** - 6:00pm at the Jean Mealham Centre

**Music at the Bonny** - Unit 48 - 9:00pm

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> **Christingle and Crib Service** - 4:00pm at All Saints Church

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> **Eucharist** - 10:00am at All Saints Church

**Christmas Day Tea** - 3:00pm-5:00pm at the Jean Mealham Centre

Tue 26<sup>th</sup> **Boxing Day Lunch and Keyboard Music** - 12:00pm-3:00pm at the Jean Mealham Centre

The Full Community Calendar can be found at [www.woodchurchhub.uk/community-calendar](http://www.woodchurchhub.uk/community-calendar)





## WOODCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL • **UPDATE** •

First, let me take the opportunity to thank all of the village residents who took the time to complete and return the Community Surveys. Because of the very good response they will take some time to fully analyse and we hope to be able to publish the resident's feedback early in the New Year.

An apology for the long wait to get the damaged surface repaired in the Play Area. We would like to ask residents to be patient a little longer as a number of other maintenance issues have been identified. The Parish Council aims to have all the repairs attended to if possible at the same time.

As the nights draw in further, I would like to ask residents to take extra care when out and about in the village, for example wearing an item of clothing that is more visible to passing vehicles etc.

The next Parish Council meeting is on the 14th of December, and I aim to be present in The Hub or the Memorial Hall meeting room that afternoon.

Finally, I'd like to take the opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Healthy Festive Season.

Kind Regards,  
Ian Philo, Woodchurch Parish Council Clerk

### Parish Council meetings

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December**  
**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

### 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/)

### Upcoming roadworks in and around Woodchurch

Information from KCC and one.network

#### **Roadworks - Brook Street B2067**

**28<sup>th</sup> November to 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

Closure in force: Traffic lights

Description: South East Water

#### **Road Closed - Redbrook Street**

**1<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

Closure in force: Road Closed

Description: Openreach

#### **Road Closed - Shadoxhurst Road (Park Road)**

**15<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

Closure in force: Road Closed

Description: Openreach



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

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

### Items For Future Newsletters

If there is something that you would like to have included in future editions then please send them to:  
[enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk](mailto:enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk)

### 2023 Poppy appeal

Chris Dudman on behalf of the Royal British Legion

This years poppy appeal raised a total of £2,018.46 which was slightly lower than 2022.

Massive praise has got to go to the small but totally dedicated team of just 9 poppy sellers and the local businesses who give up counter space for the poppy boxes.



2023 will be my last year as the Woodchurch poppy appeal organiser. I have been privileged to be in the role for 10 years, so I think it is time to hand it over to someone who can revitalise the poppy appeal in the village. Over my years in charge, over £26,300 has been raised for this wonderful charity and I hope I have gone some way in helping remind people about the symbol of the poppy and what it represents. The RBL will be looking for a new leader and will make contact, probably through the hub but if anyone fancies the role then please contact me and I'll get things rolling.

As well as the small team of collectors, past and present, you know who you are, I would like to express my thanks to Veronica who was in the model shop for her help in the past. More recently, Lucy and Catherine in The Old Post Office Coffee Shop, came forward with their help and generosity. Many thanks go to them.

**Sadly, the village, the country and the world is forgetting.  
Let's not forget.**



## WOODCHURCH SURGERY UPDATE

Time continues to fly by and we approach the end of another year. I tried to research why time speeds up so fast as you get older and was pleased to have it confirmed that it wasn't a conspiracy and rather it is our perception of time that changes. One theory I read was that time appears to pass more slowly when we are learning new skills and tasks which we do a lot of as children and young adults. As tasks become more routine the memory perceives these tasks to take less time. The theory then is that if we spend a weekend doing new things that challenge us then the weekend will feel longer and more refreshing. It seems like a challenge for me to slow down time.

Some of the men of Woodchurch and around did respond to Movember and we saw some activity around prostate cancer screening which is good - we can continue to do this all year. December is a month marked for awareness of avoiding driving while impaired through alcohol or drugs. The department for transport recommends that no alcohol is consumed but say that men may be able to drive after approximately 2-3 units and for women 1-2 units. To calculate the units multiple the volume in litres by the % of alcohol. A pint is a bit more than 500ml, so as an example a pint of 4.6% beer would be a little over 2.3 units.

We say a temporary goodbye to one of our trainees. Dr Parisa Tarunnum leaves in December and will re-join us full-time in August. She will be replaced by another trainee Dr Sutapa Shampa who will be with us for two days a week. I'm sure she will get the familiar Woodchurch welcome. Our long-term trainee, Dr Lauren James, has just passed her written exams and scored a massive 85% which must be one of the top scores in Kent.

We have also welcomed a Receptionist, Beverley Pullen, who has fitted straight in seamlessly and a new Social Prescriber, Jessica, who some of you will start to meet. We also have Hannah coming soon to help behind the scenes with the children's team and a mental health practitioner for children called Fiona. Fantastic news for the children's social prescribing team who can now action referrals for ADHD/ASD for children that are home schooled for which there has been a big gap as they couldn't access the assessments previously. This is a unique agreement across East Kent for our patients so we are really pleased with this progress.

Although drawing in to a close we still have plenty of time left this year to enjoy. Hopefully there will be some festive sights at the Surgery and of course there will be singing from Dispensary and Sue's Christmas earrings.



On that note - I wish you a very prosperous Christmas month and a Happy New Year on behalf of the Surgery

Jack Hickey, GP

## WOODCHURCH WINERY FESTIVE TEA

3rd, 10th, 16th, 17th and 23rd December 2023

Enjoy a glass of Woodchurch sparkling wine and a selection of sweet and savoury delights, including sandwiches, freshly baked pastries and festive treats. Relax and enjoy the views over the vineyard in the warmth and comfort of our tasting room.



Book online [www.woodchurchwine.co.uk/events](http://www.woodchurchwine.co.uk/events)  
or call us on 01233 860276 or 07796 693935

Location: Woodchurch Wine Estate, Susan's Hill, Woodchurch TN263RE


### Surgery Opening Hours

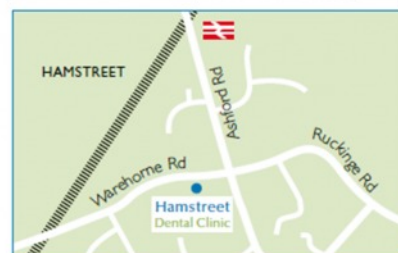
Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm



### 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)





# All Saints Church



Dear Friends,

Mike and I would like to wish everyone in Woodchurch a Merry Christmas, and a Happy and Healthy 2024. As the commercial side of Christmas takes off, I hope you will find some time to find a few moments of quiet to reflect on the amazing gift of God - his son Jesus Christ; born among us as saviour of the world.



I am delighted that Ann Tiplady has completed training to be an Anna Chaplain - someone who looks after the needs of older people. She will be licenced during our Evensongs service at 4pm on 10<sup>th</sup> December, in All Saints if you would like to come along. In the New Year we are planning how we can better support those experiencing memory problems or struggling with bereavement.

During Advent (the four weeks before Christmas) we have lots planned in our villages. In Woodchurch we have a lovely afternoon of music and festive treats on December 9<sup>th</sup> from 2-5pm. Our crib and Christingle service for families will be at 4pm on Christmas Eve - join us for the Christmas story with carols and candles. We also have a Holy Communion service at 10am on Christmas Morning.

Our disabled toilet is almost ready now - just awaiting a final lick of paint. Our next fundraising project will be for a new internal glass door and ramp for ease of use for wheelchair users and pushchairs.

Please check the magazine or church notice boards for details of our Advent and Christmas and New Year services in Bethersden and High Halden. We are looking forward to bringing the light of Christ into our dark December days; all are welcome at our services.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

From Reverend Sue and Reverend Mike Rose



**Residents of Six Bells Park would like to wish all in the village a very Merry and Peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

**Saturday 9th December 2pm-5pm**

*We invite you to pop in to our warm and welcoming Church beautifully decorated for Christmas*



**Relax listening to Live Music**



*The children can enjoy a Christmas Craft Activity and Festive Treasure Hunt*



**Buy locally made Christmas gifts from our Church craft stall**



**Christmas Raffle**

**Mulled wine, hot drinks and Christmas treats including mince pies**

**To help keep the Newsletter free for the village please become one of our sponsors, or give a donation if you can.**  
[www.woodchurchhub.uk](http://www.woodchurchhub.uk) or contact The HUB



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## Bonny Cravat

Christmas is now just around the corner and we have a very exciting line up for you this December!

We're kicking off with amazing vocals and guitar shredding from Moss Casa on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 6pm. Switching it up on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December with Karaoke and Disco from DJ Chrissie at 8:30pm....Start warming up those vocal cords now, it's always a great night!

The talented Thomas Abrahams (who can play guitar using just two fingers and with his eyes closed...and sing in 3 different languages!!!) will be back on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December from 9pm, he is quickly becoming a pub favourite so you won't want to miss him.

Our last music night before Christmas will end with a bang. We have Unit 48 in again at 9pm on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>. They are such an amazing band, you may have seen a few videos on our social media from the last time they were here.

Somewhere in amongst all of that music we are hosting our Big Fat Quiz. This was very popular last year and it was so lovely to see the pub full of people laughing and enjoying themselves. Arthur will be back to host our big fat quiz on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm. Book in your team now for a night of fun, laughter, food and drinks, and maybe a few games thrown in there for good measure!!

We are open and serving food on Christmas day. We have limited spaces left, so if you would like to book in for a Christmas dinner at the Bonny, please do get in touch, we would hate for anyone to be disappointed and not get a table before we are fully booked. Festive Menu is also now available for bookings only.

Before we know it, all the presents will be opened, bellies will be full of christmas dinners (and perhaps a few festive drinks) and we will all be looking forward to bringing in 2024. What better way to do that than have a party at the Bonny with Disco and Karaoke?! We absolutely love celebrating and partying with you all so do hope to see everyone over Christmas and new year. As you can see we are jam packed with events this month, so hopefully there is something for everyone!

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all.. The Bonny Family



## The Six Bells Inn

Before we say goodbye to 2023, we have the month of December and all of its festivities ahead of us, with lots of exciting events happening around the wonderful Village of Woodchurch and in both The Bonny and The Bells.



Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on the Green and then we have the wonderful Northwood Acoustic Duo performing at 8pm so if you would like to warm yourselves by the open fires and enjoy something to eat and drink, just pop along to see us.

We have our Festive Menu available and this is running alongside our regular menu but booking is strongly advised as we only have a few spaces available.

Then on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> the annual "Billy No Mates" meal is ready to take place with a record number of people already on the list, as they say "What happens at Billy No Mates" will no doubt be talked about, remembered and stories recited for many years to come !!!

We will be open Christmas Day for drinks between 12 and 2pm so we look forward to seeing you all for a drink and then we can all be home in plenty of time for Christmas Dinner.

Boxing Day Football between us and the Bonny is still in the arranging stage so please keep a look out on Facebook or just pop in to either pub to make enquiries.

We are having a relaxed New Years Eve this year so if you would like to spend an evening with great company, open fires and cosy surroundings then we are the place to come (sometimes the unplanned evenings turn out to be the most memorable)

The end of 2023 is nigh and we here at the Bells have seen many changes as so many of us have. Some of which have been very sad, with the loss of some very special people, who we will all miss but we have been blessed with having the opportunity to meet and spend time with them. They will forever remain in our hearts and memories.

We all wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2024

With love as Always, All of us at The Bells xxx

## Woodchurch Village Life Museum

Even though the museum has closed its doors for this season, work continues to go on behind the scenes. Helpers turn up on a regular basis every Wednesday morning to undertake gardening, minor repairs, and maintenance. The gates are opened around 09:30 and closed around 12:00. Helpers stay for as long as they are able. Tea, coffee, biscuits and/or cake are served during the morning and there is always time to socialise.

**We are a friendly lot - come and see.**





Unfortunately, the Reverend Mike Rose was unable to visit to deliver his talk entitled "My Path to becoming a Vicar" at our November meeting. However, WI ladies are well known for their resourcefulness, and so we were able to enjoy a convivial, social evening of fun, games and chatter! The first game urged us to "Laugh away our Stress with Ants". All the clues provided led to word solutions which all ended in "ANT" but not "ent", "int" or, indeed, any other variation on the theme! The first clue, "5 Ants + 5 Ants = Tenants", eased us in very gently, but thereafter, the clues became ever more challenging and obscure, so we had "An Ant that uses a Gun", "An Ant who is a Medical Specialist" and "An Ant who is Cruel and Oppressive" to really tax the old brain cells (answers below). The evening continued with a slightly easier, and therefore, more relaxing game not too dissimilar to the week day television programme "Pointless". Refreshments followed, with a chance to have a real good natter amongst ourselves while waiting for the competition ("Something All White") results to be announced. Brenda was 3<sup>rd</sup> with wonderful knitted rabbit, Joyce came 2<sup>nd</sup> with a beautifully crafted Christening shawl, and the first place went to Josie with her grand daughter's ingenious Christening gown created from her mother's wedding dress!



Next month, our meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7.15 pm in the Memorial Hall, and with Christmas fast approaching, our Speaker for the evening will be Andrew Ashton with his talk on "Christmas and St. Nicholas". We hope to serve some wine/juice and some light festive fare, and please don't forget to bring your "SECRET SANTA" gift, which, ideally, should cost no more than £5. The Committee looks forward to welcoming as many members as possible, so do join us if you are able.

**Answers:- Militant, Consultant, Tyrant**

## Woodchurch Local History Society



The Woodchurch Local History Society generally meets on the first Monday of the month in the village Memorial Hall at 7:30pm. Our annual subscription rate is presently £12 per annum - our talks programme for 2024 will start in February after our AGM.

Our next meeting will be on Monday December 4<sup>th</sup> in the Memorial Hall when our newest wine producer, Wayfarer Wines, will be conducting a wine tasting evening. They will tell us about their history and about what their plans are for their new vineyard which has been established at Highfield Farm, Lower Susan's Hill. The sampling of wines will be accompanied by nibbles and some Xmas fare (including sausage rolls and mince pies).



This evening is normally for members only but if you want to come along then you can purchase a half-yearly subscription of £6. This would last until the AGM in February 2024.

We have a full talks programme for 2024 with the first five items listed below,

Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. - AGM and a short talk.

Monday March 4<sup>th</sup>. Isobel Philips will give a presentation on an aspect of archaeology. Earlier this year her talk on Osteoarchaeology was extremely well received.

Monday April 1<sup>st</sup>. Ed Adams 'The Great Raid, Ashford, 24<sup>th</sup> March 1943'.

Monday May 6<sup>th</sup>. 'Josie Mackie will talk about 'the History of Schooling in Woodchurch'..

Monday June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Alex Ferris 'Smarden. The Village of Fear'.

You will be very welcome if you decide to come as a new half-year member on Monday December 4<sup>th</sup>. There's no need to let me know beforehand - just turn up at the door on the evening.

For more information contact Geoff on 01233 860393.

Our 2023 harvest has now been completed. With an army of volunteers we managed to complete it all in six days (they were rewarded with a lovely lunch on the day accompanied with our wines, of course). We are also very excited to announce that we have had our very first harvest from our Highfield Estate this year. Due to the hot June we had this year which is when fruit is starting to form and a wonderful warm, dry September, we are pleased to say that the fruit was very ripe and one of our best years for yield. We can't wait for you to all try our 2023 vintages. If you would like to help us next year with harvest email us on [tours@wayfarerwines.com](mailto:tours@wayfarerwines.com) and we will contact you next year when we have our harvest days set.



### **Gift Vouchers available**

Looking for a gift for someone who seems to have everything?

We have a range of gift vouchers available for each of our tours for two people and vouchers available to purchase wine starting from £50. All our vouchers are valid for 12 months from purchase.

Wayfarers, Highfield Farm, Lower Susans Hill, Woodchurch, TN26 3TA,

[www.wayfarerwines.com](http://www.wayfarerwines.com)



# Woodchurch on The Green **CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY**

*Join in with our Carol Singers*

*Something for the whole family including our*

## **CHRISTMAS MARKET**

*Lots to enjoy including Christmas Raffle,  
Steam Engine, Craft Stall, Local Wines,  
Mulled Wine, Mince Pies, Hot Dogs, Waffles,  
Hot Chocolate and Marshmallows.*

**Saturday, 2nd December 2023**

**3pm 'til 6pm (Tree switch on 5pm)**

**ON THE GREEN AND IN THE CAR PARK**

# WOODCHURCH **2024** CARNIVAL

Woodchurch Carnival Committee would like to wish you and your family a very peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We would like to thank you for the support you gave to the carnival in 2022 and we hope that you will be able to do the same for the next carnival in 2024 (June 8) and as June 6 is the 80th anniversary of D Day, the carnival will have a D Day theme.

This year we are reaching out to you as we really do need your support and help. We would love to hear your thoughts and ideas on how to make this carnival a bigger success than the 2022 carnival.

**SAVE THE DATE: - JANUARY 27 2024**

This date is the official launch and will be held, as in 2022, in the school hall. There will be a display from D Day to the present day, books to browse, and videos to watch. There will also be refreshments. We would love to meet you at this event. Please put the date in your diary.

We recently applied for charity status but unfortunately we have been turned down. However, with you supporting us we can make the 2024 carnival GRRRRREAT!!!

**NEW**

## **WOODCHURCH MORRIS**

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### [The Big Thin Red Line \(TBTRL\)](#)

For those of you that don't know who we are and what we do please read on.



We were formed when the Woodchurch branch of the British Legion disbanded to carry on the important work of remembering the brave servicemen from the village that were killed during the 1st and 2nd world war and organise the Remembrance Day parade each year at the memorial in the church grounds. That's the serious part, the not so serious part is contrary to popular myth we are not all ex-military service personnel but are open to all walks of life that want to join of any gender. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday every month in the Six Bells for a drink, a catch up with people we haven't seen for a while and plan what events and outings that we want to do in the coming months with the usual humour that surrounds these meetings .

### [Margaret Morris Movement](#)

Margaret Morris Movement gentle exercise for the over 50's classes are at the Scout Community Hall on Thursdays at 2:15 to 3:45. The last class before Christmas will be 14<sup>th</sup> December, and we return on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

### [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.



# Fix it day!

## We need

## YOU!



Do you have a few spare hours on **SATURDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2024**?

We are hoping for your support with completing a few projects here in school.

We'll provide the materials if you can bring the tools! In exchange, there will be bottomless cups of tea and coffee and a bacon roll available.

You can see what projects we have and sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4DAFAB2DA2F5C16-46404105-fixitday>

or call us on 01233 860232

### [Woodchurch Players](#)



Woodchurch Players need two volunteers. Our amazing treasurer will be retiring next June and we are looking for an eager person to take over. This role is not onerous, it's just a matter of keeping us on the right financial footing. Our current treasurer would be happy to guide you.

We also need a secretary to take committee meeting minutes and carry out other secretarial tasks.

Please contact our chair person, Les Fenton for further details on [lesfenton926@gmail.com](mailto:lesfenton926@gmail.com)



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Our head office is based in Tenterden, Kent and means we are in the perfect location to proudly service Kent and East Sussex. All our services are tailored to each job we carry out and our team are experience in all aspects of fencing and landscaping services making us your number one choice for all work you require.

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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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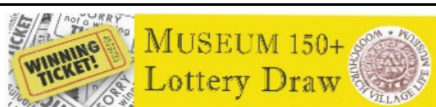
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Thank you for everyone who has continued to support the Museum by subscribing to our 150+ lottery draw for 2023/4.

Tickets are still available for the remainder of the draw

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

#### November 2023 Draw Results

1st prize	£50	Graham Deal	1023
2nd prize	£30	Martin Leigh	1064
3rd prize	£20	Pam Moate	911

## WI Group Christmas Carol Service

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December at All Saints', Woodchurch 2:00pm.

Everyone welcome, WI member or not.

Refreshments afterwards.

### Social Prescribing and Citizens Advice at The HUB during December

**Social Prescribers** - the FIRST Thursday of each month from 1:00pm to 4:00pm

**Ashford Advice** - the SECOND Thursday of each month from 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Please note that during December the availability of both the Social Prescribers and Citizens Advice may be affected due to staff availability and/or bad weather. If you would like to arrange a consultation with either group, please phone The HUB on 01233 861381 -

**Option 4 for the Social Prescribers or**

**Option 5 for Ashford Citizens Advice**

Surgery times will return to normal from January 2024



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**UPDATE SINCE PUBLIC EXHIBITION**  
**CALA HOMES RESERVED MATTERS APPLICATION AT LAND OFF FRONT ROAD, WOODCHURCH**



Dear Woodchurch Residents,

We would like to thank those who attended our Public Exhibition on the 4th of October. We were encouraged by the level of engagement, with over 100 residents attending to view our plans and talk to the project team about concerns, comments and ideas for the detailed design. Whilst some residents voiced concerns, many people also were pleased to see new houses in the village which would help support local businesses.

We are pleased to say that we have now submitted our Proposals to Ashford Borough Council. This is to agree with them the detailed design, after the Outline Planning Application was granted in November 2022. Our Reserved Matters Application seeks detailed approval for

40 dwellings, (40% of which will be affordable housing), including other benefits such as public open space, children's play area and landscaping and planting throughout.

After our exhibition, we thought it worthwhile to share with you some updates to address key comments and illustrate the changes we have made. Many of the comments have factored into our final design and have positively influenced the design and actions we have taken.



Firstly, one of the main topics raised during the public consultation exercise was the existing pressure on drainage systems and whether the village could cope with additional dwellings inputting to the foul sewer system. As part of the Outline Planning Application, it was established that the proposed development would result in Southern Water undertaking network reinforcement. CALA has since established communication with Southern Water, who have indicated to us that these works are planned and must be carried out within the next twelve months. As such, the delivery of this development will help bring forward these long-standing improvements to the foul sewage system. Communication with Southern Water will continue to ensure these works take place.

Secondly, some residents commented about the amount of housing, in particular the height and density. This has been guided by the Outline planning permission that was granted in November 2022. The development proposes a total of forty new homes following the Outline planning permission, at a maximum of two-storeys. Since the exhibition, CALA has introduced two 1-bedroom maisonettes to increase the proportion of smaller homes. The resultant mix will be attractive to families, downsizers, first time buyers and local people of Woodchurch wishing to stay in the village.

Concerning materials, white weatherboard and tile hanging have now been introduced where suitable as this was preferred by a large number of responders. The design will be traditional Kentish design in keeping with the village including a mixture of dwellings and finishes. Lighting has also been kept to a minimum, noting the dark-skies which are a key feature of Woodchurch.

Furthermore, there were concerns and preferences regarding boundary treatment to the neighbouring homes. Following discussions with the occupants at the exhibition, the boundary treatments are now proposed as closed board fencing with increased planting to the boundary with 82 and 120 Front Road to best preserve their amenity.

Last but not least, ahead of occupation, CALA will improve two currently unmarked bus stops on Front Road, to aid the visibility of local sustainable transport locally.

We hope that these proposals will bring much-needed, high quality and sympathetic homes to Woodchurch. We have listened to your feedback at the Consultation, and will continue to engage throughout the determination period of the application. You can view the full host of plans, documents and supporting information on the Ashford Borough Council Planning Portal – by typing in 'Front Road, Woodchurch'. You will also be able to comment on our Proposals here during the consultation period of the application. You can also contact us directly at [frontroadwoodchurch@cala.co.uk](mailto:frontroadwoodchurch@cala.co.uk) if you have any direct questions to us.

Kind regards

The Planning Team

CALA Homes  
South Home Counties

