

Rolvenden & Newenden *Parish Magazine*

2025
OCTOBER
ONLINE





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Published by Rolvenden P.C.C.

Cover Image: Photographer: Tony Hixley



From the Minister's Desk-October 2025

October sees our first benefice Taizé service in a while and it seemed like a good time to be reminded of the work of the Taizé Community.

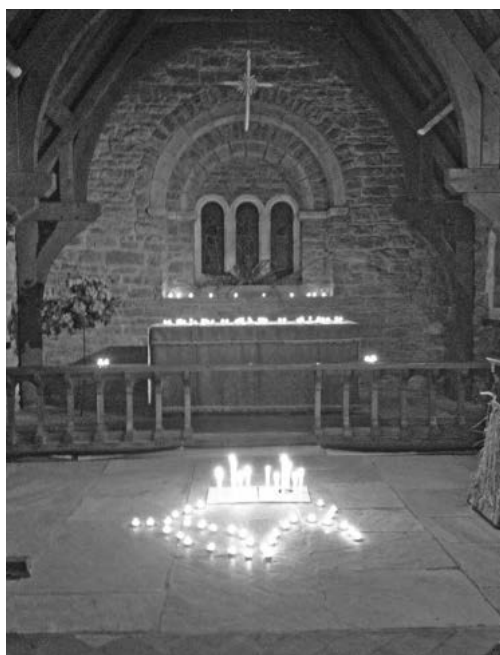
It was out of the horrors of the Second World War that the community of Taizé was born. Its founder, Roger Schutz-Marsauche, was the 25-year-old son of a Reformed pastor. At the start of World War two, he left his native Switzerland to help people in France. In Taizé, near the demarcation line that cut the country in two, he welcomed refugees, particularly Jews, fleeing the war.



In his younger years, Roger had conceived the idea of creating a community and the experiences of offering hospitality and care in the War gave him the basis for its foundation.

Today, the Taizé Community has an international outreach, and its music is known throughout the world. It comprises around eighty brothers from different church and international backgrounds – Catholic, Anglican, Protestant.

Throughout the year, the community welcomes tens of thousands of young



adults from around the world to experience prayer, biblical reflection and life together. The very existence of the Taizé Community is a tangible sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and separated peoples and its unique style of music and silence has enabled many people to explore their faith in a new and different way. Because Taizé songs have so few words and are repeated multiple times, it's easy to sing them even if without speaking the language or being particularly musical. These simple, meditative songs typically feature a line or two from the Psalms, creating a kind of Biblical reflection in music.

In a world of noise and division, war and hatred, I simply want to commend our benefice

Taizé evening to you. In October the theme of the service will be remembering with some readings on the theme scattered amongst the chants and the silences, and there will be candle lighting.

It will take place at Newenden Church on Sunday, 12th October at 6pm.

Jeanette





St Peter and St Mary Flower Rotas for October 2025

Sunday

Oct 05

Oct 12

Oct 19

Oct 26

Contact:

St Mary

Sylvia K

Denise & Olive

Denise & Olive

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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.

St Peter

Harvest Festival – all arrangers

Harvest Festival – all arrangers

Janet Broadbent Kempton

Janet Broadbent Kempton

Rosie Edmonds

01797 252196

rosie.edmonds@hotmail.com

❖ From the Registers ❖

Funerals

3rd September, Michael Allard Freeland at St Nicholas
followed by cremation at Charing

Interment of Ashes

31st August Sylvia Constance Savage and Edwin Savage at St Mary's



Full details in the November Magazine but here is a reminder that your practical support with gifts and money is the making of an enjoyable Christmas for families across our communities who may be having a tough time right now.

The Family Liaison Officers at all our local schools collaborate with the churches to anonymously identify the families and then everything is distributed discreetly by the Family Liaison Officers or Reverend in time to prepare for Christmas. For more information of how to help, please visit the website: thebigwrap.co.uk



The Church of England

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

Sunday 5th October: 16th Sunday after Trinity, Newenden Harvest

9.30am St Peter's Newenden Harvest Eucharist	8am Holy Communion St Mary Rolvenden 11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden Celtic Morning Prayer
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Sunday 12th October: 17th Sunday after Trinity

9:30am St Peter's Newenden The Eucharist	11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden The Eucharist
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2:00pm Rolvenden Churchyard – Forest Church
6:00pm St Peter's Newenden – Taizé Service

Sunday 19th October: 18th Sunday after Trinity

9:30am St Peter's Newenden The Eucharist	11:00am St Mary's Rolvenden Matins
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6:00pm Benefice Choral Evensong, Appledore

Sunday 26th October: Bible Society

9.30am St Peter's Newenden Celtic Morning Prayer	11am St Mary's Rolvenden The Eucharist
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**Forest Church is back – dress for the weather, sensible shoes
and bring something to sit on.**



And 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, will be online
only from Monday to Saturday.

Tenterden Church – is once more fully
functioning after major works and on the
fourth Sunday we welcome Bishop Rose
coming to celebrate what has been done!

Holy Communion will be celebrated in
St Michael's Church every Wednesday
and in Tenterden Church every
Thursdays, both at 10am.

Both celebrations will last about
twenty-five minutes. These services
won't appear online.

St Mildred's, Tenterden Online services,
will be found at YouTube and also can
be accessed through our free daily
bulletin, **Connect Up!** To receive
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www.tentroxchurches.co.uk, and
subscribe.





THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN TENTERDEN, ROTHER AND OXNEY

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

Forest Church is back!

A **family service** of prayer and readings; plus the opportunity to roast a marshmallow or two!

Please come and join us on -

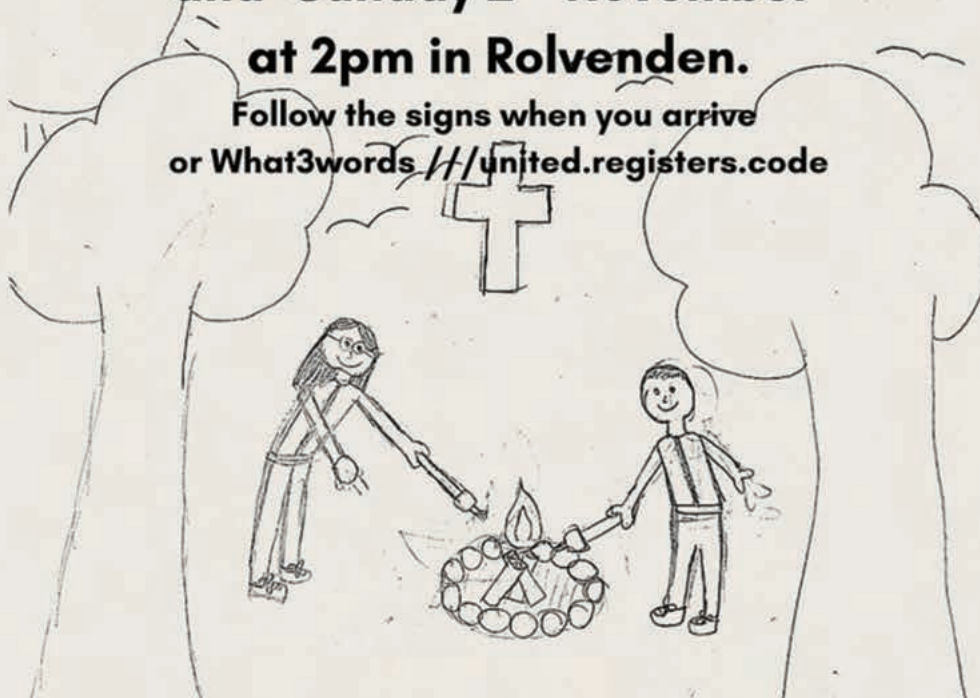
Sunday 7th September

Sunday 12th October

and Sunday 2nd November

at 2pm in Rolvenden.

Follow the signs when you arrive
or What3words [///united.registers.code](https://www.what3words.com/united.registers.code)



Have your say on Forest Church.
Use the QR Code or URL to give feedback!

<https://forms.gle/Y86U8CXSizNrxREbA>

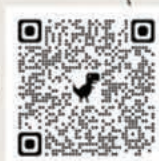


Illustration by Harriet

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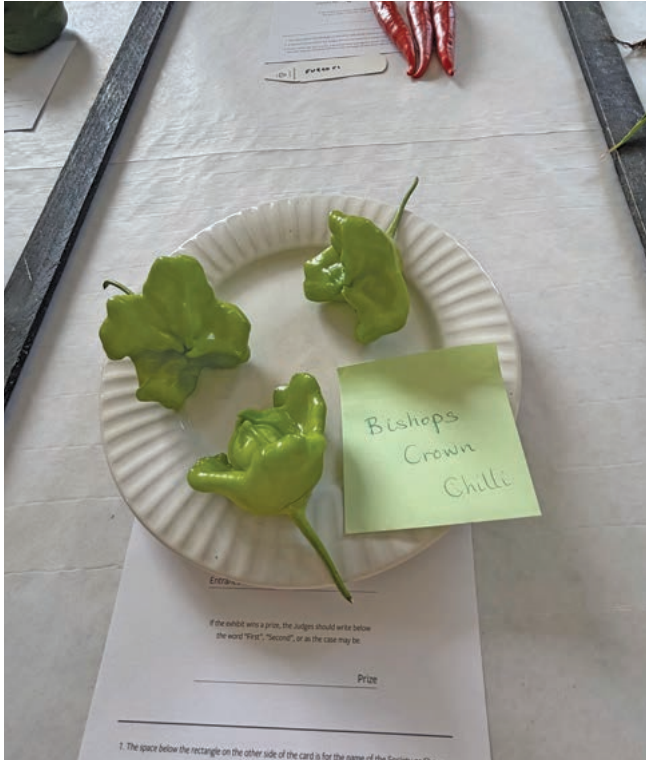




Rolvenden Gardening Society



Autumn Show



This was held in Rolvenden Village Hall on Saturday, 6th September. Checking last year's report for the same show, I noted that the weather had also been very wet leading up to the show; consequently we were not holding out much hope for a good show but members came up trumps and we had 161 exhibits from twenty members, the highest number since 2019!

Inevitably, some classes had more entries than others; in the veg section there were seven entries each for the beetroot and runner beans and eight for the small tomatoes. There were also amazing displays of larger tomatoes and onions, but sadly no cabbage or raspberries. There were notable exhibits of cooking apples and veg boxes too. One outstanding entry was Bill Burvill's Bishop's Crown Chilli which was unusual as it was a lime green colour and flat. Bill also exhibited some wonderful shallots which were all beautifully displayed and even in size.

There were many floral displays too in all classes which made for a colourful show. Despite the weather, the dahlia classes had several entries as did the roses and fuchsias. Jan Gambier won the popular vote with an arrangement of Autumn flowers and foliage. There were several pot plants of various kinds and beautiful flowers in the "any other flower" section, most notably Cathy Stern's



beautiful alstroemeria and Michael Clout's gorgeous gladioli. Although a bit out of season, there were a few pretty arrangements for the Christmas table centrepiece and Marilyn Gower came first in this class.

There were quite a few entries in the cookery section and here Cynthia Crowley did well, entering four of the classes. There was just one jar of green tomato chutney which was entered by Jean Clifton and looked very tasty.

Congratulations too to Luigi Serra for coming first in the men's class with his orange fudge.

The preschool entered the Autumn Wreath Children's Class and there were some imaginative entries. Well done here to:-

First - Milo: Second - Meka: Third - Ottilie.

Also well done in the older children's group class to April Gaffuri for a first with her autumn wreath and a first for Albert Gaffuri with his picture of a Christmas tree.

The raffle was called by John Walters with help from Daisy Tompsett. Several tickets had been sold by Jean and Ian Clifton and over £160 made for the funds. Sue Clout and Jan Gambier then announced the prize winners. They also thanked the committee and others for their help in setting up the hall, the ladies under Gill Pooley for making the tea, Jean and Ian for running the raffle and everyone for coming along to support the show or enjoy a cup of tea and a chat with friends.

The top 3 prize winners were:-

- **First** - Bill Burvill- ten firsts, two seconds, one third
- **Second** - Jean Clifton- five firsts, two seconds, six thirds
- **Third** - Richard Coleman:- four firsts, six seconds, two thirds

Future Events:-

1. Our Autumn meal on Saturday, 25th October at the Bull, Rolvenden. Details will be sent to members.
2. Our A.G.M. at 2pm in Rolvenden Village Hall on Thursday, 20th November. Do come along and enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of cake. Please note that it is in the afternoon.

Maralyn Button

N	I	G
R	E	A
D	N	K

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.



All at Sea Under Sail

Anthony Dawson recently discovered a handwritten memoir by Ralph Goodacre his grandfather, born 22nd June, 1876 describing his early life in the navy.

Chapter 1

It was hinted to me that people would be interested in details of sea life in sail, in the 1890s and this I will try to give.

The tea clippers of earlier date had been superseded by steamships, then came the heavier, bigger sailing ships, built for carrying large cargoes. Speed was not reduced, or hardly at all. These ships were generally chartered for long voyages.

Sea life in those days was generally very routine. The long voyage began with a shaking down, and it was often a very definite shaking up. Take a voyage to India. The beginning meant very varied weather according to the time of year, as the ship sailed southward and at about 25 degrees latitude, the north-east trade winds were gladly encountered. These winds would carry the ship on to about three degrees north, where the weather and a steady breeze could be expected until the doldrums. Sometimes these doldrums were short and ships were affected by south-east trade winds after heavy rain. At other times, the doldrums seemed to be never ending. These were very trying occasions. Heavy rain alternated with merciless hot sunshine. On some occasions, many ships in sight of one another would be waiting for wind to carry them south or north, as the case might be. Eventually, the ships did get away into the trade winds and a comfortable routine began again.

St Helena, in the Atlantic, was a favourite port of call for sailing ships. The little boats came out from the island in large numbers, and the islanders clambered aboard. They had fruit and vegetables for sale and very acceptable these additional foods were to the salt and turned food of a long voyage. Some money changed hands, but for the most part, it was tobacco and clothing exchanged.

The India bound ship would continue to seek favourable winds, and would sail well west of the Cape and into the time-honoured Roaring Forties. There a westerly wind blows all the year round. Sometimes very severe gales are encountered. The weather is cold and cheerless.





In trying to picture life at sea in those days, one has to remember that day and night the crew were watch and watch. A few such as bosun, carpenter, cook, etc, were on day duty. When the captain ordered the calling out of all hands, it meant all hands. One must remember that there was always a man at the wheel, and at night, one in the lookout. Every half hour, the bells were struck by an apprentice. The mate was in charge of starboard watch and the second mate the port watch, and they, in their turn, had their eyes aloft, watching for change to wind and weather; sending men aloft was deemed necessary, always on the lookout.

Now to start a more or less normal day's work, say the port watch are on 4 to 8am duty and cook and day men are called at 5:30am and all except watch below get their coffee and are ready to work at four bells, when the decks are washed and scrubbed, a seaman is told off to give his forecastle a clean out. One apprentice does the half decks at seven bells, 7.20, and the watch below is called for wash and breakfast at eight bells, eight o'clock, when starboard watch receive and take over from the mate.

Now, the mate tells off the hands for various duties. Of course, the mate has already mapped out a list of rope to be renewed, being in consultation with the captain probably the yards need turning and all hands who do the job before watch go below for breakfast.

Anthony Dawson

To be continued

Rolvenden Churchyard has a new bench...

...ready and waiting for passers-by to take a rest, near the north porch, looking down the High Street. The brass plate announces the bench is placed here in loving memory of Beryl, Arthur, Martin and Paul Mulot.



Beryl and Arthur moved into the Layne in 1994 and rapidly became involved in the community – the School, Gardening Society, and for Beryl, the WI. Arthur was the chauffeur for Beryl and friends who did not drive. They belonged to that generation who believed in supporting community life and being good neighbours. Their sons, Martin and Paul, both predeceased them.

St Mary's PCC is most grateful to Carol Harrison, their daughter, for providing and installing this bench.

Judy V



Slow Boat to Bodiam

On the 19th July I visited the wonderful meadow in Newenden created by Jillian and her small band of helpers. Apart from seeing bees and butterflies, which have decided to take up residence in this great place, I also won a raffle prize. This was a voucher for The Lime Wharf Cafe and Boating Station and that is how this journey came about.

My husband and I were fortunate enough to take a trip up the river to Bodiam Castle. Alan, our skipper, took us on the Dannie Lee at a leisurely speed avoiding the paddle boarders and kayaks whilst informing us of the wildlife and plants along the banks. We were also so lucky to see this family of swans including one white cygnet which is a rare sight.

After a short stop at Bodiam, we meandered back to Newenden watching the swallows and dragonflies. What a wonderful relaxing journey on a warm afternoon.

There followed a superb late lunch, excellent food, well trained staff and great atmosphere. We had a scrumptious lamb dish, I can't remember what it was called. The prices are very competitive, and we will definitely go there again.

All in all, a truly memorable afternoon.

Gill Pooley



Weather and Nature Notes

Occasionally I have measured low single digit amounts of rain, for example 6.5mm in July 2022 and 4mm in April 2021, but this August looked as though it was going to beat them until 21mm of rain arrived in the last few days of the month. September started with plenty of showers to try and dodge, the welcome rains have topped up my little ponds and given the countryside a visible lift after weeks of drought and heat.

As I write strong winds are testing trees' that are still in full leaf as summer has made way for autumn it feels - I hope there is no damage. A few months of water reserves running low has led trees to go into a false autumn shedding some leaves as a method of balancing the amount of foliage they can still maintain to photosynthesise on a small amount of water.

The dry weather has not been all bad news, there was good fruit set of all kinds from hedgerow berries to orchard fruit that have then grown on well considering how dry it has been. Butterfly numbers have been up, as well as other insects which is beneficial to other wildlife, although if the drought shrivels up caterpillar food plants that will not be helpful, especially for ones that rely on only a specific sort of plant. The sweet little butterfly in the picture is a Small Copper, they can be seen on and off in ones or twos from about May,



but I find September the best time to see them. They are particularly attracted to Michaelmas daisies and Sedums where you will find them feeding, basking and flitting from flower to flower. Their caterpillars are fairly specific with their food choice of sorrels and sometimes dock, another butterfly that would not grace our gardens without "weeds".

A butterfly caught my eye the other day at work that instantly did not look right, even with only a quick glimpse, it was a rare aberration of a Red Admiral - hen's teeth! The red parts were the palest pinkish white so its general overall appearance was just blackish and white, with noticable spots on the base of the rear wing. I have admired plenty of these butterflies over the years sipping nectar from flowers or juices from fallen fruits but never seen one showing any difference. I gently approached to try and get a closer look to see it in detail but it flew off and annoyingly I could not find it again, and doubly annoying as I would have liked to get a photo.

I have noticed in the last few years along various verges sprinkles of pretty blue flowers appearing amongst the other vegetation. It is wild chicory, a perennial found as a wild flower but these will have blown in having farmland origins. It is a useful plant for farmers. Having a long tap root gives the plant drought tolerance and the ability to draw up nutrients from deep in the soil, and also to break up compacted soil. The leaves make good fodder and can reduce worms



in sheep, the flowers are also good for pollinators. The root makes a coffee substitute as used in Camp coffee essence, but I just grow a few plants in a sunny border as it is an informal undemanding plant with a long flowering period in which to appreciate the lovely shade of blue.

I have encountered a few more wasps this year, but as I have said before, unless they are really in a place that could cause a safety issue in the garden, I leave them be. Their usefulness was demonstrated when I was given an unwanted house plant that on closer inspection was riddled with stubborn scale insects and whitefly. I left it in the garden for some recuperation, rather like a Victorian city dweller 'going to take the sea air'. The honeydew that the whitefly exuded soon attracted some local wasps, and a week or so later when I looked the scale insect had gone along with the whitefly, it now looks much better for its holiday and help from the clean-up crew.

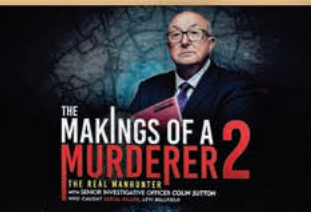
Hazel Beaney



Harry The Piano
8 October



Sherlock Holmes: The
Hunt For Moriarty
10 & 11 October



The Real
Manhunter
17 October



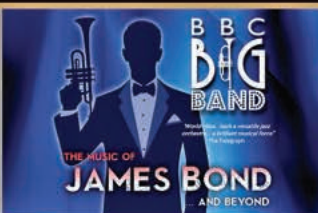
Spot's
Birthday Party
23 & 24 October



London Concertante
Four Seasons
30 October



Blazin' Fiddles
9 November



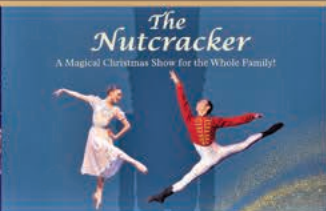
The BBC
Big Band
22 November



Jess Gillam
11 December



Lost in Music
12 December



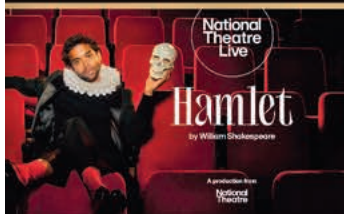
The Nutcracker
13 December



Faulty Towers
Dining Experience
13 & 14 December



The Philharmonia Brass
at Christmas
19 December



NT Live
Hamlet
25 January



The Nat King Cole
Story
13 February



Ben Fogle
23 February



Attention
All Shipping
26 February

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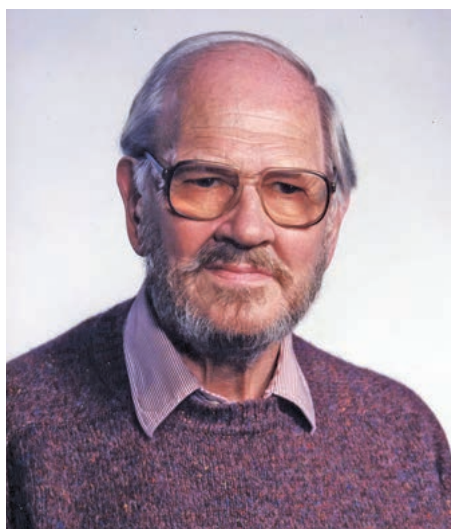
Richard Beattie Davis' Seventeenth Hospice Recital Goal of £20,000 Exceeded!



Florian Verweij and Leslie Howard

Another wonderful recital was held in Sandhurst when the Dutch pianist, Florian Verweij, honoured us with his presence. The recital featured an interesting mix of Beethoven, Schubert, Chopin and a charming early work by Prokofiev. Of course, Henselt was required and this was topped off by a Glazunov duet with our guest performer, Leslie Howard. He was even heard to say that he might come back and perform a Liszt recital, for which he is the world specialist!

We received a glowing review from Christopher Woodley in the Kent Courier: *As a coda to the proceedings Verweij was joined by Howard for duet arrangements of three pieces from Glazunov's ballet 'Raymonda'. What a treat that was! One of the great pianists of our time honouring the memory of Richard Beattie Davis.*



Richard Beattie Davis

I had been quite concerned because so many people are away in August. However, I have a faithful audience and some new ones joined us. The weather even co-operated and we were able to have fruit juice outside.

And now for the financial side – I started these classical music recitals seventeen years ago when I asked Daniel Grimwood to play a concert for friends to raise money for the Hospice in the Weald, where Richard was cared for so wonderfully. Now it has grown into a marvellous force for good and pleasure. I am thrilled to announce that we started August with £19,856 and ended with £20,632

What will be our next goal? Watch this space for 2026 dates!

Gillian Davis



FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD!

Pumpkins and Squash



Pumpkin and squash belong to the same plant family along with courgettes, cucumbers, gourds and melons. Botanically a pumpkin is a fruit but they are usually treated as a vegetable in cooking. Every part of the pumpkin is edible, skin, leaves, flowers and the stem.

Pumpkins are thought to have originated in Central America over seven thousand years ago. There is archaeological evidence that indigenous people in the Southern States and Mexico cultivated pumpkins as one of the "Three Sisters" crops along with corn and beans. These early pumpkins were smaller and more bitter than the ones we have today. They were an important food source due to their nutritional content and long shelf life. When it comes to nutrition, they are packed with goodness. They are rich in vitamin A, from the beta-carotene, supporting vision, immune health, and skin; they also contain vitamins C, E and several B vitamins. They are high in antioxidants helping to neutralise the effects of free radicals and reducing oxidative stress.

Pumpkin is a great choice for weight control as it is filling but low in calories.

The fibre, potassium and vitamin C which they contain all support heart health and help regulate blood pressure and reduce cholesterol. The high vitamin A and C content boosts the body's immune system response which is especially beneficial during the winter months. The seeds are packed with protein, healthy fats, magnesium, zinc and



antioxidants which contribute to better sleep and cardiovascular health. During the sixteenth century, European explorers came across them and brought the seeds back with them. They quickly became popular across Europe. The name pumpkin comes from the Greek word *pepon* which means large melon, evolving into *pompon* in French, *pumpion* in English and finally to *pumpkin* in America.

Although pumpkins and squashes are closely related, they are not exactly the same. Pumpkins are usually round and orange but can vary. They are typically associated with autumn. The flavour is mildly sweet and earthy. Probably best known for carving lanterns at Hallowe'en but are good in pies and soups.

There are many varieties of squash, courgette, yellow squash and patty pan which are harvested in the summer and are tender skinned. Butternut, acorn, spaghetti, kabocha are harvested later so are more mature and have harder skins.

China produces the most pumpkins and is the largest consumer globally followed by India. Although we produce pumpkins commercially, mainly in Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire, we also import around 86,000 tons a year, major suppliers being Spain, Morocco and South Africa.

Amongst gardeners there is always fierce competition to grow the largest pumpkin. In 2024 one weighed in at the Malvern Autumn Show at an incredible 2,749 lbs. They can grow a staggering 50 lbs a day according to the two brothers who grew it.

When it comes to cooking it is very versatile being used in both sweet and savoury dishes. One of the most well-known is pumpkin pie which is an essential part of American Thanksgiving. Here are some other ideas.

Soup, which I make with garlic and ginger, or add almonds, orange zest and use nutmeg instead of ginger for a subtle flavour. Butter bean and pumpkin risotto. It is excellent in a curry, I like prawns in it too. Pumpkin cake with amaretti, muffins or pumpkin bread which is similar to banana bread, so quick and easy to make. Finally, how about pumpkin and ginger jam, or pumpkin and cranberry jam which would make a good homemade Christmas present.

Lavinia Probyn





Green Lanes and Shearways - The Shepherd's Ways



Ben, dressed for work rather than a run, with Eddy and Jill. In next month's mag, Ben will be going through the Shepherd's year

What is a 'shear way'? was the question that Judy asked me to explore. Ben Tompsett very kindly agreed to talk with me about them in his calendar gap between lambing and apple picking. One warm evening in August, with the bats flickering past at the edge of vision and Zebedee - the puppy nibbling at the edge of the map, Ben showed me some of these 'shear ways', ancient green lanes - now byways, leading to grazing.

Before the banks of the Newmill Channel were raised as part of improved flood defences, grazing land on the marsh could only be used in the summer months. Now the marsh is dry for much of the year unless there is a really big downpour and then the banks will burst in places.

All the small farms would probably have owned two or three fields on the marsh so the green lanes were the rights of way to their fields. Freizingham has a lane to the marsh; the line of trees either side of the green lane are still evident. Green lanes are of great antiquity. (In sixteenth century wills, mention is made of land on the marshes being used.)

Most of the old byways are green lanes and are marked on today's OS maps. There is a lane by Cherry Gardens off the A28, one by Puddingcake leading towards the Newmill Channel grazing. This old byway goes down towards the marsh. Mount's Lane shows signs of erosion, a way worn down by centuries of footfalls and weather – Rolvenden was a back land where they used to move the pigs. At Dingleden there is a byway; there is also Stepneyford Lane that becomes Green Lane that runs from beside the entrance to Hole Park to East End of Benenden. Off this road there is the Roman Road that goes through the woods. Ben's running hobby has meant he has explored these routes and this is one of his favourites. The remote locations, the peace and the beauty of the Weald are great attractions.



As you read this, think of Ben, with his lunch and Jill, his Huntaway dog, looking out towards Sandhurst windmill before returning to tending to his flock. A shepherd doing his work, a centuries old occupation.

Thanks are due to Ben Tompsett for providing insights into the beauties of this Wealden landscape with its dense system of radiating droveways, often narrow, deeply sunken, edged with trees, hedges, wild-flower-rich verges and boundary banks.

More information can be found under Rolvenden on <https://highweald.org/document-library/parish-information>
Sue Hatt



Rolvenden Rowers

On Saturday 30th August a group of seventeen parents and members of the community took on the exhilarating challenge of the Dragon Boat Race at Bewl Water to raise vital funds for Rolvenden Primary School.

The team each contributed towards the cost of the boat hire allowing all sponsorship money raised to benefit the school.

The day began with a quick lesson and safety briefing before we took part in the first of our three races that day. The course is 650 metres long, our first race went well with a time of 1.07, but we knew we could improve. After a few adjustments on seating positions, we waited for our next race. This was a vast improvement coming in on 51 seconds! Our third and final race was 57 seconds. Not bad considering fifteen of the seventeen of us had never taken part in anything like this before!

Overall the day was so much fun for everyone, a great challenge, and we raised lots of money along the way.

Thank you to everyone who supported us and sponsored the team.
We raised an amazing £2000.

Bex Page - Team Captain - Rolvenden Rowers



Preserving the Past:

Your Heritage Nominations Needed for the Rolvenden Neighbourhood Development Plan



As we look to the future of our village through the updated Rolvenden Neighbourhood Development Plan, we're also turning our attention to something equally important - our past. Heritage isn't just about grand listed buildings and stately

homes (though we value those too!). It's also about the familiar features, hidden gems, and well-loved places that quietly shape the character and story of our community.

Whether you've lived here for decades or recently arrived and fallen in love with the charm of Rolvenden and Rolvenden Layne, you've likely noticed special places or features that give the village its unique identity.

These might be:

- A building showing a good example of distinctive local characteristics or construction
- An old or rare building with few surviving examples of its kind
- A weathered milestone at the edge of a lane
- A public bench that marks a local tradition, event or gathering spot
- An historic orchard, gatepost, bridge, or even a signpost
- A landmark with strong communal or historical association
- A garden, structure or buildings with significant historical association of local or national note, perhaps with links to important figures
- A viewpoint or green space used and loved by generations
- Records that enhance the historic interest of an asset

While many heritage assets in our area are already designated and protected - such as listed buildings - there are others that are just as meaningful but not officially recognised. These are known as 'undesigned heritage assets', and they can still play a vital role in planning decisions, helping ensure development is carried out sensitively and with respect for local history and culture.

Your Knowledge Can Make a Difference

As part of the process of updating the Neighbourhood Plan, the Steering Group are looking to compile a Local Heritage Asset List, and are inviting residents and visitors alike to nominate assets they believe should be considered.





If you know of a building, site, or feature in the village that holds historic, architectural, or community significance, we'd love to hear from you. Your knowledge could play a vital role in helping the Steering Committee protect and celebrate the places that make our village unique.

This is your chance to speak up for those features and places that matter to you—however big or small they may seem.

What to Include in Your Nomination:



If you'd like to suggest a heritage asset, please try to include as much of the following as you can:

- Type of asset (e.g. building, structure, landscape, monument, sign, open space)
- Brief description
- Approximate age or historical era (if known)
- Current or historical use (e.g. domestic, agricultural, recreational, religious)
- Location (address or postcode, if known)
- Any known ownership or occupancy details (where appropriate)

By nominating a heritage asset, you're helping to ensure that future development in Rolvenden and Rolvenden Layne reflects and respects the history, beauty, and stories of our village. This is our chance to leave a thoughtful legacy for future generations—rooted in what we love and value today.

So please, take a moment, have a think, and let us know: What places in our village do you think are worth preserving and celebrating?

Ian Bray

on behalf of Rolvenden Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee

How to Submit a Nomination

There are three simple ways to let us know:

- Online: Fill in the Heritage section of the Rolvenden Neighbourhood Development Plan Survey (available on the Rolvenden Parish Council website <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Rolvenden1>)
- Paper Form: Collect a survey form from either St Mary's Church, Rolvenden or one of the Village Pubs where the Neighbourhood Development Plan is displayed
- Email: rnpresponses@gmail.com



August Bank Holiday Flower Festival & Art Exhibition Review

Well, what a lovely weekend to look back on...

and the weather was exceptional!

Heartfelt thanks to all who planned and participated in the Festival, to produce a great community event for everyone to enjoy... and St Mary's PCC is very grateful for this support for our fundraising, this support for our fundraising, amounting to an impressive £4995!

Just to mention a few names in particular: Thank you Jan Gambier for organising the Art and Craft, Sue Dyer for planning and overseeing the Refreshments, Jess Simpson for sourcing the Raffle Prizes, Sue Hatt for organising the Bookstall, William Barham for all round support and Finance, Trevor Lodge for all the Printing and Judy Vinson for our Festival Songs of Praise.

The generosity of the Flower Arrangers is appreciated so much as they give their time, talent and flowers to produce unique arrangements to delight our visitors.

To hear live music performed in church over the weekend was a real treat, and we are so fortunate to have dedicated musicians who give their gift of music for our delight.

And of course, thank you to all our happy band of volunteers, who help set up and take down displays and stands, put out sign boards, bunting, move furniture, set up and decorate refreshment tables; then help behind the various stalls and in the kitchen, or welcome visitors to church... it cannot happen without you, nor our visitors who come from near and far.

It has been great, so maybe we should put the date in the diary for next year! Jan Gambier is in full agreement, adding: 'In the Village Hall, the sale of paintings, craft and particularly greeting cards showed an unexpected increase from last year.

Everyone worked very hard to achieve this success, so very many thanks again to all our helpers. We plan to do it all again next year with some additional attractions.'

*Thank you,
Sylvia Kellett*





Rolvenden History Group

Friday, 3 October 2025

‘Founding America: Robert Cushman and the Mayflower’

Martin Crowther

Learn about Robert Cushman, his Kentish links, the perilous Mayflower voyage and the early years of the Plimoth Plantation.



Martin Crowther is an historian and Heritage Learning Consultant. He was also involved in the Reawakening the Maison Dieu Project in Dover.

Venue: St Mary's Church, Rolvenden

Coffee and biscuits

7.15 pm for the lecture which starts at 7.30pm

Everyone welcome - Non-members: £4

<https://therolvendenhistorygroup.wordpress.com/>)



Rolvenden Pre-school Report



Rolvenden Pre-School hit the ground running in September with a new member of staff joining the team for two days per week and a handful of new children starting with us, in addition to those returning after the summer break. We do still have spaces for more children to join us so do spread the word!

The current economic climate is making it harder and harder to maintain our small village pre-school, and staff continue to work hard to deliver the best care and education in these challenging times. We will be looking for your support to keep us going - please look out for our fundraising activities and consider joining the committee at our next AGM (in November) if you are able to help.

We are excited to announce our second annual Hallowe'en Fundraiser on Monday, 27th October 2025. This will be held at pre-school, with pick your own pumpkins in the garden, fun games, craft and refreshments available indoors. Keep an eye on Facebook for more details nearer the time.

Meanwhile, the children are busy exploring autumn in the garden, around the village and indoors with a variety of activities from sensory play and construction to craft and role play. There is plenty to capture their imaginations and boost their development through exploration and shared play. We see our children growing and progressing day by day through all that we do - in both the mindful routines and rhythms of the day and also the new experiences and challenges provided through a stimulating environment.

We still have some spaces available for the coming year and would welcome any interested families getting in touch with us and coming for a visit. You can email us at rolvendenps@gmail.com or call us on 07729718181. Follow us on Facebook @rolvendenpreschool to see more of what we get up to each week.



Duck Exclusive

By The Newenden Special Duck Correspondent

I had stowed the old notebook and pencil away, knowing the flock was tucked up safely for the next nine months in Newenden. That was before the Under-Duck Keeper came up to me quietly and murmured:

'I've got a story about Duck 296... with photos!
You interested?'



Interested?! Something on this year's winning duck!... the notebook was retrieved, pencil poised.

Here is the story: Following verification of the Sponsor, Duck 296 had accidentally been scooped up with the sponsorship lists after the race and taken home in a Jempson's carrier bag. It was a few days before he was found and transferred to a small backpack to be returned to the main flock at the next Friends of St Peter's meeting.

He was still there when the UDK completed the last-minute packing for a short holiday to celebrate a grandchild's exam results. 296 found himself joined by a passport, a pocket sized 'Useful Phrase Book for travels in France', two wallets for two currencies, and a whole lot more - in fact he was very well hidden and was not found until train tickets had to be retrieved from the bag, by which time the party was through the tunnel and the Eurostar was making good time for Paris.

The ticket inspector became very excited: Le canard plastique, formidable! Was Madame going to visit Le Paris Duck Store, the most eccentric shop in Paris! All of the ducks, all 350 versions, designed with love, made of high-quality materials and, of course, CE approved.

Fortunately, at that moment the food trolley arrived, forcing the ticket inspector to move on before he had time to ask if he could verify 296's CE mark of compliance with goodness knows what regulations. But the decision was made, 296 would remain out of the bag and one of the party's destinations would have to be Le Paris Duck Store.

The trip was a huge success. 296 proved a great icebreaker with waiters in café's and restaurants, with fellow passengers on the metro and even with the information assistant at the Louvre. No-one was in the least bothered about CE



regulations or any other sort of paperwork. Those who had longer conversations seemed genuinely pleased to have made the acquaintance of Le Champion de Nage Sauvage, which was how the Annual Duck Race was finally translated.

And 296, having gazed through the window of the amazing shop for quite a time, has come home with many ideas about how the flock might spruce itself up for next year's race.

The UDK takes a keen interest in building up flock esteem. She has confided in me previously that she believes the keepers miss a useful opportunity by not doing something to honour the winning duck. We will see just how far this year's dose of honouring has gone when the flock tumbles into the river next year.

A small warning from me to the keepers. Don't raise expectations too high. I did a search online for other Duck Shops and found the original Shop was in Chatham. That would be easier to get to I thought, and no regulatory considerations...until I looked at the last line of the address, Cape Cod Massachusetts!

Special Duck Correspondent



Monypenny News

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Firstly, a BIG thank you to all who supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning on 26th September, and to all of you who made the day possible with your generosity and kindness on the day and with online donations. By the time you read this we will know the total raised for Macmillan Cancer Research. It would be great, but not essential, if we beat last year's total. Check this page in the next issue for details.



Monypenny Redevelopment Proposals

We are waiting now for a directive from ABC to confirm the future of Monypenny Residents. Our Online Campaign, (now nearing eight hundred signatures) together with pressure from many sources, has resulted in a delay of the planning application being submitted by ABC, and assurance that the alternative proposals for the redevelopment submitted by residents, will be paramount in any decisions made. Now we have to be patient and await any



decision, hopefully within a reasonable timescale.

Activities Through the Summer

Our Sunflower Competition was won by resident Joy Fenwick, pictured on previous page, grew the tallest sunflower reaching a height of 2.2m. It was a very close call, with all entrants flowers achieving 2m in height. (see picture)

During the Summer Months, our Hanging Baskets planted by residents have produced a colourful display, attracting many comments from visitors, even now they continue to bloom, lovingly tended by residents Sue and Pam ensuring their longevity until the end of summer. Thanks also to residents Rita and her son Adrian for pruning the lavender plants to ensure a continued display next year.

We have all enjoyed some themed dinners, prepared by Toni ILO and our housekeeper, Julie. American Independence Day Lunch and a picnic lunch were the chosen themes and both were well attended.

Trips

We had another Trip to Eastbourne on 23 September and a trip to Hollywood Bowling in Tun-Wells in October. The latter still has a few seats left if anyone is interested? This trip will be in the newly acquired Wealden Wheels ELECTRIC MINIBUS.

As Winter beckons, we are restarting our indoor activities

Every Thursday we have New Age Curling in Monypenny Lounge followed by optional Fish 'n' Chips, come and give it a try! 3pm Start.

Our film night starts in October with a brand new projector/DVD purchased from Social Club Funds.

Weekly Breakfasts on a Thursday, a monthly lunch and our (open to all) Wednesday afternoon tea and cakes at 2 pm continues to be popular.

Forthcoming Events

Friday, 31st October our Hallowe'en party. This is open to the general public and promises to be a great evening. Tickets £5 each, bring your own drinks. Ticket price includes: food, singer and entertainment.

Fancy Dress COMPULSORY!

(Just a mask will suffice though!) Monypenny Lounge will be appropriately decorated for the evening Don't miss it!

FOR TICKETS Contact Toni Burke. ILO. 01580-241526.

COMING SOON: October/November.

Open to the public. WINE TASTING EVENING! details to follow.

Graham Tiltman



Introducing Open the Book



Open the Book is a long running project to ensure children hear the major stories of the Bible. It uses the Lion Storyteller Bible very definitely written for the enjoyment of primary school children. This is a major resource for the weekly assembly I take in school each Thursday. But the project comes with a more ambitious idea: the stories can be enacted by a team of volunteers in costumes with props and, when called for, with some of the children joining in.

This we achieve once a month through term time thanks to the dedicated Open the Book team: Sylvia, Jenny, Elizabeth, Marilyn and Sarah. On those Thursdays School comes to church and the team, rehearsed, attired, brandishing interesting props is ready and waiting. If children are to participate, there is a short pause whilst they are costumed, stage directions given and, if there is to be speaking, lines are given out. And off we go.

Parables of the Prodigal son the good Samaritan and the five wise and the five foolish young girls have all been brought to life. The wedding at Cana, the feeding of the 5000 and the raising of Lazarus have been staged. Some of the Old Testament stories raise particular challenges: a burning bush, the sea divided, the walls of Jericho falling down. It is amazing what you can do with cardboard, crepe paper, bamboo canes and an audience that is happy to use its imagination.

When stories call for sound effects or crowd reaction everyone joins in prompted by hand signals from the narrator or the holding up of prompt boards with the biblical equivalent of 'He's behind you!' Wind, rain, marching feet, a flock of cawing ravens, or gasps of 'Oh no!' are provided with collective enthusiasm.

One of the features of a Rolvenden assembly is the matching of the Bible stories to the school's Create Values, values of creativity, resilience, engagement, aspiration, teamwork and enjoyment. The children are asked to identify which values they have seen playing a part in the story: Which of the create values was going to be most important for Joeeph, Noah, Jesus, Peter, the Samaritan? The answer are always perceptive and show just how much attention has been paid to each story.

The OTB team would probably tell you that for them the values they find of special relevance are creativity, teamwork and enjoyment. Marilyn, our wardrobe and props supremo, would probably add aspiration and resilience. We just know she works miracles.

Judy V



Rolvenden Parish Council Report



Members were delighted that MP Katie Lam was able to attend the last Parish Council meeting. MP Katie Lam gave a little insight into her role. MP Katie Lam has been assisting with a number of parish issues including Monypenny and several members of the public thanked her for her ongoing support.

At the last meeting Members were pleased to hear that ABC had intended to submit a planning application by now for redeveloping Monypenny but have delayed doing this to reconsider what could be done to reduce the impact that any redevelopment would have on the residents. ABC is exploring whether this is the right time to redevelop Monypenny and the option to 'do nothing' is definitely being considered. ABC needs to thoroughly assess the condition of the current building to forecast the cost of the required maintenance over the next few years to assess whether any redevelopment project could be delayed. ABC is also reviewing whether phasing the redevelopment is possible, thereby avoiding the need for most residents to move twice.

ABC has also started the process of assessing what could fit onto the Vicarage site on its own, separately from Monypenny. ABC is also still considering what might be feasible in terms of rehoming residents at Glebe Field and technical surveys are currently being conducted. If ABC can build new bungalows on this site, it would potentially help with temporarily rehoming residents if the decision is to redevelop Monypenny.

Just a reminder that ABC is now consulting on the draft Local Plan (known as a Regulation 18 consultation). The consultation is open for eight weeks until 13 October 2025. ABC are inviting local communities to have their say on the Council's proposed direction of travel for a number of key planning issues. Have your say at: <https://haveyoursay.ashford.gov.uk/draft-lp42-consultation>.

Please do get in touch if you have any questions or suggestions for the Parish Council.

Louise Goldsmith, Parish Clerk,
email: clerk@rolvendenparishcouncil.gov.uk
Tel: 07900 693572



Rolvenden Neighbourhood Watch

October 2025

Our focus this month is: wildlife crime, catapulting/anti-social behaviour, e-scooters, rural theft, and fraud awareness



Summary & recent incidents

Continue to watch for wildlife crime, catapulting, riding of e-scooters on roads/pavements and rural theft - stolen farm and other equipment. Take photos/videos and report evidence to the police. I attended the Tenterden police surgery in August (catapulting is an issue) and the police sergeant and Ashford NHW rep attended and spoke at Rolvenden Parish Council meeting on 21 August 25. Katie Lam was made aware of rural crime.

Please sign these petitions click on the links/type them into a search engine then share with friends/family:

- **Ban the use of catapults to protect wildlife:** <https://chnng.it/hGgWNX584cn>
<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/end-catapult-cruelty>



1. Cat owners be vigilant: the RSPCA warns cat owners of attacks

The RSPCA is urging cat owners to be extra vigilant after new figures show pets are increasingly being targeted with airguns and catapults. You can read the full article on the BBC news website:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c0r70q0z1j7o>

2. Scams and fraud to be aware of

Employment fraud: you are offered a job through social media/messaging apps claiming they can make you rich quickly with high salaries and the need to pay a high upfront payment and provide personal information (bank details/photocopy of driving license/passport). Genuine companies do not generally contact you from an email address. Be suspicious if no face-to-face/video interview.

Courier fraud: criminals phone and impersonate your bank or police officers saying your bank cards have been involved in a scam and they need to collect them. Criminals posing as couriers will then collect your cards. Your bank will never phone you requesting your cards/the police will never ask for financial details on the phone.

Investment scams: celebrity endorsements – too good to be true investments endorsed by celebrities. Seek financial advice first and speak to friends/family. Mis-sold car finance: criminals pretending to be car finance lenders falsely





stating that you are owed compensation for mis-sold car finance requesting personal information (name/address/date of birth) to assist with making a claim.

Parking charge notice: trick you into handing over money for a parking infringement you didn't commit.

Rogue traders: a good rule of thumb is to get three quotations in writing for work to be carried out (e.g. roofing, building work etc).

Parcel thefts: track your parcel to ensure you are at home for delivery or arrange for your parcel to be delivered to a trusted neighbour. Also, install a video doorbell, security lights or use an off-site locker service for frequent deliveries/expensive items. These parcel boxes are more likely to be in busy locations such as supermarkets.

EE scam: fraudsters state they failed to take payment of your direct debit and your service will be put on hold.

British Gas impersonation email: state you have an overdue bill and you need to click on the link.

Winter fuel payment: you receive a dodgy text stating you are eligible and ask for personal/financial information

Don't click on any links you receive in emails, texts, through social media, pause and make checks!

If you think you've been a victim of these or any other scam, contact your Bank immediately, call 159/report it to Action Fraud: www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.

Reporting crime to the police

■ Serious crimes in progress dial 999, other incidents via 101 (phone) 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.

*Siân Reeves Rolvenden
Neighbourhood Watch*

.....

TENTERDEN & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB



The symbol of the links between
Professional and Business persons
within a circle of friendship

Did the item on Probus looking for new members in the September Magazine get your attention? And then did other things crowd in and the moment passed?

The Secretary will still be pleased to hear from you.

Contact him on probustenterden@yahoo.com

.....



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 14TH OCTOBER.

Note for distributors: ★ Rolvenden Magazines available for collection on Saturday 25th October. ★ Newenden Magazines available for collection on Sunday 26th 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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www.greatbarnweddings.com

info@greatbarnweddings.com

Hole Park Estate, Rolvenden, Kent

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 10am to noon.

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@themildredtrust.org or info@ec30.co.uk, phone 07745 694748

Emergencies only please call: 07805 840493

Community Fridge

Open in the entrance hall at the Leisure Centre seven days a week during centre opening hours. Community facility everyone welcome to donate surplus perishable food or to collect some. This reduces food waste and food insecurity. Details of acceptable donations are on the fridge: fresh perishable goods that are within the use-by date only. No fresh meat, butchery or fish.

Community Shop

Leisure Centre every Monday, 1.45-2.45pm. Freely available to ANYONE finding it hard to make ends meet. No eligibility criteria. Select groceries to the value of £20 and only pay £6. Cash only.

Old Schoolhouse Larder

Free non-perishable groceries, household and hygiene goods for families with children under the age of 18. Fresh bread, milk and vouchers for fruit and vegetables are often available. Tuesdays at Tenterden Leisure Centre from 5.15-6.15pm and The Family Hub, Recreation Ground Road on Fridays from 9.30-10.30am.

Regular Events

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 1:15 for 1:30pm
Groves Restaurant, Tenterden Garden Centre Reading St.

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/>

More than books to borrow



Library activities

- Baby Rhyme Time and Storytime on Tues 10am - 10:30am (term time)
- Creative Writing Group on Tues. 2pm – 4pm (term time)
- History Detectives Local History Group on Wednesday 2pm - 4pm (booking essential)
- Tea & Chat on Thursday 10:30am - 11:30am
- Reading Group meets monthly second Saturday, first meeting 10:30am – 11:30am and then 11:45am - 12:45pm
- IT Buddy help is available; please book with library
- Support for those setting up a Reading Groups

Other Services

- Free bookable public computers and Wi-Fi for your own device
- A4 B&W and colour printer
- A3 & A4 B&W and colour photocopier
- We accept completed ENTCS bus pass applications
- Meeting room for hire, please email library
- UK Online Centre ID 5110 access to the internet and help using it
- Registration Service – births and deaths. Call ~03000 41 51 51 to book appointment
- Santander Bank Thursday 9:30am – 1pm walk-in, 2pm – 5pm appointments

Telephone: 03000 41 31 31

E-mail: tenterdenlibrary@kent.gov.uk

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/libraries>

STOP!
THINK FRAUD



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

FRAUD!

SPOT IT AND STOP IT!



Calls claiming
to be the bank
or the police



Sudden claims
of suspicious
banking activity



Being asked
for PIN number
or passwords



Requests for bank
card or cash
as 'evidence'



Asked to purchase
high-end jewellery
and goods



'Couriers' sent
to collect card,
cash, or bank
details



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

STOP!
THINK FRAUD

**MORE
TRUST**

**LESS
CRIME**

**HIGH
STANDARDS**

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

Our parishes lie in the Parliamentary constituency of the Weald of Kent

Our MP is Katie Lam

Email: katie.lam.mp@parliament.uk

Office tel: 01580 388 344

Website: <https://www.katieforkent.com/>

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

11th November in St Peter's church.

ROLVENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

www.rolvendenparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Clerk: Mrs Louise Goldsmith,

5 Artisan Road, Headcorn, TN27 9AZ

Telephone: 07900 693572

email:

clerk@rolvendenparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Council will meet at

7:30pm 16th October

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.*

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