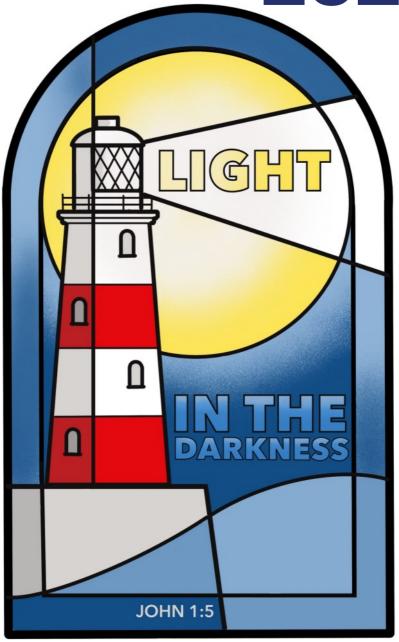


# **July 2024**





Design. Inspire. Indulge.



Book an appointment to visit our showroom to design your dream bathroom.

01732 350911 townsbathrooms.co.uk



# From the Church

## Summer Fair - Saturday 13th July

Summer is a season of warmth, sunshine, and delightful moments spent with loved ones. It is a time when communities come alive, and people gather to celebrate the joys of life. In the heart of our community, our church summer fair is an exciting event we look forward to at St John's.

First and foremost, the summer fair is a gathering that fosters a sense of belonging and unity within the community. It brings together people of different backgrounds, ages, and interests, breaking down barriers and creating connections. It is a place where neighbours can become friends, and new bonds are formed.

It is a celebration of the values that bind us together – love, compassion, and generosity. As the doors open and the event comes alive, there is an undeniable sense of excitement and anticipation in the air. The fair offers a plethora of activities for everyone to enjoy. Something for every age and interest.

Two events combined together on the same day.

Our model railway exhibition returns, open 10am – 3pm in the Church and Church Centre. Lots of working layouts, a trade stand, Meccano stand and a ride on Thomas the Tank Engine for little ones to enjoy

Our Summer Fair will run with the model railway and is for two hours only,

between 12pm and 2pm in the Church Centre car park the same day as the Model Railway Exhibition. We have crafts, market stalls, a fire engine, police car, traditional fun fair games, BBQ and more. Donations for a bottle stall, toy stall and bric-a-brac will be welcome as will volunteers to help run this event for our community.

Beyond the excitement, the summer fair is a platform for the community to engage with St John's. It is a reminder that amidst the whirlwind of excitement, faith remains the foundation of our church and community.

For St John's it is more than just an event — it is a celebration of our shared values and the reminder that we are here to serve those we meet. It reminds us that when we come together, we can create moments of joy, support one another, and make a difference in the lives of those around us. We find those that come along often have stories they share with us of the year they have had so far. Often when problems and challenges are faced, a heartfelt listening ear can be such a good tonic for the soul. Hospitality is at the core of the Christian message. God reaching out in love and friendship to those who want to know Him and welcoming them in.

So, mark your calendars and join us at the church summer fair, where laughter, love, and fellowship await. Together, let us celebrate the joys of life and create lasting memories that will warm our hearts for years to come.

Tim

## ST JOHN'S CHURCH - Directory

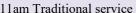
Tel: 01732 833 596 Website: www.stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Please ring the church office or email any time, if you would like to discuss any pastoral or administrative
matter

Role	Name	Contact Details
Vicar	Rev Tim Saiet	07973 136 968 tim@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Children and Youths Pastor	Lisa Glasscote	lisa@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Lay Readers	Trevor Long Susan Trowbridge	07513 420 509 01732 833 848
Warden	John Bonarius	07801 478 346
PCC Secretary	Vacant	stjohnspcc@outlook.com
Foodbank and Community Co-ordinator	Adele Hopkins-Ballard	07942 148 175 adele@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Safeguarding	Kate Lake	07579 821 956 safeguarding@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Treasurer	Richard Lake	07579 210 122 treasurer@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Archivist	Howard Dolling	01732 833 364
Church Centre Bookings	Cynthia Fawcus	01732 833 397 cynthia@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Church Administrator	Vacant	01732 833 596 office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Keys Editor	Rob Mansfield	07515 819 860 keysmag@hotmail.com
Keys Deputy Editor	Claire Rawlinson	01732 834 896
Keys Distribution	Clem Giles	01732 833 543
Keys Advertising	Liz Ridley	keysmagazineadvertising@gmail.com

## **Our Services**

## Sundays

9:15am Contemporary service with breakfast served in Church from 8:45am *Refreshments served between services in the Church Centre. All welcome.* 



## Tuesdays

11:15am Morning Prayer

Contact the office to receive the monthly Church News and Notices or follow our Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/stjohnshildenborough/) for the most up to date information.



# WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

## Regular Services and Activities (\*term-time only)



Sundays 09:15 Contemporary Service

11:00 Traditional Service

Mondays \*Bright Sparks, 10:00 - 11:30

Tuesdays 11:15 Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)

Wednesdays Churchvard Team Meets, 09:00 - 11:00

Thursdays \*Angel Café, 09:00 - 14:00

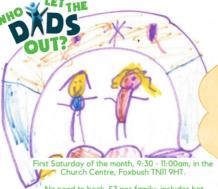
Princess Christian's Farm Market Stall, 10:00 - 12:00

Foodbank Open, 09:30 - 12:30

Kent Advice Hub available, 09:30 - 13:00

\*Angel Café, 09:00 - 14:00

Kent Advice Hub available, 09:30 - 13:00



Fridays

MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION

SATURDAY 13TH JULY

10AM - 3PM

No need to book. £3 per family; includes hot



5th July: Last Date Before Summer Break

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF A HELPING HAND WITH SOME ESSENTIALS

PLEASE CALL OUR FOODBANK.

CONFIDENTIALLY, ON:

07942 148 175



Foodbank

OPEN EVERY THURSDAY 09:30 - 12:30 CHURCH CENTRE, FOXBUSH, HILDENBOROUGH, TNII 9HT







Join us for lots of fun including

- · Traditional Fun Fair Games · Crafts
  - · BBQ · Market Stalls · Fire Engine
    - · Police Car · Giant Jenga
    - · Live Musical Entertainment

Our Primary School PTAs

will be hosting stalls



St John's Church Centre: Foxbush Hildenborough, TNII 9HT www.stjohnshildenborough.co.uk/whats-on



SATURDAY 13TH JULY 10AM - 3PM

## **Help Wanted Board!**

If you have a role or a need that you would like to include, please get in touch keysmag@hotmail.com. Priority will be given to local volunteer roles but if there is space I will consider local paid jobs too. There is no charge for appearing on this page.

Can you spare one hour a month to help out? Contact the Church Office 01732 833 596 - office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

## Hildenborough Farmers' Market Volunteers wanted variety of roles

If interested, please contact: Janet - 01732 838 903 janetrichardson863@btinternet.com

## Fruit picking

Would you like to help prevent food waste by helping a group pick local fruit?

Please call Becky Mackay 07876 026 058 or email at tonbridgeharvest@hotmail.com

## St John's Churchyard Volunteers wanted

If interested, please contact: Adele-01732 833 596 adele@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

The individual(s) appointed to any role at St John's Church will be expected to abide by our safeguarding policies and be willing to take the required online relevant safeguarding training facilitated by our Parish Safeguarding Officer.

## West Kent Concert Band

Wind & Brass players wanted! www.westkentconcertband.org.uk



1st Hildenborough Rainbows **Hilden Green District** 



Your local Rainbow group needs:

New Leader(s) New Unit Helper(s) Occassional Helper(s)

Contact Louise Fermor, District Commissioner, Hilden Green District hildengreendc@outlook.com 07751 826510

## From the Registers

Funeral service followed by burial for Fred Mordaunt was held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June

Interment of ashes of Peter Ledger on Saturday 8th June





PHOTO OF OUR CHOIR TAKEN BY KEITH MORGAN, ORGANIST



CAKE MADE BY ANGEL BAKES















UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE







VALERIE MARSH OF THE HILDENBOROUGH PATCHWORK AND QUILTING GROUP





**ENJOYING AFTERNOON TEA** MADE BY ANGEL CAFÉ



## GRAND OPENING OF THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY EXHIBITION

On Saturday 25th May 2024, Rev Tim Saiet and the Parochial Church Council of St John the Evangelist were delighted to welcome;

The Worshipful the Mayor of Tonbridge and Malling, Councillor Steve Hammond and his Escort, Penny Dyson The Rt Hon Tom Tugendhat, MP,

The Venerable Sharon Copestake, Archdeacon of Tonbridge,

Cllr Harry Rayner, Kent County Councillor, Cllr Mark Rhodes, Borough Councillor for Hildenborough Cllr Michael Connor, Parish Councillor for Hildenborough Rev Ben Thorndike, Vicar of Patronage Church, St Peter and St Paul

Rev David Corfe, Former Vicar of St John the Evangelist and honourable guests to the 180th Anniversary Celebration Service of St John's Church.

Following the church service, which included reflections from former Vicars, the Worshipful the Mayor of Tonbridge and Malling, Cllr Steve Hammond kindly opened our church and community exhibition. Guests then had a chance to meet with representatives from the organisations exhibiting and enjoy afternoon tea from Angel Café. It was a very memorable afternoon and we even had a visit from the local Fire Brigade as part of their community outreach work.

The celebrations were a true collaborative, community event and we are grateful to the many individuals and groups who came together and made it such a success.

A particular thank you must go to all of our exhibitors for their superb displays;

Hildenborough History Society Hildenborough Library Princess Christian's Farm Hildenborough CE Primary School Hildenborough Village Preservation Association Bridge Club Evening Women's Institute Scouts 8th Tonbridge Hildenborough Conservation Society **Tonbridge Line Commuters** Keys Magazine Guides 1st Hildenborough Hyllden Heights Stocks Green Primary School Hildenborough Sports Association Brownies 12th Hildenborough Hildenborough Patchwork and Quilting Group Generation Creation St John's Prayer Ministry Team



# Forget-me-not Cafés



## Companionship over a cuppa



The June Café was very busy. Three members of the Kent Fire and Rescue Team arrived along with their fire truck parked in the St John's Car Park to give our members advice on safety within the home offering free visits to advise and fit smoke alarms.



Would you like to get out of the house for a couple of hours and meet other people for some conversation? If you are feeling lonely and would like someone to chat to please come along, we would love to meet you. Whilst some of those who attend the Café live with a dementia diagnosis, others have mild memory loss, others care for a person with dementia, others would like company and a chat. We meet at 11.00 am on the second Wednesday of the month in the Family Room of the Church Centre at St. John's Church Hildenborough.

The second part of our Café was taken by the fabulous singer Scott Jenner who sung Cockney themed songs. We all went home with a new piece of information that will be helpful for a pub quiz. In the song Where Did You Get That Hat? The lyrics go "Where did

you get that hat? Where did you get that tile?" None of us knew that the word "tile" is another word for a hat - so now you know!



We all enjoyed singing along while having plenty of tea, coffee and cake. As usual all our lady guests went home with a small posy of flowers.

If you would like more information on the Forget-me-not Cafés or would like a reminder about the days and times of



other Forget-me-not Cafés in the area, please contact Elaine on

forgetmenot.sadfc@gmail.com or 07946 534 476.

Julie Rhodes



Mondays during term time, 10:00-11:30am.

Messy Play, Crafts, Soft Play, Ride -Ons, Role Play,
Singing, Story and Refreshments. £2 per family.

St John's Church Centre, Foxbush , Hildenborough, TN119HT Contact lisa@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

## **Hildenborough History Society**

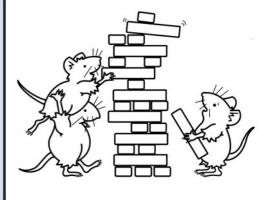
Friday 19th July Village Hall 7.30 pm

Gilly Halcrow - 'Food, Drink and Table Manners'

Treat in store! One of our favourite speakers, Gilly Halcrow, returns to HHS to explore the fascinating *History of Food, Drink and Table Manners* - a pleasure not to be missed! (Members will remember her delightful talk last year on A.A. Milne and Christopher Robin.)

Visitors (admission £2) are warmly invited to join HHS members (admission free) in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm for what promises to be a most enjoyable evening.

Charles Vignoles







From Market Manager, Janet

Richardson: Sixteen years ago, in 2008, the Rev. John Chandler, who was at the time Vicar of St. John's Church Hildenborough. along with a few others, had the inspired vision of a Farmers' Market as a way of serving the community. It was my privilege to be appointed as Manager, along with a dedicated Team of wonderful volunteers. who have served the Market faithfully for 16 years. Now the time has come for some of us to retire and although others were happy to carry the Market on, St. John's Church have decided on a change and have ended our contract. Therefore, Hildenborough Farmers' Market will cease trading from the Church Centre on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

However, the Market is NOT closing but moving to a new venue. Everyone was very happy using the Village Hall last Half Term so after a warm welcome from the Village Hall Team it was decided to re-locate there when our contract ends - this will be from 20<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

The Market is also happy to announce a new Manager, Nick Aldridge, the husband of Helen ('Lou and H's Cakes'), assisted by Steve Sinclair ('the Little Brick Shop' Lego stall) who will take up the reins when we start in the Village Hall. Other familiar faces around the Market will remain the same. serving coffee and welcoming you as usual. Nothing has changed, same friendly stalls, same friendly helpers, same friendly coffee team just a new venue (Of course, you won't keep Janet, Julie and Annie away - you will find them just shopping and enjoying the coffee!)

We can look back over the years at so many wonderful events from our opening by Dame Kelly Holmes to all the children's activities, Christmas celebrations, raffles, lunches, etc., the list is endless, and in the early years being able to make donations to village causes, including three of the five defibrillators still operating but now administered by the Parish Council.

In 2018 the Market was nominated for the Kent Association of Local Councils Award which it won "For establishing Hildenborough Farmers' Market in 2008 and with unwavering enthusiasm turning the Market into a flourishing enterprise for the community". We have also been awarded the logo for being a dementia-friendly market by the Kent Dementia Action Alliance.

All this has been made possible by the loyal support of you our customers, our faithful stallholders and our tireless volunteers. I cannot say how grateful I am for the privilege of being involved. We look forward to seeing you all at the Village Hall as we continue to serve the Hildenborough community.

Please join us on the 13th August 2024 for our last special market at the Church Centre before making the move to the Village Hall.

We can be found on Facebook and our details can be found on the KFMA website. although some of the information is being updated.

For information on the market please contact: Janet Richardson, Manager

Tel: 01732 838 903

Email: janetrichardson863@btinternet.com

## Hildenborough brings home the prizes at the Tonbridge Business Awards

The Tonbridge business community has a new event in the calendar with the inaugural Tonbridge Business Awards that took place at the E M Forster Theatre on 3 June.

The awards were designed as a celebration of the contribution to the town by local businesses. A tremendous response of 400+ applications was received. Something that is particularly pleasing for Hildenborough is the high number of finalists and winners from within our parish.

Congratulations to the Hildenborough winners:

New Business: Delilah and Herb

Health and Beauty: Body Mentors

Small Business: Computer Troubleshooters

Community: Angel Café

And to the other Hildenborough-based finalists:

Hilden Therapies (Health and Beauty)
Miles Martial Arts (Health and Beauty +
Runner Up in Small Business)
Ridings Café (Community + Runner Up in

Ethical)

Cindy Knight Clinic (Ethical)

The event raised £2,400 shared between three local charities: Chasing Connor's Cure, West Kent Mind and Sustain Food Bank.

The organiser, Jess Gibson of the TN Card, has expressed her thanks for the success of the evening:

"Thank you to everyone who joined me last night for the TN card's inaugural Tonbridge Business Awards. What a delight and privilege it was to be able to celebrate the Tonbridge business community and thank the businesses and business people that call Tonbridge home, doing so much for our local economy and town."

All in all, an excellent performance by the Hildenborough business community.

Suzanne Rice (Computer Troubleshooters)



TECHNOLOGY SOLVED





## From the Editor:

I hope you're enjoying the magazine. It was an honour to present a stand for Keys at St John's 180th celebrations. The church arranged for the first year's worth of magazines to be borrowed from Maidstone archives and it was a pleasure to flick through them.

I'm often asked why Keys is called Keys. I too was curious about this. Everyone I spoke to had a slightly different version of events, but I am pleased to say that I now have the official answer! Rev. David Corfe (who was the vicar at the time), wrote the following in the first issue:

"Why 'Keys'? Christians believe that the Good News of Jesus Christ is indeed the key to the Kingdom of Heaven, and the fulfilment of God's purpose for our lives. As the old hymn puts it "He only could unlock the gate of heaven and let us in'. But keys also have their uses in communication between man and man, opening the doors which hinder understanding. We hope that this magazine will help a little to make Hildenborough a place of open doors, mutual caring and deepening fellowship in the Lord."

Earlier, he has introduced the magazine by saying:

"Keys is intended to be a monthly publication, carrying not only Church news but news of almost anything that goes on in Hildenborough parish."

42 years later, I'd like to think that we are continuing the original aims.

## **General Election - 4th July**

This Thursday, 4th July, sees the country going to the polls to elect a new Government. Keys is politically neutral and favours no candidate, but I would certainly like to encourage you to exercise your vote and have your say. Whilst MPs are paid, many of the people campaigning are volunteers and they

fulfil a vital role in getting information to potential voters.

## Volunteers

On the subject of volunteering, I am undertaking a review of the help wanted page and thinking of ways to try and encourage wider participation in the community. If you have any ideas, I would love to hear them.

## **Drainage/Overgrowth problems**

A reader asked me to put a mention in the magazine about the role we can all play in making our village a nicer place to be. This can be as simple as reporting problems to the relevant authorities.

Recently, some pot holes on Brookmead were filled in, as a result of residents alerting Kent County Council ('KCC'). I have also had some success in reporting overgrown bushes in alleys. You can report matters through their website and the link is:

https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem

Their areas of responsibility include:

- street light faults
- potholes
- drainage
- traffic signal faults
- damage to bus stops (poles/timetables)
- overgrown vegetation (including hedges and grass)
- information about roadworks.

You can also see what issues have been reported and are currently under investigation. The original message to me, was about a blocked drain opposite the old Fidelity site. I can see that, at the time of writing, this is under investigation and hopefully has been resolved by the time you read this!

Rob Mansfield

## Hildenborough Library News

"If I had my way, I'd remove January from the calendar altogether and have an extra July instead." — Roald Dahl

Wow, we are here already! The start of the Summer Reading Challenge is upon us and starts on the 6<sup>th</sup> July. The theme this year is Marvellous Makers so dust off your art sets and get inspired. As always, the aim is to encourage school children to read six books during the summer holidays. Cool rewards can be collected for every two books read, with a certificate and a medal for completing the challenge. Don't all rush at once...!

Library Groups are as follows:

Tuesday at 10:30-10:50am: Baby Rhyme Time

Thursday at 2-3pm Fortnightly: Knit and Natter

Thursday 10-12am: Ancestry buddy. (Booking essential)

essentiar)

Saturday at 10:30 -11:30 am: Craft session

Jacie

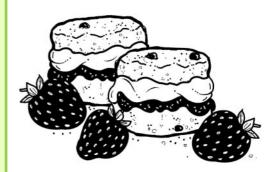
# Tonbridge University of the Third Age (TU3A)

## Live, Learn Laugh with TU3A

Find out more at our coffee morning on the third Friday of the month at Christchurch, Tonbridge from 10:30 till noon.

Please bring cash.

Visit our website at www.tonbridgeu3a.uk
Ollie Johnson



## Hildenborough Sports Association - Update from the May Road Race event

The money is in, and our creditors paid so we are able to announce a record profit, within a gnat's whisker, of £3,300.

This was the icing on the cake for an event that pleased everyone involved with the exception of one chap, who turned up 45 minutes late and was unsuccessful in his attempt to have the start delayed! We are sticklers when it comes to the application of the rules.

As we have been saying since the event first kicked off in 1985, the proceeds are available to be used by village sports clubs and the two state schools. If such organisations wish to purchase sports equipment they should apply to Graham Cook, by 30 September, on gtcook15@gmail.com and we will consider,

as a committee, what we can afford to donate. Our emphasis is now more than ever towards supporting the development of sporting activity of children, but this does not debar any Club in the Village that has a good case. Last year we helped both schools and Oaks Nursery to purchase new equipment.

The chap who did the creative accounting to achieve our financial success was Ian Kury who has only been doing the job since 1991 when he rode to the rescue of the event which was close to extinction because volunteers were as rare as Hen's teeth. He is now stepping down to concentrate on a modelling career. Thank you so much, Ian. We know that whatever the weather you will be there next year doing your bit for this village event.

Pat Davies

## The Night Sky in Hildenborough – July 2024

Ask anyone, even someone who isn't an astronomer, which is their favourite planet and most will plump for Saturn. That's understandable because when seen with a modest amateur telescope or more so as a double page spread in so called coffee table books it is a beautiful sight. Its ring system is certainly its stand-out feature although it isn't the only planet to have a ring system. We know that both the "gas giants", Jupiter and Saturn, as well as the "ice giants", Uranus and Neptune, all have rings although none are as striking as Saturn's. Indeed, the rings around the other planets are not visible with amateur instruments.

So, having told you what a glorious sight the rings are, what would you think if I told you that next year Saturn's rings will disappear altogether? I hasten to add that this is a temporary absence and one that is comparatively brief.

As you may know the Earth's axis of rotation is tilted by 23.4° whilst that of Saturn is not much different at 26.7°. This means that as both planets orbit the Sun, the tilt of Saturn's axis with respect to the Earth is constantly, but gradually, changing. Over a period of around 30 years, we go from having Saturn's north pole tilted towards us, followed by the south pole and back to the north pole again. However, in between those two extremes, a change from one to the other must take place and that's when the rings are edge on as seen from Earth and seem to disappear.

In 2017, Saturn's north pole was tilted towards us by the maximum possible so we had, and have had for some years, very good views of the northern surface of the rings. The more that either of Saturn's poles are tilted towards Earth, the better the view of

the rings we see.

At the moment Saturn is in that transition phase between being a morning object and an evening one. When it moves far enough to the west of the Sun, it rises so far ahead of it that the planet becomes visible before midnight and is classed as an evening object. On the first of July, Saturn rises about 15 minutes after midnight but by the last day of the month it appears at 10:15pm which means that by midnight it is 15° high and approaching the south east. The problem with locating Saturn is that, at its best, it's never as prominent as Venus, Jupiter or Mars, who can shine so brightly that it's obvious that they are not run of the mill bright stars.

Mars and Jupiter currently rise after midnight but if you have to be up early then a casual look to the east will show you both planets moving in for a very close pass in mid-August. On the last day of July, the two bodies are joined by a slim crescent Moon that lies slightly east (left) of Jupiter. They are best seen around 4:30 am when all lie about 30° above the horizon.

Whilst Mercury was at its best for 2024 back in late March, there is another chance to see it in the evenings in July but it will always be close to the north western horizon when care must be taken to ensure the Sun has set if using optical aid to search for it.

By next month Saturn will be visible well before midnight, marking the start of a return of the brightest planets to the evening sky and not a moment too soon.

Brian Mills FRAS

## HILDENBOROUGH GARDENERS' SOCIETY

Founded in 1896

On Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup>, the society held its summer show. The poor growing weather reduced the number of entries, but a good colourful display was shown in the afternoon. Hildenborough CofE school entered a number of the classes for young gardeners, and the judges were impressed with the standard of making and cooking biscuits and pizzas.

Thanks go to the school staff who have encouraged the children to take part in the shows – the children certainly enjoyed themselves. There are always classes for novices and beginners, so there is no excuse for not entering something.



Many of you will have seen our new planter, sited outside the village hall. It was constructed by Princess Christians Farm and plants were obtained from Coblands, who are helping to encourage young gardeners. It is



likely that more of you will see it in the future.

Membership of the Gardeners Society, now in its 128<sup>th</sup> year, is open to all in the village and surrounding area, and costs a mere £6 per year. This gives

access to shows, talks, outings, and of course the garden store next to the Recreation Ground in Riding Lane. This stocks most of the materials you need to use in your garden, and saves travelling to Sevenoaks, Tunbridge Wells or further, as well as being cheaper – we sell at cost price.

\*\*David Haugh\*\*

## Hildenborough Cricket Club

Mark Davies hit 74 in a losing cause at Groombridge. He was the mainstay in a total of 129-5 - the home side making short work of their run chase. Oliver Stell's run-out and two wickets each for Digby Russell and Richard Sparks featured for the visitors.

Mark Davies was again in good form with 49 sharing an opening stand of 96 with Greg Smith (45) at Kent Ramblas. They scored 60 off the first overs chasing a target of 169, before the home bowlers made run scoring harder, wickets falling regularly as Hildenborough, playing a man short, ended on 155-7 to lose by 13 runs.

A combined Hildenborough/Horsmonden team won by two wickets at Speldhurst. Needing 95 to win, Greg Smith and Mark Davies gave them a good start with an opening stand of 43. However wickets again fell - leaving them 89-5 and 93-8 - before Dave White hit the

winning runs with seven and a bit overs remaining. Horsmonden's Evan Cornish and White shared the first four home wickets before home top



scorer Chris Pullen (30) was stumped by Smith who claimed another and a catch. Davies (two), Matt Richards and Andy Cunningham claimed the other wickets - backed up by catches - the best of them by Cornish.

July Fixtures:

7/7 Lamorbey Park (H) 14/7 Wrotham (A)

21/7 Hadlow (H) 28/7 Chevening (A)

Peter Wood

# T.M.B.C. News

## The Small Bridge.

TMBC Technical Services, through routine inspection have indicated that the bridge that accesses the Sportsground from Lower Castle fields car park has come to the end of its life. This is the small narrow bridge that was initially designed as a 'temporary structure' and is some 50 metres from the other permanent structure bridge, right next to the swimming pool. It was installed in 1994 to allow the construction of the swimming pool and keep access over the river to the sports ground. The existing bridge next to swimming pool, needed to be closed for swimming pool construction works. You might also remember it was used when the bridge next to the swimming pool was replaced and it certainly saved a long walk. The bridge is constructed with flat steel and a timber deck, length 17m x 1.6m wide. Surprisingly the ramps up to the bridge are 1 in 8, whereas for disabled access they should be 1 in 20.

So, what to do? There are basically 3 options: 1, remove the bridge = expensive, 2, replace with similar and better ramps = very expensive, 3, a wider bridge and better ramps very very, expensive. Options 2 and 3 include major repairs to the abutments.

No decisions have been made in relation to this bridge and at this stage, if you have an opinion or want to comment on the bridge, can you let me know by July 12<sup>th</sup>. Thanks.

## New Mayor.

During the Annual Council meeting, Cllr Steve Hammond was voted in as the new Mayor. When Steve was 20, he joined the Guards (Army) which marked the beginning of a chapter in his life that would shape Steve in ways he never imagined. Five years into his military service, fate intervened during Steve's deployment to the Falklands on RFA Sir Galahad in 1982. It was there that his life took an unexpected turn, leading him to a medical discharge in 1989.

Suddenly, Steve found himself back in Shropshire, struggling with the challenges of civilian life. It was during this time that the Royal British Legion Industries (RBLI) found Steve and brought him to Aylesford, Kent, a place Steve has come to call home for the past 26 years. Here, he found purpose and a renewed sense of belonging. Steve became deeply committed to RBLI's mission and proudly served as an ambassador and still does to this day.

Steve is very proud to be supporting the Royal British Legion Industries during his year, whose support he credits as to where he is today. Steve is a lovely chap and has time for all, be careful though if you shake his hand, he has a grip like a vice! If you run any sort of group/society, please consider inviting the Mayor to your group/society if appropriate. Contact the Mayor's office at TMBC.

## St John's 180th.

Congratulations and many thanks to all those involved in the 180<sup>th</sup> celebrations for St John's Church. The Mayor and other dignitaries attended the service and afterwards viewed all the displays in the Church Hall supplied by various clubs and societies in Hildenborough. Special thanks to Nancy Mansfield who joined everything up, so the day/week was a success.

## Local Plan.

All the details of the emerging Local Plan are available via the TMBC website.

## Council Meetings.

Please remember Council meetings are still streamed on YouTube, however public attendance is permitted in the Council Chamber.

## Contact.

Councillors are here to assist with any matters relating to Borough Council business although we have been known to chase after a great many other matters. Please contact your Borough councillors at any time if you require assistance. *Cllr Mark Rhodes* 

Borough Councillors
Kath Barton
c/o TMBC, Gibson Building, Gibson
Drive, Kings Hill, ME19 4LZ
Kath.Barton@tmbc.gov.uk

Mark Rhodes 01732 369 405 39 Cranford Road, Tonbridge mark.rhodes@tmbc.gov.uk

Kent County Councillor Harry Rayner 03000 421 606 harry.rayner@kent.gov.uk

Contact the Parish Council via clerk@hildenboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk or by telephone (07818 329029)
Hildenborough PC, Riding Lane,
Hildenborough, TN11 9HY

## A Victoria Cross in the Churchyard?

When I first became interested in the lives of the people buried in our Churchyard, I was told that there was a recipient of a Victoria Cross buried here. It took some research, but it turns out to be true. When I started researching the man was still alive and living with his wife in a bungalow (St. George's Villa) next to the New Cock Inn (closed in 2005). The Bungalow had been given to him by a grateful nation through the Royal British Legion.

When his wife, Violet Victoria White died on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1965 she was buried in St. John's Graveyard. On her gravestone is engraved the information that led

to the rumour. The caption read "Wife of Captain William Allison White V.C. T.D". William moved away from the village to take up residence in a Nursing home in Wellington, Shropshire where he lived out the rest of his days.

William was a survivor from World War 1. In September 1918, the then 2nd Lt. William



Allison White earned a Victoria Cross as a Machine Gunner during a series of actions when the village of Epehy was captured on the 18th of September 1918. (Epehy is a French village near to the village of Cambrai where the very first tank battle took place in 1917.) The citation for his VC states that he "single handedly killed enemy soldiers on three occasions encouraging his own men to capture the enemy gun position. His example of fearless and unhesitating devotion to duty under circumstances of great personal danger greatly inspired the neighbouring troops". William survived the war reaching the rank of Captain.

William stayed in the Military and was involved with weapons development. He was employed for some time at Fort Halstead MOD, engaged in secret research. William died on 13<sup>th</sup> September 1974 and his ashes were brought to join his wife at St John's.

George Gorham

Do you run a local community group in Hildenborough? Would you like to do a fun, outdoor session? Then do consider a group litter pick. I am happy to loan out the litter picking equipment and suggest areas to pick (with notice).

The Hildenborough Guides recently spent a fun 45mins litter picking (they played a litter bingo game) in teams.

Contact me at emilysimons24@gmail.com or via the Hildenborough Litter Pickers Facebook page if you are interested. The village pick is the first Saturday of the month, 10am to noon, at the Rec. *Emily Simons* 



Flower lovers across the country celebrated British Flower Week back in June and with our gardens now in full summer bloom, Amy from village florist 'Delilah and Herb',

shares with us her love and passion for locally grown flowers.

If you've ever visited one of our local gardens, such as Penshurst Place or Ightham Mote at this time of year – you will undoubtedly have witnessed British flowers at their best. Bobbing heads of rambling roses, ruffled peonies (albeit a short and swift season), tall spikes of foxglove, tangled vines of clematis and early hydrangea, to name but a few.

British Flowers Week is a celebration of these flowers, not only in their role as staples of the quintessential English country garden, but as cut flowers used by florists and enthusiasts, in arrangements for all occasions.

I, for one, cannot get enough of them, and once you've discovered their incredible beauty and variety, I think you will feel the same. Say goodbye to perfectly straight stems and regimented flower sizes – say hello to an abundance of vitality and movement, giving each stem a unique and truly mesmerising quality. Their scent is unparalleled – evocative and often reminiscent, adding an unexpected layer of interest to every arrangement. Their depth of colour and size all dependant on the weather, soil and season – no two flowers are ever the same.



As a florist, they are simply the most exquisite medium to work with. Asides from their physical beauty, the environmental benefits of using British flowers are of course important. Most



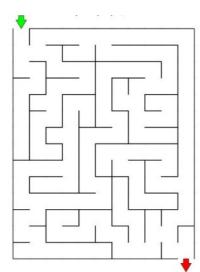
obviously, their carbon footprint is much less than a large majority of commercial flowers which are imported from across the world, cold-stored and treated chemically to prolong their shelf life. Cut fresh for use, British flowers support pollinators and local biodiversity during their growth and, if being grown for trade, support local businesses once sold.

There are endless varieties of flower and foliage that can be cut successfully, it simply requires a little imagination to begin. Whether you have a few pots or an established and bountiful plot, you can find something to cut and bring indoors. Did you know just looking at flowers is proven to stimulate a release of dopamine and improve our mood? So, my challenge to you this month, is to take some snips and see what you can find – making sure you cut straight into cool, deep water in the morning or evening. You don't need to be 'creative' – the flowers will speak for themselves.

If after doing this, you can't get enough (likely...) there are many local growers, suppliers and florists who will happily help you to discover more about beautiful British flowers.

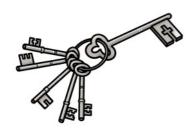
I would love to hear your stories and see your photos if you do try cutting (and I hope you do!) or answer any questions, so please feel free to email delilahandherb@gmail.com

Amy Pay



## **Puzzle Page**

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Sudoku (Easy)

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	3			1	9	8		
		1	6					

Sudoku (Medium)

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	1		6		3		4	
				5		6	7	
3			7				6	
2					5			3
						5		

# Cantra Piaca

From Hildenborough Parish Council - https://www.hildenboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk/ Contact: Julia Church (Clerk) - 07818 329 029 clerk@hildenboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk Postal Address: Pavilion and Recreation Ground, Riding Lane, TN11 9HY

It is always interesting for our Parish Councillors to hear the concerns of residents when they meet them during their activities in the village or at their monthly surgery at the Farmers' Market. The most common concerns tend to be around overgrown vegetation on the highways or speeding traffic, issues that affect most communities nowadays. However, on a more positive note, Hildenborough also has its beautiful open spaces, low crime rate and many great local amenities.

hopefully this incident was a one-off and the youngsters involved will find more appropriate ways to expend their energy in future.

Later this summer we are looking forward to seeing the installation of the new picnic table in West Wood, located on the land in between the service road and Tonbridge Road and in line with the playground. The picnic table will be accessible to those in wheelchairs and will

## West Wood

The pump cycle track in West Wood (pictured right) is a popular open-air amenity for local youngsters, and one of the Parish Council's landscape contractors makes regular visits to keep the brambles under control and check for any other hazards such as fallen branches and damage to its surface. Our maintenance contractor recently repaired a broken fence at the track, which was attracting the

unwelcome attention of a couple of teenagers who were caught trying to inflict further damage to the fence with their boots. Please report any sightings you may have of any further destructive behaviour which I can then report to our local beat officer who can increase his patrols in the area. Fortunately, vandalism in Hildenborough is very rare, so

be a lovely new addition to West Wood.

The renovated pond is continuing to attract

be a lovely new addition to West Wood. The renovated pond is continuing to attract new wildlife and nature is helping the pond to gradually transform into a beautiful natural feature, embraced by the woodland. The Parish Council will soon be implementing further safety measures at its location, as recommended in a recent risk assessment.

## **Tree Survey**

A safety survey has been carried out recently on the trees in West Wood, the Village Green and the Recreation Ground. We are looking forward to receiving the report and will then be able to arrange for any remedial work to be carried out to ensure the trees do not present a hazard to the public. Sadly, we still receive reports of trees having Ash Dieback from time to time, and if they are badly affected the trees may have to be taken down. Fortunately, we have not received any reports from the latest survey of any trees presenting a hazard that needs urgent attention. Trees can of course become unstable at any time after they have been inspected. If you spot a dangerously loose branch or other issue with one of the trees in the Parish Council's Open Spaces that you believe needs to be checked out by one of our contractors, it would be helpful if you could please contact me.

**Police** 

PC Ollie Evans reported that for the month of May until 7<sup>th</sup> June, there were 16 crimes reported in Hildenborough, one or two less than usual for that time of the year. Four of

the crimes were drug related, following vehicle stops on the B245, so the offenders were not necessarily from Hildenborough. Therefore, Ollie said that this does not mean that Hildenborough has an issue with drug supply. Other crimes relate mainly to rural thefts, but this is an issue countrywide. Ollie says that securing sites, having CCTV cameras and being vigilant are all still key in preventing offences. With regard to the suspected dog poisonings that occurred in May, having carried out investigations and unable to identify a source, unfortunately he has drawn a blank but there is nothing to suggest any malicious intent. He will continue to monitor the situation but given there have been no further reports he is happy to say that it should be business as usual for local dog walkers.

To report any concerns you believe the Parish Council may be able to assist with, please email me at my new e-mail address - <a href="mailto:clerk@hildenboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk">clerk@hildenboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk</a> or call me on 07818 329029. You can follow us on Facebook @hildenboroughparishcouncil.

Julia Church



## 66th AGM - 12th June (held online)

We had presentations from Southeastern, Southern, Arriva Buses and a written statement from Network Rail. A write up will go out to members and then onto our website in due course.

The committee was re-elected but we need more members and committee members to help us continue to get great results.

## Would you like to get involved with TLC?

If you'd like to see a better railway and have 3-4 or so hours a month to spare, please get in touch. You do not need to be a rail expert, just have a desire to work in a collaborative, constructive manner. You can contact me at robert.mansfield@tonbridgecommuters.org.uk to discuss.

www.tonbridgecommuters.org.uk

Rob Mansfield

## **Evening Women's Institute (WI)**

Our June meeting started with welcoming our members and the speaker for the evening. We went through some general WI business and updates of forthcoming events and activities.

We then had a talk by Juliette Jahaj "Chocolate." Juliette is a food microbiologist; she has studied food science and has worked in laboratories and as a factory auditor. She gave us a fascinating insight into her work which takes her around the world, to different factories. She talked to us about the history of chocolate, including the origins of the word, from the Aztecs. She also told us how people discovered the cocoa beans, and learn how to harvest them, and make them into a bitter drink. It is thought that cocoa was taken over to Spain by Hernán Cortés. In 1657 the first places in England opened where you could drink chocolate. In 1824 John Cadbury opened a grocery store which sold cocoa and drinking chocolate and then the creation of the first chocolate bar was made by Cadburys in 1897.

She explained about the cocoa content of the bars we buy from our local supermarket, and we all had the opportunity to try 3 pieces of milk and 3 pieces of plain chocolate. She asked us to decide which we preferred; we had mixed results, and not always the most expensive or the highest cocoa content. It was an interesting and tasty talk! We finished the evening with a cup of tea and some delicious shortbread, and cakes kindly made by Gill and Val.

Our next meeting is *Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July*, when we will be having our birthday party. The evening WI meets once a month and gives members the opportunity to meet new people, learn new skills, and have fun. We always welcome new members, so please feel free to drop in and say hello, even just for one evening to see what we are all about.

Please note our meeting time, we meet in the family room at the Church Centre at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

**Lorna Stapley-President** 

## Hospice Run 2024!

Sunday 15th September | Lower Common Cricket Ground, Tunbridge Wells | 08:00-12:30

From experienced athletes to families looking for fun on a Sunday, Hospice Run 2024 has something for everyone. But with only 1000 places available, sign up now to avoid missing out on one of the most hotly anticipated closed-road routes in the South East.

This year, there are four routes:

**Half marathon**: our ultimate challenge! Suitable for experienced athletes, and covering Groombridge, Eridge and Tunbridge Wells.

10k: for regular runners who like a challenge, taking in popular Tunbridge Wells landmarks. 5k: for runners starting off on their fitness journey - why not sign up and start your training today?

**Family Fun Run**: dig out those hero costumes - our theme is Hospice Heroes! For all ages and abilities, you can opt for 1 or 2 loops of the route and finish up with a medal.

Special guest star and Paralympian Will Bayley will kick us off with words of encouragement on the day followed by a warm up from local fitness trainer Ollie McCarthy and rousing support throughout from our friends at Old School Samba!

All entry fees and fundraising go directly to supporting Hospice in the Weald's care for people facing terminal illness and their loved ones in Kent and East Sussex. Sign up today and we will see you at the start line in September! Visit the events section at www.hospiceintheweald.org.uk to sign up or call us on 01892 820 533.



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## **Local Directory**

## **Church Contacts**

Home (Connect) Groups
Church Office 01732 833 596
Prayer Chain
Cynthia Fawcus 01732 833 397
Bright Sparks, (Mondays, term-time)
Lisa Glasscote 01732 833 596
Generation Creation (Sundays)
Lisa Glasscote 01732 833 596

## **Community Groups**

Evening Women's Institute

Miss Lorna Stapley - 01732 832 871

Beavers (Ages 6-8) Thurs 5.15-6.30 pm

Cubs (Ages 8-10.5) Monday 6.30-8 pm

Scouts (Ages 10.5, 14) Friday 7.30.9 pm

Stapley - 01732 832 871

hildenboroughbeavers8thtonbridgescouts@hotmail.com

hildenboroughwolfcubs@gmail.com

Stapley - 01732 832 871

hildenboroughbeavers8thtonbridgescouts@hotmail.com

Scouts (Ages 10.5-14) Friday 7.30-9 pm Guides Brownies

Hildenborough Conservation Group
Hildenborough Farmers' Market
Hildenborough Gardeners' Society
Hildenborough History Society
Village Preservation Society
Hildenborough Litter Pickers
Hildenborough Parish Council
Hildenborough CofE Primary School

Stocks Green Primary School
Stocks Green Pre-School
Village Hall Bookings
West Kent Concert Band

Hildenborough Speedwatch

**KENT POLICE (Non-emergency calls)** 

8thtonbridgescouts@gmail.com
Sharon Roberts - 07960 782 178
hildenbrownies@outlook.com
Mrs Lynne Flower 01732 355 080
Janet Richardson 01732 838 903
David Haugh 01732 832 869
Judith McQuillan 01732 834 610
David Vanns 01732 835 289
Emily Simons 07715 113 899

Julia Church **07818 329 029**www.hildenborough.kent.sch.uk - **01732 833 394**www.stocksgreenprimary.co.uk - **01732 832 758**www.stocksgreenpreschool.co.uk - **01732 834 115**Hilary - **07734 544 412** 

wkcb@muzodo.com 0345 988 1188

jon at han. as hton. bid writing @gmail.com

## **Hildenborough Sports**

Floodline

Badminton Kathryn Stewart 07809 299 553
Indoor (Short Mat) Bowls Club David Chambers 01732 833 612
Hildenborough Cricket Club Barry Webb 01732 838 422
Hildenborough Friendly Badminton Club Stoolball Club Bill Richardson 01732 838 903
Tennis Club (membership) www.hildenboroughtennis.co.uk

Hildenborough Road Races Amy Pay - hildenroadrace@gmail.com
Tonbridge Swimming Club chairman@tonbridgeswimmingclub.co.uk

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Hildenborough Bridge Club Lionel Shields 01732 355 919

# Hilden Park Chartered Accountants



## REPORT EMPLOYEE BENEFITS ON FORM P11D BY 6 JULY 2024

P11d forms for reporting expenses and benefits in kind provided to employees and directors in 2023/24 need to be submitted by 6 July 2024. Note that paper forms are no longer acceptable; the return must be made online using PAYE Online for employers or commercial software.

Remember that reimbursed expenses

no longer need to be reported where they are incurred wholly, exclusively and necessarily in the performance of the employee's duties. Dispensations from reporting are no longer required, although HMRC would expect internal controls to be in place to ensure that the expenses qualify.

Note also that trivial benefits of no

more than £50 provided to employees need not be reported. This typically covers non-cash gifts to employees at Christmas and on their birthdays and can include gifts of food and alcohol. Again, the employer needs to keep a record of the benefit provided and the justification. It should not be provided as a reward for past or future service.

If you would like any advice, please contact us on 01732 838877 Visit our website www.hildenparkaccountants.co.uk



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