

Rolvenden & Newenden *Parish Magazine*

2024
OCTOBER
ONLINE





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Joyful Pre School days: Helen Harris



This month our minister is Rev Tricia Fogden
From the Minister's Study

What a summer it has been, eventually! Hot and dry for longer than we could have dreamed of. But it seems that there have been fewer butterflies, bees, and even pests like aphids and wasps flitting about. Although we'd regard some insects as pests (who likes wasps?) they are very important in the food chain, and other insects, birds and small mammals suffer when there are shortages of them.



These shortages can also affect us. Albert Einstein once said "if the bee disappeared off the face of the earth, humanity would only have four years left to live". His words are a powerful reminder that our lives are vitally connected to God's creation and to each other. We must work to ensure those often fragile connections are guarded and strengthened.

Recent media reports suggest a great decline in the bee population in this country: the prolonged wet weather, farming methods (please don't think I'm blaming our farmers!) and mites have decimated a third of the bee population. In addition to gathering nectar to produce honey, honeybees perform a vital second function - pollination. About one third of the human diet is derived from insect-pollinated plants, and honeybees are responsible for 80% of this pollination. Honeybees are responsible for pollinating a variety of fruits, vegetables and nuts.

So without bees there would be no harvest and we wouldn't be holding our Harvest Festivals.

You may have heard from media sources that the use of food banks has escalated. More and more people are finding themselves unable to afford food once they've paid their bills. It is not just those already on benefits who are suffering; people who have been made redundant and are struggling to find employment are joining the queues for food parcels.

Food donated to some of our harvest festival celebrations will be distributed to the local food bank. But all year round non-perishable food can be dropped off in our churches to be taken to a food bank and distributed to those in need. Harvest is a celebration, one of the songs we sing declares 'all good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, so thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love. 'And one way we thank God for creation and for the wonderful variety of food we enjoy, is to be generous in our giving, even as God has been generous to us.

Our Harvest Festival service food gifts are ways of making connections just like bees make connections, which are fundamental to the life of our planet as they fly from flower to flower.



God calls us to make connections: The heart of the Good News is the breaking down of barriers between people (Ephesians 2.11 - end). The heart of love is to reach out to neighbours in need wherever we find them (Luke 10.25-37). The heart of harvest is to share the celebration with all around us, whoever they are (Deuteronomy 26.1- 11).

So let's be busy bees helping to pollinate the community and world we live in with kindness and generous giving.

God Bless

Tricia ><>

St Peter and St Mary Flower Rotas October 2024

Sunday	St Mary	St Peter
Oct 06	Sylvia K	Harvest Festival all arrangers
Oct 06	Sylvia K	Harvest Festival all arrangers
Oct 06	Sue C	Sally Manford
Oct 06	Sue C	Sally Manford
Contact:	Sylvia Kellett 01580 240463 Sylviakellett@eplusmail.com	Rosie Edmonds 01797 252196 rosie.edmonds@hotmail.com

Brass Cleaning at St Mary: Lin Lodge

St. Peter's Church: normally open between 10.00 and 5.00pm. If you need access outside of these times, please contact Frances Jones or Rosie Edmonds. Should arrangers be unable to do any slots please swap with someone else and let Rosie know.

❖ From the Registers ❖

Baptism

8th September - Peggy Rossana Tompsett - at St Mary's

5th September - Winifrid Catherine Sylvia Bigley - at St Mary's



Service of Light - Sunday November 24th 3pm

At this service, people of the communities of Rolvenden and Newenden, who have died since the end of November 2022, will be remembered by name, and by the lighting of a candle.

We are very happy to commemorate other people who have died. If you would like someone dear to you to be included.

Please contact Judy: 01580 241504 judyannvinson@gmail.com



Flower Festival & Art Exhibition 2024

The abiding impression of the Festival is one of good natured fellowship. A village event that runs over a long weekend encourages everyone to come along to see what is happening and join in. It is the annual ideal opportunity to meet up with friends and family to enjoy Flowers and Music along with our Songs of Praise Festival Service in our peaceful, beautiful St Mary's church, and then move on to the buzz of the Village Hall which hosts the Art Exhibition and Crafts, Raffle, Bookstall and the all-important Homemade Refreshments. Each year an amazing number of people are involved in the planning and delivery of the Festival over the weekend. Principal organizers covering the main areas listed above, along with the less obvious ones of Finance, Advertising, Poster and Leaflet distribution, Roadside Boards and Bunting, carting of Art Boards and Books...etcnot to mention the support from family that the flower arrangers inevitably require to help with their displays in church...and our all-important Volunteers who make it all happen during the Festival. It was a delight to see some younger volunteers enjoying themselves this year.

Overall, an amazing effort and harnessing of goodwill which resulted in a great community event, and the financial bonus of £4200 for St Mary's, which is very much appreciated.

Thank you everyone... the Hall is booked for next year already. Sylvia



Arrangements by Ellen Austin, 'water gushing from the rock' and Ina Hemsley, 'the Golden Calf', combined the drama of the Moses' story with the sheer beauty of flowers.



The Church of England

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

Sunday 6th October: Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity and Harvest Thanksgiving

8am St Mary's Rolvenden
Holy Communion
11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden
Celtic Morning Prayer

9.30am St Peter's Newenden
The Eucharist for Harvest
6pm Harvest Evensong (Tenterden)

Sunday 13th October: Twentieth Sunday After Trinity

9:30am St Peter's Newenden
The Eucharist
6pm Sung Evensong (Tenterden): Live streamed and online thereafter

11am St Mary's Rolvenden
The Eucharist

Sunday 20th October: Twenty First Sunday After Trinity

9.30am St Peter's Newenden
The Eucharist
2pm St Mary's Churchyard Forest Church
6pm Evensong with Tongswood Choir(Tenterden): LS and online thereafter

11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden
Matins

Sunday 27th October: Bible Sunday

9.30am St Peter's Newenden
Celtic Morning Prayer
6pm Ecumenical Evensong Zion Baptist Church Tenterden

11am St Mary's Rolvenden
The Eucharist

And services during the week:

Beginning the Day with God

A ten-minute reflective service, **online only** from Monday to Saturday.

Ending the Day with God

A ten-minute reflective service, **online only** from Monday to Saturday.

Holy Communion

Will be celebrated at St Michael's every Wednesday
and at Tenterden every Thursday. Both celebrations will begin
at 10am and last about twenty-five minutes

These services will not appear online.

To access our daily online worship visit:

YouTube St Mildred's, Tenterden

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBAbfTcsSiiq4HALM0GRdWg>

Online services:

can also be accessed through the daily bulletin, **Connect Up!**

To receive Connect Up!:

Please visit our website: www.tentroxchurches.co.uk

*And remember, our churches are open every day – a haven of peace and quiet
where you can sit and think, read, pray and light a candle if you so wish.*

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Rolvenden Primary School Community Open Day - A BIG Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended our recent Community Open Day at Rolvenden Primary School. We were overwhelmed by the support from our local community, and we are delighted with the generous offers of help and donations we have received so far. Your involvement means a lot to us as we work towards creating an improved learning environment for our children. If you couldn't attend the event but would still like to offer a pledge of support or help, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us at rpsoffice@rolvenden.kent.sch.uk

Every contribution, no matter how big or small, helps us move closer to realising our vision for the school's future.

And here are some of the items on our list of projects:

New Tables and Chairs: the tables and chairs throughout the school are life-expired and need full replacement. **Approx. cost £9,400**

New Touchscreens: Essential for harnessing modern technology and making lessons engaging, our touch screens boards are life expired.

Approx. cost £15,000 for 6 screens

Hall Refurbishment: Our hall is suffering from damp ingress which is making the environment unsightly and unpleasant. We need to repair walls and replace carpet. **Approx. cost £150,000**



Fact Finding



Sometimes the only way to understand what's happening is to go and take a look, which is why Hugh, Judy and Alan for the Selmes Trust and Jillian for the Meadow Project gathered on the riverbank in extra-warm September sun in mid-September. We had come to the spot where the river somehow floods part the Meador Project area whenever the water is high and long before the rest of the field floods.

Jillian has been watching this phenomenon for some time. There is a pipe emptying into the river just here, somewhat hidden by a willow and associated vegetation. Jillian pushed her way through the greenery, wanting to show us the end of the pipe, but was driven back by wasps guarding a nest.

She has kept a close eye on what happens when the river level rises. There comes a point when water appears in the field. And standing on the top bank she can see browner water fanning out from the spot on the bank that is in line with the pipe. The good news is that the water drains away as soon as the river level drops.

What we appear to have is a drainage pipe that is completely open. When the river is high, the water flows up the pipe into the field. It needs a flap valve fitted that will swing open to let water flow out of the field but will be shut tight by the force of the river when the water level rises. That is something for the Environment Agency to sort out. As the landowners it is down to the Selmes Trust to do the reporting, and we wanted to make sure we had understood what Jillian was seeing.

The good news is we have got the information in front of people with impressive titles that sound about right. A Flood and Coastal Risk Management Officer is on the case and consulting with the Asset Performance team who will be well placed to advise, we are told.

Judy Vinson



BENENDEN BONFIRE & FIREWORKS

Saturday 2 November

HOT FOOD
LICENSED BAR
& LOTS
MORE

GATES OPEN: 5.30pm
BONFIRE: 6.30pm
FIREWORKS: 7pm

Gate Price

Adults: £9

Children under 16: £6

Online Ticket Price

Adults: £7

Children under 16: £4

Children under 5 free

Tickets available online either via our website:
www.benendenfireworks.co.uk
or from Benenden's Community Shop.

A share of any profit will be donated to local groups and projects. There is no onsite parking. Please park considerately and allow up to 20 minutes to walk to the main entrance of Benenden School.

SPONSORED BY





Friends of St Peter's Church Newenden

First Thursday Talk

12 Noon Thursday 7th November 24

in St Peter's Church, Newenden



The History of Women in Science to 1900

Dr Nick Hudd

We welcome Nick Hudd, returning for a second talk this year. This time he reveals another aspect of his passion for history as he looks at the history of women in science and their significant contributions in their chosen fields.

He will start with Henrietta Leavitt, an American astronomer, by whose discoveries we know how to measure the distance of galaxies.

The First Thursday talks last for about 45 minutes. Entrance is free but the Friends welcome donations.

And after the talk you might like to have lunch at the White Hart Inn or at Nibbles.

Please note, the White Hart car park is for patrons of the pub – you can come to the talk and then patronise the pub, but, to avoid a fine, please do remember to drop into the bar and register your vehicle before you come across the road to the church



Rolvenden Gardening Society



Autumn Show 2024



This was held in Rolvenden Village Hall on Saturday, 7th. September. Looking back on my report for the same show in 2023, similar comments were made, except that then the temperatures reached around 30deg.C! The problem this year was not the heat but the tremendous amount of rain and the thunderstorms we had on the previous 2 days which would obviously affect the number of entries and so we waited with anticipation to see what would arrive,

In the end, there were around 100 exhibits from 17 members. As for 2023, several classes had no exhibits, mainly in the floral section, most notably chrysanthemums and there were very few dahlias again. However, the vegetable displays were magnificent and gave a wonderful show. Here there were excellent entries of onions, beetroot, carrots and potatoes to name just a few. Bill Burvill's vegetables made a great display as did the 4 massive pumpkins which he had grown and put on show. Barry came second in the any other vegetable class with a Tromboncino, also known as Zucchetta, a type of squash. It was certainly a talking point!

All classes in the cookery section were entered and there were some tasty exhibits from several ladies. Congratulations to Richard Coleman who won the men's cookery with his treacle tart.

The number of floral arrangements were well down but there were 4 displays in the foliage only section and Mandy Tompsett won the arrangement of Autumn flowers and foliage.



We thank the Preschool for their beautifully decorated stars and also congratulate the older children who entered this class and the winter arrangement based around a candle.

The older children's results were:-

For the decorated candle

1st. - Daisy, 2nd. - April, 3rd. - Zara.

For the decorated star

1st. - Tommy, 2nd.- Zara, 3rd. - Daisy/ April (tied).

Preschool children with a decorated star:-

1st. - Evie, 2nd - Judy, 3rd. - Arthur.

All the children who entered received a certificate.

The top 3 adult prize winners who received certificates were:-

1st. Jean Clifton with 7 Firsts, 5 Seconds, 3 Thirds.

2nd. Bill Burvill with 8 Firsts, 1Second, 4 Thirds.

3rd. Tina Tompsett with 4 Firsts, 7 Seconds, 3 Thirds.

Well done to Jean who was a worthy first prize winner with her wonderful exhibits.

Several people came to view the show and catch up with friends over a welcome cup of tea. Thanks to John Walters for calling the raffle numbers and to Jean and Ian Clifton for running the raffle which made a profit of £136 for the funds.

After announcing the prize winners, Tony Abrahams thanked the committee, especially Jan Gambier who did sterling work setting up the exhibits, and the helpers, including the ladies who made the tea, those who had helped set up the hall and Rita and Maralyn who assisted in the absence of Sue Clout, our Show Secretary. He also thanked everyone for coming. It was agreed that, despite the weather, it had been a good show.

Forthcoming Events:

1. *The Autumn Meal, which this year is at the Bull, Rolvenden on Saturday, 26th October, 7 for 7.30 pm. Contact Graham Button on 01580241525 if you would like to join us.*

2. *Our Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 21st. November at 2pm in the village hall. Please note the new time which we are trialling and come and join us for tea and cake!*

Maralyn Button.



'The gardening year is coming into the Autumn and if anyone would like to join with next year in mind please contact Tony Abrahams on email tonymarieabs@gmail.com. Annual sub only £7 a year. We hold 3 flower shows a year ,have a coffee morning , talks and visit gardens including local RHS gardens for which entry is free. Come and see what we are all about!!'





Weather and Nature Notes

Since they have been naming storms, it is the first time they have reached the letter L in a season, storm Lilian made the run up to the August bank holiday windy and drizzly but it did improve, in fact temperatures were soon in the high 20's by the midweek. I recorded 50.5mm of rain in August and that amount was quickly achieved in early September. A few days had thundery showers some with torrential rain, I had just planted some new plants and watered them in, when nature decided to make sure and deliver over an inch of rain in just over an hour. It was quite welcome though as the ground had become so dry. Although there were showery days over the summer months of June, July and August I only recorded 3 days with decent rain of double figure amounts. For Farmers, haymaking or gathering in crops, this would have been helpful.

I was reading part of *Rural Rides* by William Cobbett, for its agricultural descriptions and local interest. He rode on horseback reaching Rolvenden on August 31st 1823 writing: "This has been a sad time for these hay-farmers, however all along here. They have but just finished haymaking; and I see, all along my way, from East Grinstead to this place, hay-ricks the colour of dirt and smoking like dung heaps." We have to hope the white turnips that he also mentions growing had a good crop to feed the animals over Winter with the hay ruined. Travelling on, the next day he was particularly impressed with the quality of wheat grown on the marsh at Old Romney, an interesting snippet "I have a sample of the red wheat and another of the white. They are both very fine. They reap the wheat here nearly two feet from the ground; and even then they cut it three feet long! I never saw corn like this before." Imagine wheat five



feet high, we are used to seeing it as a short uniform crop through modern breeding. Long straw isn't needed for bonnet making or thatching etc. Knowing how windy it can be down on the marsh I wonder how well it stood up, and what varieties they were?

On a sunny day at this time of year how pleasant it is to sit for a few minutes quietly in my garden, a breeze stirring a gentle rustle from the foliage, chirrups from grasshoppers and the buzz of mostly ginger coloured common carder bees. A silent territorial battle between three Large White butterflies circling round was soon resolved and the victor settled to feed on a verbena flower, a couple of dragonflies searched around my little pond and patrolled along the sheltered hedgerow to catch a meal, whilst the spiders' technique is to patiently sit and wait. A humming bird hawkmoth made a fleeting visit, zooming in and then off (I have not seen many this year) Swallows and martins chatter overhead as they head south whilst robin sits high in my nut tree singing, letting all know this is their patch. Plenty to please the senses.

However, it has been well documented that this year has seen low numbers of insects in general. Normally venturing into my garden during the evening and dusk in the summer results in a

mosquito bite, however this year is good news for me in that department, but bad news for the likes of bats and other insectivorous creatures. Wasp numbers appear low too, I have come across a couple of nests, one hanging in a bush likely made by tree wasps, this one had already died out, and a nest dug out of the ground by badgers that can shrug off the stings from the protective occupants to get to their juicy grubs inside. Remnants of the nest with the larvae were scattered and in the gaping hole worker common wasps were appearing naturally a little confused with some trying to mend it.



A couple of blackbirds that are both missing a few feathers in my garden due to their post nesting season moult, are happily filling up on the berries from my *Leycesteria* bushes as they ripen. Dark red bracts with white bell flowers that common carder bees especially like, turn to dark red berries that hang in bunches from the tips of branches rather like Christmas decorations, giving a long period of interest. I don't know why this easy to grow shrub is not more widely available. It just requires a hard cut back in Spring and then it looks after itself, and once you have one, you will find the odd seedling.

A last little general comment on Rolvenden from William Cobbett: "a very beautiful village" and "at this place, I saw several arbutuses in one garden, and much finer than we see them in general" I wonder which presumably roadside garden had those lovely strawberry trees? *Hazel Beaney*



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN TENTERDEN, ROTHER AND OXNEY

APPLEDORE - EBONY - NEWENDEN - ROLVENDEN - ST MICHAEL'S
SMALLHYTHE - STONE - TENTERDEN - WITTERSHAM

One Parish, Nine Churches

Over the last year or so, the Parochial Church Councils (PCC) of the nine churches in our Benefice, have been taking an honest and serious look at how we could worship and minister together in more fruitful and efficient ways in the future. This has come under the remit of a group we formed, with representation from each of the churches, called 'Grasping the Nettle.'

One of the most significant developments to come from this group is to consider reducing the number of PCCs we have from nine, to one. This move is purely about the governance of the nine churches. It will have no impact whatsoever on services, nor will it lead to church closures. It will, however, provide greater stability and security in these challenging times. And, because it will release parish clergy from a large number of meetings a year, they will be able to give more time to work with local church leadership to grow the church in the community. Local groups, formed from both the congregation and the wider community will be established to undertake the care of their church.

We are keen to ensure that any process towards a single parish is open and transparent from the outset and that all of those who live and worship in the parishes and churches, have the opportunity to be fully informed of what this involves and to ask any questions they may have.

To this end, the next round of PCC meetings will be open to anyone and everyone. During these meetings a presentation will be made which explains clearly what a single PCC is and what it is not. We will look at issues to do with finance, governance, church buildings and worship.

Below are the dates, times and locations of all nine meetings. All the presentations will be the same at each location. To this end, PLEASE ATTEND WHICHEVER MEETING IS MOST CONVENIENT TO YOU. It may not be the one in your local church – but you can go to any of them.

■ Tuesday 5th November	7pm	Ebony Church
■ Wednesday 6th November	7.30pm	Tenterden Church
■ Thursday 6th November	7pm	Wittersham Church
■ Monday 11th November	6pm	Rolvenden Church
■ Tuesday 12th November	7.30pm	Stone-in-Oxney Church
■ Wednesday 13th November	2.30pm	Smallhythe Church
■ Wednesday 13th November	7.30pm	Appledore Church
■ Monday 18th November	7pm	St. Michael's Church
■ Monday 25th November	7pm	Newenden Church

In the weeks after these meetings, please reflect on what you have seen and



heard at the presentation and give your feedback to any member of the PCC at your local church. This will then be used to inform future conversations the PCC will have, prior to making decisions about a single PCC on behalf of the parish. It is really important that anyone who wishes to have a say is in receipt of the full range of information. These meetings will provide an opportunity to ask questions so that opinions can be formed based on facts, not hearsay. Therefore, if you think you want to have a say in this, please do go along to any of the meetings above.

Whilst we do not wish to rush this process, each PCC will probably be seeking to make a decision by the end of 2025 at the latest.

Lindsay and Jeanette October 2024

Sandhurst RPB Memorial Concerts

For all of you who attended the September event, we really had a fabulous afternoon. Not only was the weather perfect, but so was the duo of Emma Abbate and Julian Perkins. We even received our first review! Christopher Woodley has graced us with his beautiful words in the Kent Courier appearing on Sept. 21st. Some of which I cannot help but share with you! *Now in its sixteenth season, is a series of concerts dedicated to the life and work of Richard Beattie Davis, a chartered surveyor by profession, and a musicologist of prodigious gifts. The concerts are organized by his widow, Gillian, to support the vital work of the Hospice in the Weald. Recently, I was invited to hear a recital of piano duets given by Emma Abbate and Julian Perkins, stellar performers whose recordings attract five-star ratings. So entranced was I by their playing that I immediately sat down to sketch out these few words.*



Beattie Davis had a passion for the music of Adolph von Henselt, and was honorary president of the International Adolph-Henselt-Gesellschaft so it was fitting that a work by the composer should find its way onto the programme. His Canon for piano four hands was in marked contrast to the preceding pieces.

Afterwards, I stood in the garden watching the leaves dancing in the breeze and wondered if they had heard, if only faintly, the grace and charm of twenty fingers on a keyboard. Christopher Woodley ©

In addition to all this, after expenses, we raised £425 for Hospice in the Weald, for which I thank you. This means in 2024 we have raised an incredible £1,206 and heard some unusual and fabulous music from our two events.

With your help, I am determined to reach £20,000 or the age of 90, whichever comes first! Gillian Davis



Newenden Bridge

Åke Nilson's book, *Essays on Early Newenden*, is the go-to book for information on the history of Newenden. There are some interesting facts in the sub-chapter entitled Newenden Bridge. Åke has generously given me permission to quote from the book, which is published by the Friends of St Peter's Church, Newenden. It is available from Amazon, priced £6.75, with proceeds from each sale going to the Friends.

Historically, Kent was responsible for maintaining half the bridge and Sussex maintained the other half. Nobody seems to know when (or if!) responsibility for the bridge devolved to KCC. The records held by Historic England, the quango which oversees listed buildings, illustrates the results of this split responsibility.

The HE website has the bridge listed independently as a Scheduled Monument in 1932 by both Kent and East Sussex County Councils. This was an earlier arrangement for the protection of significant items of historic importance. The present Graded Listing comes from work initiated during WW2 to identify and preserve buildings of historic importance damaged by bombing. By the 1960s this scheme was expanded to include many more properties. In 1961 East Sussex added the bridge to the English Heritage register with a Grade II* and in 1962 Kent did the same, giving it Grade II status. Historic England has recently added the bridge to its Historic at Risk register.

The existence of a causeway and a bridge is first documented in 1332. By 1365 the bridge was already broken. "Which bridge men of both counties used to repair." Although there was the old wooden bridge, this was probably in a precarious condition because of the huge variation in water levels during the year and a ferry was in use until 1637. In that year a new bridge was built on the foundations of the old bridge, because by this time the Knelle Dam had generally helped to contain the river flow along the course it now follows. The bridge was three score foot in length, the middle arch being twenty-six foot and the other two arches seventeen foot across. Within three months repairs had to be made, and the costs shared between Kent and Sussex.



The bridge as we know it was built in 1706, still using the medieval foundations. By 1732 the bridge was once again "dangerous to pass". New paving and pointing were required and 19 1/2 tons of gravel were spread. In 1769 a survey found that "had repairs of the Bridge been deferred the Arches would in a short time have given way."

During World War 2 the bridge was mined and the parapets removed. Each stone was carefully numbered and stored so that the walls could be rebuilt after the war. Local folklore has it that in the 1950s someone pointed out that the mines were still in place and the Bomb Disposal team was called to remove the high explosives.

In 1982, the wooden piles on which the ancient bridge had been built were replaced or reinforced - the details were not clear - with a concrete raft, intended to be strong enough to support the weight of 40+ tonne lorries. Tying to clarify exactly what work had been carried out, I asked questions around the village and the name Chris Turnbull came up as someone who had been one of the workforce. He has moved away but I tracked him down and he confirmed that, Yes, there was a concrete apron put in, and all the wooden piles were removed.

Now, in Autumn 2024, we nervously await further developments in the history of this crucial and significant river crossing between Kent and East Sussex.

Anthony Dawson



Things we do in church that might surprise you...

So what is going on here?

This is the Open the Book Team having fun overcoming the challenge of enacting a Bible story for the school. Once a month through termtime the entire school comes across the road to St Mary's and we act. Sometimes some of the children join in.

In the pulpit, Jenny, Elizabeth, Sylvia and Maralyn, and lurking behind what is obviously going to be a burning bush, Sarah.



FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD!

Pears



There are about 5000 varieties of pears around the world. They were cultivated in China as early as 2000 BC, and were introduced to Europe by the Romans who cultivated hundreds of varieties. Pears were also used for medicinal purposes, first by the ancient Greeks and Romans and then in Europe during medieval times. They were believed to relieve nausea and aid digestion.

Pears have been significant over centuries. The Ancient Greeks called them 'the gift of the gods' and Homer mentions them in The Odyssey. Both the Greeks and Romans offered pears to goddesses associated with femininity or wealth.

In cultures around the world pears are associated with comfort and they are a symbol of happiness and inner peace. In Korea they are a sign of fertility, good health and wisdom.

In Chinese the word for pear and separation are similar leading to it symbolising closeness and positivity, healthy relationships with friends and partners.

A garden in Japan will often have a pear tree to protect against evil spirits.

During the 17th century pear trees were introduced to the Americas. They are grown today in many parts of the world, China is by far the world's largest producer, with about twice the amount of other countries combined. Belgium is the largest producer in the EU, they have been replacing apple trees with pears to compete with the changing market conditions. Although we grow pears in the UK we also import from Portugal, Belgium and China.

I think they are much underrated; they are so often in the shadow



of the apple. There are many health benefits of eating them. Fat free, only natural sugars, good source of fibre, sodium free, vitamins C & K, antioxidants and minerals.

Pears were more popular in France and during the 17th century became a symbol of nobility as they were especially enjoyed by the French kings.

Pears are usually picked when firm and ripened indoors, getting the timing right can be tricky as they can go from perfect to woolly quite quickly. Obviously ripeness is not an issue with cooking pears.

There are so many ways to serve them, they go well with cheese especially blue or goats. I use them in salads, as a main course including chicken or duck or as a side using rocket or watercress, spring onions and celery, adding some nuts is good, pine nuts, pecans or walnuts work well . For the dressing try using a nut flavoured oil instead of olive for a change.

When it comes to cooking you have a choice, roast, poached or baked depending on the dish. Poached in red wine is one classic and I think always goes down well but you can also use Marsala for a different take. The second is Poires Belle-Helene, the pears are poached in a vanilla syrup, cooled and then served with warm chocolate sauce, absolutely delicious.

Most puddings or cakes that you make with apples work just as well with pears, there are three ingredients that particularly enhance their flavour, almonds, ginger and cinnamon. If making pear pie walnut pastry makes it rather special.

If you have a glut they freeze well once poached or use to make preserves and chutney.

Lavinia

Footnote for any readers prompted to get preserving: Glass jars with lids are just waiting to join in your endeavours. Lavinia has loads of 2lb jars with lids, Judy has an assortment of sizes. Please call 01580 241504

T	D	E
R	E	V
A	S	H

Get those little grey cells working

See how many words you can make out of these 9 letters.

Two rules: Only use each letter once in a word and you must use the middle one.



Only On a Sunday...?! Part Six - Friday

Jeanette has reached Friday as she strolls through her working week, and now we have got to what should be a day off...

'When do you have a day off?' we are often asked...well, the day that Lindsay and I take as our day off is nominally Friday. Until recently, it had been difficult to create the space to do this regularly, but with a concerted effort, we both now try to keep Friday as free as possible.

A 'day off' in ministry is not as straight forward as it may sound. Whilst we try to protect the time, there are often things that crop up: it is usually the last day term in schools and there will be acts of worship to lead for our school communities; schools will also have things such as Harvest Festival or Remembrance Day on Friday, and it is a day that works well for school's workshops too; people often request to have funerals on a Friday so that those that travel have the weekend straight after; wedding rehearsals frequently take place on a Friday so that those required to take part have arrived for the Big Day; hospital visits often become a necessity at short notice, and if we don't keep on top of emails, it makes catching up quite a challenge!

It is also the case that if Thursday has been busy for some other reason, then Friday is the day we will be completing service sheets (see the article on Thursday which appeared last month). These need to be done by 4pm on Friday... because this is the time the amazing 'Folding and Stapling Team' arrive in the benefice office! Our benefice is blessed to have a dedicated team of people who come in on Friday to fold and staple the service sheets for all of the churches in our benefice, ready for distribution on Saturday. Amongst the team are three teenage lads from Homewood School. Initially they came to do



folding and stapling as part of the 'service section' for their Duke of Edinburgh's award. They had three months of volunteering to complete – but now, almost three years later, they are still here and collectively ensure that the hour and a half they are here makes for a lively, noisy time in the office!

Although we try not to arrange meetings for Friday, church social events can take place and it is a good opportunity to be able to spend time at a concert or a meal, a quiz or a dance being amongst our worshipping communities in an informal setting.

Ministry is not a 'job' as such – it is a way of being. I have often said, that since ordination I have not done a day's work! It is important to take time off and to step back from the responsibilities that ministry brings, and we do. We make time to spend with family and friends, and doing the everyday and the mundane like shopping, gardening and housework. But I guess all of that has to be done with flexibility. *Jeanette*



Break time for the ringing team preparing for their Flower Festival performance.

The Rolvenden Hand Bells

The Rolvenden hand bell ringers will be practising Christmas carols from Thursday 3rd October at 2 pm in the body of St. Mary's church. The small group of ringers have a practice every Thursday afternoon for about 1hr 30 minutes. If you would like to join us and have a go at ringing then please phone Linda Smith on 01580 241783 for further details. Participants do not need to be able to read music as the tunes are rung using numbered bells.

The ringers look forward to welcoming you to our friendly band.

Linda Smith, Tower Captain.



News from Rolvenden Pre-School

Pre-school has got off to a flying start and our current group of children are busy finding their feet without the older cohort of school leavers. It is interesting to see children gaining confidence and taking on more



responsibility as they take their places at the top of the pre-school tree.

We are doing lots of gross motor play, making the most of the good weather to enjoy running, climbing and jumping in the garden as well as walks around the village. Indoors we also have opportunities to climb and jump as well as other activities like painting, cutting and sticking, role play, reading, singing, sand play, threading, racing cars, building and endless other games through which the children learn and develop.

We entered some

decorated stars into the Gardening Society Autumn show and Autumn will start to feature more and more in our activities. Nature can provide us with so many resources to spark our imaginations, what will you be exploring over the next few months? You can keep up to date with our activities by following us on

*facebook@rolvendenpreschool or
email us on rolvendenps@gmail.com.*

Tenterden Parkinson's Cafe

Please note that the monthly Parkinson's Support Group meeting is now scheduled in the afternoon between 2:30-4pm every third Monday of the month. We are still meeting at the EC30 cafe at Tenterden Recreation Ground Road (next to Ivy Court Surgery). You are most welcome to come along to meet people with Parkinson's and their carers over a cuppa.

From Christine, Carol, Sue and Carroll (Volunteer Team)



Rolvenden History Group

Friday, 1 November 2024

The Lossenham Project

Dr Andrew Richardson



Dr Richardson will talk about the archaeological dig at Lossenham where the Carmelite Priory is being excavated. Much is being discovered at the site that sheds light on the lives and activities of people who have lived in this area .

Prepare to be amazed at how long ago the archaeological record stretches back.

Venue: St Mary's Church, Rolvenden

Coffee and biscuits

7.15pm for 7.30pm start for lecture

Everyone welcome - Non-members: £4

<https://therolvendehistorygroup.wordpress.com/>



Update from Rolvenden Parish Council



As many of you are aware there are a number of new Councillors and I have recently joined as the new Parish Clerk. We have spent the first few weeks catching up and now looking to move the Parish Council forward.

In terms of catching up, we are in the process of carrying out a number of remedial works which have included replacing the woodchip in all the play areas and repairing some of the equipment and benches. A local handyman has been authorised to carry out the necessary repairs to the Streyte BT Box.

We are also working to get some of the signage on the highway cleaned up, repaired and, in some cases replaced, to include the gateways on the A28.

We are in the process of updating our Highway Improvement Plan. The Community Engagement Officer at Kent County Council has asked us to suggest some minor improvements to the highways such as new signage or traffic calming measures. If you would like to suggest any improvements to the highways, please do get in touch.

We will be planting 7-10 fruit trees at the Allotments at the end of the year to mark the Coronation of King Charles III. Ashford Borough Council has been awarded a grant to purchase trees to be used to plant Community Orchards. A number of parishioners have expressed an interest in adopting a tree.

Looking to the future, with a new Local Plan looming, we are keen to review and revise our Neighbourhood Plan and will be starting this process very soon. We will be forming a working party and if you are interested in joining this please do get in touch.

We are delighted to be working with your dedicated Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators and have requested that the CSU Inspector, Richard Batten, attends one of our meetings to hear your concerns about the recent incidents in the village. The key message is to report any concerns to Kent Police and this can be done anonymously. The easiest way is to do this online Report | Kent Police.

There have been a number of changes in the village recently. The Parish Council is sorry to see the closure of Cornex Garage and we wish the new owners of the Village Store and Post Office every success.

You may be aware that all Parish Councillors are Trustees of the Thorburn Land Trust. This is a separate body to the Parish Council. A meeting to discuss the future of the land is to be held in October.

***Please do get in touch if you have any questions or suggestions for the Parish Council. Louise Goldsmith, Parish Clerk,
email: rolvendenclerk@gmail.com Phone: 07900 693572***



Peter has written the Blue Pages opening article this month: Making our communities tick – the Neighbourhood Watch and the Police Interface

Meet Peter New



I am passionate about Neighbourhood Watch and the potential it has to make a difference in a community. I am very pleased to be supporting your local NHW coordinator

Sian Reeves.

So what qualifies you to do that? you say. Well...

When I retired from the Fire Service, I was Assistant Chief Officer Head of Operations for the whole of Kent Fire brigade with 66 fire stations. We were not just dealing with the operational firefighting but a comprehensive fire safety, fire prevention strategy to keep residents safe.

Now long retired I have been a Kent Police Volunteer with the force for about 6 years. I have carried over my prevention thought process into this community work with the police. I firmly believe:

“Crime cannot flourish or succeed in communities that care and are alert and vigilant”.

There is no hiding from the fact that rural outlying areas feel abandoned.

That is why I am a great supporter of each area having a named Beat Officer, as you do. In support of that officer, we must build a strong Neighbourhood Watch which is where my work with Sian Reeves, coordinator of Rolvenden’s NHW comes in.

Peter New.

Kent Police Volunteer & Community Neighbourhood Watch.

peternew1@aol.com 07768437422

Reminder

Rolvenden History Group – October Lecture

St Mary’s Church, Friday 4th October lecture at 7:30

‘Our World turned upside down’

Religion and revolution in mid-17th century Rolvenden

Rebecca Warren is an honorary research fellow at the University of Kent, specialising in early modern religious history. Her doctorate was on the church during the Protectorate of Oliver Cromwell in the 1650s, a subject on which she is currently writing a book. She has a particular interest in religious non-conformity, especially in Kent, but she has also worked, taught and lectured extensively on many aspects of medieval and early modern social, political and religious history. And Rolvenden has a history of leanings to the non-conformist. It is in our names: Ranters Oak, John Wesley House, Chapel House.

Non Members welcome – entry £4



Rolvenden Neighbourhood Watch October

We continue this month with the focus on communication and fraud

1. QR codes as enablers of fraud - "An alert from Action Fraud"

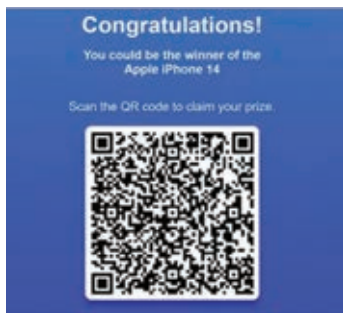
QR codes or quick response codes work when the user scans them via a digital device, usually a smartphone. They are widely used for quickly directing users to websites, logging into devices or ordering or paying for goods and services.



Cyber criminals are increasingly using QR technology to scam victims by creating their own malicious QR codes designed to trick people into handing over banking and/or personal information.

Analysis by Action Fraud from reports across the UK reveals that most of these scams happen in open spaces, such as car parks or parking meters. A common scam involves malicious QR code stickers being placed on top of legitimate QR codes in car parks. These will then link to genuine looking payment sites that steal personal and financial data. Action Fraud are also seeing an increase in the number of fake emails using QR codes.

Advice on how to use QR codes safely



- QR codes used in pubs and restaurants are probably safe for you to scan.

- Scanning a QR Code in open spaces (stations or car parks) might be riskier. Check for tampered QR Code stickers and if in doubt do not scan them. Instead use a search engine to find the official website or app for the organisation you are trying to pay.

- If you receive an email with a QR code in it and you are

asked to scan it, then exercise extreme caution, as Action Fraud are seeing an increase in these types of "quishing attacks." Quishing, also known as QR code phishing, involves tricking someone into scanning a phony QR code with their phone or device.

- When scanning a QR code, use the scanner that comes with your phone, rather than using an app downloaded from an app store.

For further information and advice on using QR codes safely see:

<https://www.getcybersafe.gc.ca/en/blogs/how-use-qr-codes-safely>

2. AI - Voice cloning



*AI (Artificial Intelligence) Voice cloning is when a person's voice is recorded and then used to create audio content of that person speaking. Fraudsters can use a voice recording of someone to make them say anything that they want them to.

There is a possibility that criminals can use the voice of a person to create a more believable version of the 'Hi mum and dad' scam on WhatsApp.

Normally, victims receive calls out of the blue from a loved one in distress who eventually needs them to transfer money for some made up emergency.



- The caller will likely not say much – perhaps they will say something short like 'please help me'.
- Listen for unusual background noises and unexpected changes in the tone of the caller that indicate you are not having a real time conversation with a person. Also, listen out for unusual pauses.
- Ask the caller for as much detail as possible, as only the real person will know these.
- You may be asked to make a payment using gift cards or cryptocurrencies, as these are typical of scams.

If you think that you may have been a victim of this or any other type of scam, then contact your Bank immediately, which you can do by calling 159 and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.

3. Bank Impersonation scam

If you are contacted by your Bank stating there is a problem with your account, that you are being targeted for fraud and you need to post your money via secure mail to an address for safe keeping or for it to be paid into a new account, STOP, IT'S A SCAM.

Your Bank will never contact you like this or ask you to post money to an address. We have seen several reports of this type of offence recently.

Please advise family and friends about this scam.

If you think that you may have been a victim of this or any other type of scam, then contact your Bank immediately, which you can do by calling 159 and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040

For further information about Fraud, visit our website at:

<https://www.kent.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/fa/fraud/>

Reporting crime to the police

Serious crimes in progress dial 999, other incidents via 101 (phone) or online using Live chat: <https://www.kent.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/>

Hearing or speech impairments. If you are deaf or have a speech impairment and you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service, you can use the textphone service: 18000 or text 999.

How to join Neighbourhood Watch:

If you used to receive the updates via Rolvenden update Mail chimp, please re-register to join Neighbourhood Watch: <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/joinNW>.

We have now set up the new Rolvenden Neighbourhood Watch scheme which has been approved.

Siân Reeves

Rolvenden Neighbourhood Watch

Making communities tick...

The Neighbourhood Watch and the Police interface

Neighbourhood Watch provides information to keep us crime free but equally important, to keep us free from the fear of being a victim.

- NHW issues crime prevention ideas to keep us safe and secure
- If a crime occurs, NHW can prevent other crimes happening nearby by alerting others to the potential threat.
- Through NHW appeals to the community we can collect information and intelligence to help front line officers investigate the crime and bring criminals to account.
- NHW can issue further crime prevention advice from the lessons learnt from those crimes, improve the quality of our advice, and adapt and respond to developing crime trends.

And the Police need to know what is going on in our area.

They are not clairvoyant. They need to be told.

There's always just a few who have no respect for the community, or the residents. Our actions will show them they are not picking on one isolated vulnerable person, but the entire community, committed to making our villages safe enjoyable places in which to live and work.

It is absolutely essential that all crimes, no matter how small, even failed attempts, are reported, anti-social behaviour and criminal damage included. Anti-Social Behaviour to a 30-year-old resident is annoying, to a 40- to 50-year-old even more so. But and it's a big but, to an 80- to 90-year-old it can be absolutely terrifying and that's unforgiveable. And remember, criminal damage is somebody's livelihood and business.

All information reported gives a picture of the crime trends and extent of the problems. It will help shape investigations and proactive patrols.

The number of calls attracts response. If 6 residents see a crime in progress it needs 6 calls not 1 on behalf of 6 residents.

Do not tell yourself 'the police are not interested, too busy, won't come'. **MAKE THE CALL** and let Police Force Control decide on the next step.

The rule is simple: if you see a "Crime in progress or "Crime about to happen" do not hesitate. Let the police decide.

Make a 999 call!

And do report all crimes and attempted crimes to NHW as well, which will make for more effective help and advice, importantly, further crime prevention advice.

*(The contributor of this piece is Peter New,
see page 27 for his story)*

Organisations here to help

EC30, a coffee shop and so much more! For more information
email: info@ec30.co.uk , also see www.ec30.co.uk. EC30,
Recreation Ground Rd, Tenterden.

Open: Mon- Fri 9am – 4pm; Sat 9am – 3pm

The Tenterden Family Foodbank EC30 times as above.

Food boxes for people suddenly in difficulty due to
late credit payments, unexpected bills, loss of job etc.

info@ec30.co.uk / 07919 381827. Emergencies only please call:

07919 381827 / 07805 840493

The Old Schoolhouse Larder supporting vulnerable families with children finding it difficult to provide meals every day. Open Fri, 9 to 11am, selection of nonperishable groceries and household & hygiene products. Vouchers allowing families to select fruit & veg from the Tenterden Friday Market and from the Market Square Farm Butcher also available.

Tenterden Social Supermarket Pop Up Shop See next page for details

The Shop will be at Highbury Hall between 1:30 and 2:30pm

on the following Tuesdays:

October 1st, 15th, 29th November 12th.



Kent Savers for affordable loans www.kentsavers.co.uk

Regular Events

KCC Mobile Library Service visits Rolvenden every 2 weeks on a Tuesday:

- High Street between 11:30am and Noon
- Monypenny between 12:10 and 12:55pm

To join phone: 03000 41 31 31

For those living with short-term memory loss and their supporters

- Memory Café and Friends every Friday

Meets every Friday 2 – 4pm at St Andrews Church Hall,
Ashford Road, Tenterden

• Musical Memories meets every Tuesday 10:45am – 12 noon
Highbury Hall, Highbury Lane, Tenterden, a singing for health group.

- Monthly Lunch Club Meets 4th Wednesday 12:30 for 1:00pm
Little Silver Hotel, St Michaels Tenterden.

For all 3: Contact Jan Bridger Tel: 01580 762932 Mob: 07445971791

Tenterden Parkinsons Café Please note that the monthly Parkinson's Support Group meeting is now scheduled in the afternoon between 2:30-4pm every third Monday of the month.

We are still meeting at the EC30 cafe at Tenterden Recreation Ground Road (next to Ivy Court Surgery).

CARM Rolvenden Meeting Point, every second Wednesday 10:00am to noon in Monypenny Lounge, drop in and meet friends old and new.

<https://carmromneymarsh.org.uk/>



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Tue 29th Oct

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We'll be setting up our social supermarket with food, toiletries and cleaning products in Highbury Hall, fortnightly, this October.

You pay a minimum of £1.50 for every £5 worth of items. It's open to anyone who feels they would benefit. The maximum £20 shop costs just £6.

We also accept donations so feel free to drop off any in date cupboard food, or cleaning and hygiene items during the sessions.

Refuse Collection

Waste food bins, small black with orange lid, are emptied weekly. All other bins, grey, green and brown are emptied fortnightly. To see which of your bins are emptied when type 'Ashford BC Find my bin' into your web browser. You have 2 search tools:

- Grey (household) or Green (recycling)
- Brown (Garden refuse)

You can also download a calendar.

Collection dates do not vary through the year except across the Christmas New Year Holiday season.

Please keep an eye out for neighbours who may not be connected to the web. If neighbours are not getting the bins right have a friendly word and tell them which bins to put out when.

For new arrangements on such things as clothes, shoe and electrical items please see the Ashford BC – How do I dispose of?

- Yellow sacks, where supplied, will be collected weekly
- For all queries about recycling or waste disposal:

On-line, see ABC website: www.ashford.gov.uk/waste

Telephone ABC on Tel 01233 330646

NEWENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

www.newenden-pc.gov.uk/

Parish Clerk: Mrs Lauren Dobson.

C/o Carpens, Hobbs lane,

Beckley, East Sussex, TN31 6TT

Telephone: 01797 260364

e-mail: enquiries@newenden-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council will meet at 7:00pm

Tuesday November 7th in St Peter's

ROLVENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

www.rolvendenparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Clerk: Mrs Julie Goldsmith,

5 Artisan Road, Headcorn, TN27 9AZ

Telephone: 07900 693572

email: rolvendenclerk@gmail.com

Parish Council will meet at 7:30pm

Thursday October 17th

in Rolvenden Village Hall

Members of the public have a statutory right to attend as observers. At the discretion of the Parish Council Chair people may be invited to speak.



Parish Magazine Essential Information:

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

Photos for the cover should be emailed as a jpeg in colour or monochrome to Trevor Lodge on stmaryrolv@aol.com.

To keep the cover photos in tune with the month, Trevor likes to keep seasonal photos on hold waiting for the season to come round the following year. Any keen photographers who want to contribute, please send your photos to Trevor.



THE DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE

IS 5:00pm TUESDAY 15TH OCTOBER

Note for distributors: ☆ Rolvenden Magazines available for collection on Saturday 26th October. ☆ Newenden Magazines available for collection on Sunday 27th October.

The online version will be available from 1st November accessed via the Parish Council websites for Newenden and Rolvenden Parish Councils, for which arrangement we are most grateful. *Judy V*



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