

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NEWS

# KEYS

HILDENBOROUGH

Oct  
2024



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## From the Church

On 4th October the Church remembers St. Francis of Assisi who modelled a life of simplicity and compassion.

St. Francis of Assisi is one of the most revered saints in Christian history. He is celebrated for his profound love for God, nature, and all living beings. Born Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone in 1181 in Assisi, Italy, Francis transformed from a wealthy merchant's son into a humble servant of Christ, embodying the essence of Christian discipleship through his life and teachings.

Francis' early life was marked by wealth and privilege. However, after a series of life-altering events, including a period of illness and a military experience, he began to question the meaning of life and the value of material possessions. A pivotal moment came when he heard the voice of Christ calling him to "repair my Church." This led him to renounce his wealth and embrace a life of poverty, dedicating himself to serving the poor and marginalised.

His radical choice to live simply reflected Jesus' teachings on wealth and materialism. Francis adopted a lifestyle of humility, finding joy in serving others rather than accumulating riches. His transformation serves as a powerful reminder of the call to prioritise spiritual wealth over material gain.

St. Francis is perhaps best known for his deep connection to nature. He viewed all creation as a reflection of God's love and creativity. This affinity for creation has inspired countless individuals to advocate for environmental stewardship. In a world increasingly challenged by ecological crises, Francis' teachings remind us of our responsibility to care for the earth and all its

inhabitants. He demonstrated that a relationship with God includes a commitment to protecting and nurturing the world He created.

St. Francis was also a man of peace. During a time of significant conflict and strife in the 13th century, he sought to bridge divides and promote harmony. His encounter with the Sultan of Egypt during the Crusades illustrated his commitment to peace and dialogue. Rather than engaging in hostility, Francis chose to communicate love and understanding, demonstrating that true strength lies in compassion and reconciliation.

His example is particularly relevant today, as society grapples with division and conflict. Christians are called to embody the peace of Christ, seeking to heal wounds and foster understanding in a world often marked by discord. St. Francis' legacy encourages believers to be peacemakers, reflecting the heart of Christ in their interactions with others.

The impact of St. Francis of Assisi extends far beyond his lifetime. In 1209, he founded the Franciscan Order, which emphasised a life of poverty, humility, and service. The order has since grown to include thousands of members dedicated to living out Francis's vision of Christ-like love and service.

St. Francis of Assisi serves as a profound example of Christian discipleship, embodying humility, love for creation, and a commitment to peace. His life invites us to reflect on our own priorities and challenges us to live out our faith with authenticity and compassion. As we follow Christ, may we strive to embrace simplicity, honour the beauty of creation, and be instruments of peace in a world longing for reconciliation and hope.

Tim

## ST JOHN'S CHURCH - Directory

Tel: 01732 833 596 Website: [www.stjohnshildenborough.co.uk](http://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	07513 420 509
Warden	Vacant	
PCC Secretary	Vacant	stjohnspcc@outlook.com
Foodbank and Community coordinator	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	Jess Collins	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 clemgiles@hotmail.com
Keys Advertising	Liz Ridley	advertising@keysmagazine.co.uk

### 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.*

11am Traditional service

#### 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.



## Bereavement Service

Sunday 20th October

4pm

Everyone is welcome to this service of bereavement. As part of the service you will be invited to light a candle to thank God for your loved one. Names can be submitted in advance to the Church Office to be read out during the service. Tea and cake will be served in the Church Centre afterwards.

**Warm Hub**  
Wednesdays  
12pm - 2pm

**Free homemade soup & bread roll**  
**Free tea & coffee**  
**All Welcome**

Church Centre  
Foxbush  
Hildenborough



# St John's Light Celebration

## YOU ARE ONE IN A MINION

Calling all primary school-aged children and families!

You're invited to an exciting 'Despicable Me' themed party at St John's Church on Thursday, October 31st, from 4-6 pm.

Come dressed as your favourite character, or wear your brightest, most colourful clothes and shine with us! Please do join us for this fun-filled evening.

**HOT DOGS**

**SMORES**

**PUPPETS**

**SWEETS TO COLLECT CRAFTS GLOW STICKS**

**OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT**

The family ticket is £6.

For more information or to book, please e-mail Lisa Glasscote — at [lisa@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk](mailto:lisa@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk)

<https://stjohntheevangelist.churchsuite.com/events/qwrwlthh>



### From the editor

This month sees the Keys donation envelopes included with the magazine. Your donations along with our advertising income are crucial for enabling the magazine to be produced and delivered to every home for free each month.

We have a few entries being worked on for our volunteer interviews but there are still plenty of opportunities to get involved. If you volunteer in a role and would like to showcase that work in the magazine, please get in touch and we can discuss how it can work.

**Rob**

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF A HELPING HAND WITH SOME ESSENTIALS PLEASE CALL OUR FOODBANK, CONFIDENTIALLY, ON: 07942 148 175

**Foodbank**  
ST JOHN'S CHURCH HILDENBOROUGH



OPEN EVERY THURSDAY 09:30 - 12:30  
CHURCH CENTRE, FOXBUSH, HILDENBOROUGH, TN11 9HT



My wife and I would like to put on record our appreciation of the splendid service that you are providing to us through Dial 2 Drive.

My health forced me to give up driving recently and the service which you have provided for hospital visits for both of us has proved essential.

My wife attends a regular group and, without intervention, not being able to continue this activity would leave a huge gap in her life.

Your drivers also need a huge thank you of course and they have been brilliant without exception. Together you form the 'dream team' – keep up the good work!"

**WANTED!**  
VOLUNTEER CAR DRIVERS



Supporting local residents to get out and about

Contact Dial2Drive  
0300 777 1200  
[volunteering@imago.community](mailto:volunteering@imago.community)

### Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra Family Concert - It's Magic!

Sunday 6th October 4pm at the STAG.

Enter the world of magic in our ever-popular family concert, a 75-minute programme specially arranged for children and their families, including tunes from Harry Potter and Frozen.

Tickets £9 on 01732 450 175.





Kent Advice Hub



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(Mon to Fri, 9am - 5pm)



Visit our kiosk at:

St John's Church Centre, Foxbush,  
Hildenborough, Tonbridge, TN11 9HT

Thursdays and Fridays  
9am - 1pm



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We won't pass on anything you tell us without your consent



## Forget-me-not Cafés

Companionship over a cuppa



Do you know which song won the Eurovision Song Contest in 1958? It was won by France with a song called "Dors Mon Amour" which translates to Sleep, my Love. At our September café we welcomed back the singer Santini with his guitar, and this was one of the songs in his repertoire. We also had some rock n roll, a bit of Neil Diamond and Cat Stevens. We enjoyed coffee, tea, cake and biscuits and all the ladies went home with a small posy of flowers.



The Café is open to anyone who would 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.

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 – 12.30 pm on the second Wednesday of the month in the Family Room of the Church Centre at St. John's Church Hildenborough. There is plenty of free parking and disabled facilities on site.

I don't know if I am allowed to mention the 'C' word yet but a date for your diary is Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 10.45am when St. John's Church will be holding its traditional Dementia Friendly Carol Service followed by refreshments in the Church Centre. We would love to see as many people as possible and everyone is invited to this service to support those living with dementia.

If you would like more information on the Forget-me-not Cafés or would like to be put on the mailing list for the monthly programme of all the Cafés contact Elaine on [forgetmenot.sadfc@gmail.com](mailto:forgetmenot.sadfc@gmail.com) or 07946 534 476.

Julie Rhodes

**HIVE**  
Hildenborough Village

For school year  
**6-13**  
**£1 for this session**

**The Hive Youth Group**

**Sunday 13th October**

**We are looking forward to a visit from Balance and Juggle.**

**There will also be a hotdog supper games tables and crafts.**

**All youth leaders hold a valid DBS**

For more information please contact  
Lisa Glasscote  
lisa@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk  
5-7pm at St John's Church Centre

**CAFÉ THEO**

**After School Youth Café**  
Starts back Friday 20th September

For school years 6-13.  
Open 1st and 3rd Friday in term time  
4-5:30pm  
St John's Church Centre, Hildenborough.

- Games tables
- Board Games
- Consoles
- Crafts

For more info email...  
lisa@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

**From our MP: Tom Tugendhat**

At the very end of July, the new Government announced plans which would significantly change planning rules, and how the location for new homes is decided.

Sadly, the approach of the Government to rip up planning laws in rural areas such as ours means the greenbelt will be torn up in many places.

I am committed to increasing the supply of housing, but we can do this in a different way. Our green spaces are an invaluable part of the national inheritance for our children, and our children's children - when it's gone, it's gone.

Building the right homes in the right places means that where there is higher demand in cities, logically the concentration of new homes should be built there.

The new Government's plan sees the housing target for Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council increase by 29%.

Representing parts of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and Sevenoaks District

Council, I have calculated that the new Government are asking our area to deliver nearly 1,000 more new homes each year, on top of the existing targets. Yet while this is requested in our area London is seeing its housing target reduce and neighbouring Councils such as Medway also see a reduction.

That's why I support our Council in leading the opposition to these proposed changes. We need new housing in towns and cities, while ensuring rural areas can preserve their character, development only takes place where there is appropriate infrastructure, and community consent is upheld.

If you would like to share your thoughts with me or have any issues I can help with, please contact me using these details:

E-mail – [tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk)

Phone – 01732 441 563

Post – 130 Vale Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1SP

**Hildenborough Village Preservation Association**  
Committee members required

If you have an interest in your surroundings and would like to contribute to the work of the Association we would be pleased to hear from you.

In particular the role of Treasurer requires to be filled as well as other positions on the committee.

Regards

David Vanns - [davidvanns@icloud.com](mailto:davidvanns@icloud.com)

[www.https://hildenboroughvpa.wordpress.com/](http://www.https://hildenboroughvpa.wordpress.com/)



The Farmers' Market has successfully moved venue to Hildenborough Village Hall in Riding Lane. We have had positive feedback and have tried to tweak any problems and noted any comments made by our customers and stallholders.

The school holidays are with us again. During half term on the Tuesday Market, we have something completely different. The Angel Dance Company will be holding Hip Hop Dance Classes for kids of all ages. Come along and try them out and find out more information with the fabulous teacher Lauren. Follow them on socials - @adcdanceschool.



On Tuesday October 15<sup>th</sup> we will be continuing our annual support of "Turning Tonbridge Pink" by raising money for Breast Cancer Now. This is a charity that offers help to those with breast cancer through talking,



information and research. Come along to support this worthwhile charity by buying a raffle ticket or if you feel brave you could wear pink!

We have been updating our social media pages and you can find lots of information about the Market on Facebook and Instagram. Why not follow us on these sites for up-to-date information on stallholders and activities.

Just to keep our customers informed we would like to let you know that Mikey our fresh fish supplier is at the Market from 8.30 am until **10.30 am**. Please be aware of the times so that you arrive in time to buy your fish.

We would also like to say that we are unable to allow dogs into the Market. Assistance dogs are allowed to accompany their owners.

The Market is now under new management, Nick Aldridge, assisted by Steve Sinclair, and can be contacted on: - [managerhildenboroughfm@gmail.com](mailto:managerhildenboroughfm@gmail.com)

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*A letter from Janet Richardson written on 15<sup>th</sup> August:*

*Dear Friends & Supporters of HFM,*

*I would just like to say how astounded and amazed I have been over the past few weeks at the outpouring of appreciation and support from the village and further afield that there has been for Hildenborough Farmers' Market. I am truly humbled and so very grateful to you all as I retire from being the manager.*

*As you all know HFM is a team effort and so my thanks to everyone who has supported me.*

*Having said all this dear supporters and village people **THIS IS YOUR MARKET** and it is you that make it such a special place to be every Tuesday and it is you that make it such a community asset.*

*I am sure with your support; in its new venue it will go from strength to strength for the benefit of our village.*

*With my grateful thanks  
**Janet Richardson (Retired !!)***

### FARMERS' MARKET RECIPE

#### Quick Tomato Chutney

If you have lots of tomatoes in your greenhouse then give this recipe a try:

#### Ingredients

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- ½ shallot, chopped
- 1½ medium-large tomatoes, chopped
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 1 tbsp balsamic vinegar
- 1 tsp brown sugar

#### Method

1. Heat the oil in a small pan over a medium heat.
2. Add the shallots, tomatoes and garlic and cook for 5–8 minutes or until softened.
3. Add the vinegar and sugar and cook for a further 3–5 minutes, or until the chutney has caramelised slightly. Serve immediately.

## HILDENBOROUGH GARDENERS' SOCIETY

Founded in 1896

The society held its autumn show, the last of the year, on Saturday September 7<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall. The show was a great success, with many entries, especially from our young gardeners. Hildenborough Primary School win the inter-schools Coblands Cup.

On October 11<sup>th</sup> we are holding a quiz evening in the Village Hall. Teams of 6 will answer questions on a wide variety of topics, not just gardening. To date we have a number of entries, but can still take more. If you would like to enter a team table (or as individuals) please contact David Haugh on 01732 832 869.

Members are reminded that our garden store in Riding Lane will close on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> for the winter, so get your supplies in before then. We have new stocks of peat-free compost as well as other composts and farmyard manure, to enhance your garden for 2025.

Our A.G.M. will take place on Friday December 6<sup>th</sup> at 8p.m. in the Village Hall. We shall be seeking new committee members to replace some of our existing ones who will be stepping down.

*David Haugh*





## WHAT IS U3A? – Open Afternoon Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, Angel Centre 2pm

Have you recently retired, or are just looking for ways to pass the time, or find new friends? If so, U3A may be the answer. Although U3A stands for ‘University of the Third Age’ and was originally set up in France in the 1970s to find jobs for retired teaching staff, In England it has been reinvigorated as a voluntary body organising social and educational activities for those with time to spare. So why not come along and find out what we do? Every year we hold an Open Afternoon, and this year it will be on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October in Tonbridge’s Angel Centre, this is open to everyone and starts at 2pm.

In the UK U3A has over 350,000 members across the country, organised into over 1,000 units. Local U3As are autonomous, led by volunteers, and cater for most sporting, artistic or intellectual interests, together with theatre outings, quizzes, coffee mornings and monthly meetings with speakers or teachers. Our mission is ‘Learn Laugh, Live!’

U3A is best known for its groups. Tonbridge U3A is currently able to offer over 80 specialised areas of activity, and at the Open Afternoon our groups set out their stalls to show what they offer. We are always keen to start new groups, and in the past 12 months we have found volunteers to start a Pickleball group, a Stitching group, and a second MOTO (Members On Their Own) group. We would also like to resurrect past groups such as those studying family history, local history and geology. Look us up on our website [www.tonbridgeu3a.uk](http://www.tonbridgeu3a.uk) to find out more.

*Lionel Shields*

## Hildenborough Cricket Club

Tim Walford was Hildenborough Cricket Club's latest centurion but still finished up on the losing side in a near 500-run fest at Stonewall Park. Walford walked out with his side 38-3, hitting 107 off only 65 balls, including 21 fours and two sixes before retiring in a total of 225-4. However consistent batting by the hosts saw them home totalling 227-3 to win with more than five overs to spare.



Billy Francis claimed the honours with bat and ball in a 21 run home win over Kent Ramblas. He struck an unbeaten 80 with 11 fours and a six, took 3-7 in two overs with the ball, and topped things off with a run-out. Mark Davies (39), and Russell Skinner (28 not out) offering good support in Hildenborough's total of 191-3 in 35 overs. Ramblas got to 63-1, before Francis struck, the visitors reduced to 91-8, before late hitting by the No 8 batter with 49 carried them to 170-9. Tom Collier took 3-23.

A hundred by the visiting opener dominated Petts Wood's innings as they won by 12 runs. He made 100 not out in a total of 171-6. Greg Smith (54), Mark Davies (39) and Barry Webb (23) were Hildenborough's main contributors in a total of 159-5.

*Peter Wood*



**Evening WI:** Our September 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 Paul Beard - “Barnardo’s, a Personal Story.” He gave us a really interesting talk about the 150-year history of Barnardo’s and the role they have played in the lives of the thousands of children and young people they have helped. Thomas Barnardo was born in 1845 and after joining The Plymouth Brethren, went to London (on his way to China) for the start of his missionary work. He was shocked by the poverty and destitute children and decided he wanted to help. In 1870 he opened his first boys’ orphanage, and from there several other school and homes, and this legacy has continued to the present day.

Paul has worked for Barnardo’s and is a speaker and charity ambassador for them, he has also been a foster carer and told us the moving story of one of the boys that he and

his wife fostered for several years. As with many children in the care system he had a difficult start to life and was troubled as a teenager, however, he was able to find more happiness as a young adult, meeting a girl, moving in with her and starting a family. Paul and his wife fostered several children, and he continues to be an advocate for fostering and Barnardo’s and the amazing work they do.

We rounded off our evening with a cup of tea and Jan read an extract from a book regarding some interesting facts about the old Fidelity site in Hildenborough.

Our next meeting is **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October**, when we will be having our Harvest Supper.

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 just 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.*

## Scam Warnings

Sadly, there are scammers out there looking to prey on unsuspecting individuals. Here are some warnings to consider.

A resident got in touch recently to warn of a scamming attempt where they were called by a ‘local’ number claiming to be calling from BT. You should always be careful as numbers can be ‘spoofed’ meaning a local number could be anywhere in the world.

Parking has been a hot topic in the area recently and we have warnings of two scams. Lots of car parks now have QR codes (like square bar codes) that take you to the

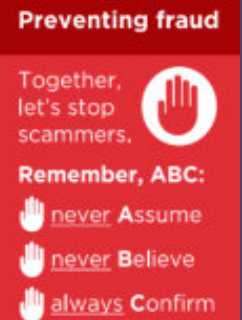
operator’s website. Scammers can stick a fake QR code over the top and take you to a website that may try to steal your card details.

Another one is fake text messages with a link that again takes you to a dodgy website that may look legitimate.

Kent Police’s advice is to remember ABC (see the picture on the right).

Be sceptical and don’t let yourself be rushed into anything.

*Rob Mansfield*





# T.M.B.C. News

## Pets as Prizes.

I received some similar emails from residents, concerned about animals, particularly goldfish being given away as prizes from users with stalls etc, whilst on Council land. Correspondents asked for a motion, put forward by the RSPCA, to be put to the Council asking for a ban on such practices. I am able to state that a motion is not necessary. Users of Council property/land sign up to a stringent set of conditions, which include No pets as prizes. The release of Helium filled balloons is also not permitted. A TMBC employee is on duty at such events to monitor proceedings.

## Weedkillers.

I have also received an email from a resident concerned about the use of urban pesticides. These can include, and to be accurate Glyphosate (IUPAC name: N-(phosphonomethyl)glycine) is a broad-spectrum systemic herbicide and crop desiccant. and MCPA ((2-methyl-4-chlorophenoxyacetic acid) and is a widely used phenoxy herbicide introduced in 1945).

TMBC's contractors for grounds maintenance do use both chemicals especially with difficult weeds and areas, but their use is reducing. Tonbridge Sportsground Management Plan has numerous projects and Project 47 is to investigate alternatives for weed control, this can be steam machine and or various acids. The main driver for the ban comes from Pesticide Action Network UK and Pesticide Collaboration. You will have seen in the news Lambeth Council stopped controlling weeds and things got out of control. One idea put forward for weed control is residents weeding their area by hand.

## Tonbridge Community Forum (TCF).

The Tonbridge part of Hildenborough ward benefits from Tonbridge Groups coming

together at the TCF, a couple of times a year. Unfortunately, despite a great number of groups in Tonbridge, attendance at the TCF has been in decline, and that can be for many reasons. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee are reviewing the TCF with a check on Tonbridge Groups to secure their wishes and what they now require from the TCF.

## Leigh Barrier.

For information on the Leigh Flood Storage Area please contact LEHES@environment-agency.gov.uk and ask to be put on the mailing list.

## K.C.C

If you are reading this before October 8<sup>th</sup>, you still have time to comment on KCC's statutory Local Transport Plan. The intention is that the plan will set out KCC's priorities for transport investment in the County as a whole and across each district/borough. The link is [www.kent.gov.uk/ltp5](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ltp5)

## 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](mailto:Kath.Barton@tmbc.gov.uk)

Mark Rhodes 01732 369 405  
39 Cranford Road, Tonbridge  
[mark.rhodes@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:mark.rhodes@tmbc.gov.uk)

TMBC - 01732 844 522

**Kent County Councillor**  
Harry Rayner 03000 421 606  
[harry.rayner@kent.gov.uk](mailto:harry.rayner@kent.gov.uk)

Contact the Parish Council via  
[clerk@hildenboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@hildenboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
or by telephone (07818 329 029)  
**Hildenborough PC, Riding Lane,  
Hildenborough, TN11 9HY**

## **Hildenborough History Society**

A talk entitled "Cutting Down Trees" given by Lynne and Peter Flower is the highlight of our October Meeting on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October at the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. There is an update on activities of the Society before a refreshing cup of tea or coffee before the talk begins.

If you are not a member but would like to be you can join for £5 per annum and enjoy 4 such talks a year without additional cost. Alternatively, attendance just for this night will cost you £2.

Our next quarterly meeting is January 24 when a warm welcome awaits George Buswell who has entertained and educated us on a variety of

subjects over the last few years. This time his talk is entitled "Tonbridge and the English Civil War"

We hope to give an update on the reprint of "Hildenborough Our Village". Another interesting development is an idea to re-produce a map of footpaths in the Village which was published by the Parish Council in 1985. Whilst some paths have been subject to minor change over the years other parts of such ancient byways are unchanged. It is considered that availability of the map allied to the book reprint will prove to be widely popular. New Villagers or others straying into our territory for the first time should also benefit from a re-print.

*Pat Davies*

## **Hildenborough Library**

Library Groups as follows (Term Time only)

**"The wind is rising, and the air is wild with leaves. We have had our summer evenings; now for October eves!" – Humbert Wolfe**

Rhyme Time  
Tuesday 10:30am to 10:50am

Knit and Natter  
Thursday 2:00pm to 3:00pm Fortnightly

Writing Group  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month 10:00am -11:00 am

Ancestry Buddy (booking required)  
Thursday 10:00am to 12:00pm

Craft Session  
Saturday 10:30am to 11:30am

If you have pre-school children and are at a loose end on a Tuesday morning, please come and join our Rhyme Time session at 10:30am. No booking needed and a lovely sing-along is just what is needed as the weather begins to turn, though ear plugs may be needed if I start singing...!

*Jacie*

# delilah & herb

## Grandad's Garden

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer - one which seems to have ended abruptly as I write in mid-September. The last few days have seen big downpours and storms, the last of my roses haven't survived - the patio is covered in soggy petals that need to be swept up but, on a damp, grey day the sofa seems more inviting!



As we prepare for colder weather and the change of the season there's still a lot to be found in the garden that you can cut and bring in to create a beautiful seasonal display that will brighten up your day. My Grandad, who turns 88 on the 25th of this month, keeps his garden immaculately. He still proudly presides over a wonderful display at this time of year, and it would be a lie if I said I'd never 'borrowed' anything for my designs. Here are some of our Autumn favourites for making beautiful displays.

1. Dahlias (right) - a wonderful 'cut and come again' staple for any garden - these will continue to bloom until the first frosts so continue to keep snipping them. Dramatic enough to hold their own in a stem vase or as part of a larger tonal display, they hold a well-deserved place as one of our all-time favourites.

2. Nerines - a last splash of ornamental colour, often in bright pinks. I discovered these after Grandad gifted me some bulbs one year - I wasn't as successful at growing them as he is, but they

cut so well and last in the vase, bringing a pop of colour indoors.

3. Sedum - a great plant to use throughout its lifecycle, but now it is in full flower often with a rusty red hue. This will also last forever in the vase and its 'tree like' heads can be used to provide structure and support for other more delicate stems.

4. Hydrangea - the way a hydrangea flower changes colour throughout the season fascinates me. By now, they are often deepening and mottled in colour. Grandad's hydrangea always has both blue and pink flowers on the same plant - and they fade out to gorgeous crimsons and greens. They will dry beautifully and create a lasting display inside.

5. Camelia - Grandad of course has great success with his camelias, they are always absolutely covered in flowers later in winter. The glossy, dark green leaves however make a lovely foliage to incorporate now into designs and are a wonderful combination with the rich colours of the autumn flowers.

As always, have a go. Snip what's available to you and have a go at arranging it indoors. Working with flowers is proven to make us feel better, reducing stress - I'm sure this must be one of Grandad's best kept secrets and the reason he's still able to enjoy being outside every day, working with the earth.



Finally, a quick reminder to get ahead for next season - October is still a great time to get your spring bulbs in the ground if you haven't already. I'll be starting to look ahead to Christmas soon and the onset

of wreath making draws near!

Amy Pay - delilahandherb@gmail.com

## Setting dogs up for success

Living with dogs can be fun and fulfilling, but it can also be frustrating and annoying. When things go wrong, we often wonder how to 'stop' a particular behaviour. The problem with focusing on stopping a behaviour, is that it leads us to think about punishment. In scientific terms, punishment is something that stops or reduces a behaviour. But for it to have this effect, punishment is usually something aversive (i.e. an unpleasant sensation). There's a whole scale from mildly aversive (looking cross) to highly aversive (shock collars and the like). But arguments about what punishment to apply and when and how rather miss the point. Rather than focusing on stopping a dog doing something, and punishing them for it, we can instead focus on creating and strengthening wanted behaviours by using rewards. Rewards (positive reinforcement) can be anything a dog likes and would happily work for, and includes food, toys, play, running, sniffing, searching, retrieving, tugging, praise and attention. The skill is in controlling their access to things they want to get to

(squirrels, escape, eating poo etc) while rewarding them for doing what we want (walking nicely on a lead without pulling, coming back when called, leaving poo alone etc). Although when you first set out to train your dog you might need to use lures and lots of rewards, once they've learnt verbal or visual cues the lures can be dispensed with; and once they've realised that training is fun, you'll find yourself providing different rewards. So, rather than seemingly handfuls of food, suddenly your praise means more, or the training itself becomes motivating to your dog and you can expect a lot more for a couple of food treats, or the opportunity to chase after a ball. When dogs are rewarded for doing wanted behaviours, the unwanted behaviours begin to disappear because they've been replaced or are no longer useful to them. The other added benefit of reward-based training of course, is that it makes for a much more pleasant experience for your dog! For contact details, see page 25.

Sarah Crockford

## Menopause Awareness Month

World Menopause Awareness Day is held every year on 18 October. It raises awareness to help break the stigma that can be attached to menopause, and shares support for improving health and wellbeing for those going through it.

There are four stages to menopause:

Premenopause - before symptoms occur

Perimenopause - hormonal changes begin

Menopause - the day after 12 months of not having a period

Postmenopause - over a year without a period



Gaining as much awareness as you can on this journey may help to ease the mental, physical and emotional struggles that it can bring about.

Symptom checkers can be a great place to start. [www.menopausesupport.co.uk](http://www.menopausesupport.co.uk) has some helpful information. You can find a symptom checker under their *Free Resources* tab (*Menopause and GSM Symptom checkers*). You could even share the results with your GP. For more helpful information on Menopause look up: NICE guidelines, The British Menopause Society and the NHS.

Remember, keeping active can assist your Menopause journey. Enjoy a good mix of exercises: strength, weight-bearing and resistance training; balance and coordination; and impact movements. These forms of exercise will not only help boost your mental health but can prevent osteoporosis and increase bone density amongst many other benefits during Menopause. Eating healthily is also key. Limiting certain foods and drinks may reduce some symptoms.

Kirsten, Body Wellness  
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[www.bodywellnesspilates.org](http://www.bodywellnesspilates.org)



**TONBRIDGE MUSIC CLUB**  
**FIRST CONCERT OF THE NEW SEASON**  
 The Fitzroy Quartet, Saturday 5 October, 7.30pm  
 Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul, Tonbridge.

As Autumn approaches, so does the start of Tonbridge Music Club's 2024/25 Season. As always, there is a wide variety of top-quality music to choose from in our programme which starts in October this year and ends the following June.

Tonbridge Music Club (TMC) was founded as a charity in 1962 with the aim of bringing the highest quality music-making to Tonbridge, thereby enriching the town's musical life. Each year since then, it has organised a season of concerts featuring world-class artists. Over the years, both TMC members and the general public have enjoyed performances of the highest artistic standards by internationally renowned musicians as well as young award-winning performers at the start of their careers. Our musical events range from evening performances to Sunday morning coffee concerts by some of the most recognised musicians on the scene today, to school-based workshops and family concerts. By doing so, we hope to broaden the appeal of live music-making for all ages and stimulate the rewards it can bring. Our first concert of the Season demonstrates our commitment to these principles. The Fitzroy Quartet, one of the brightest and best young quartets on the current musical scene, bring insight, depth and energy to their music-making. The programme includes familiar favourites and more contemporary works, the highlight being the wonderful Debussy Quartet.

Described as "engaging and responsive to the emotional worlds of each piece in turn", the Fitzroy Quartet was formed in 2015 whilst all four members were studying at the Royal Academy of Music, receiving tuition from the Endellion Quartet's Garfield Jackson. In the years since their formation, they have won many prizes and awards. Most recently, they were Tunnel Trust Award Winners for the 2019/20 season as well as being chosen for the Cremona Quartet's Le Dimore del Quartetto scheme. Other prizes include, 1st Prize in the Cavatina Intercollegiate Competition, 1st Prize in the Wolfe Wolfsohn Competition, as well as the Sir John Barbirolli Memorial Prize and the St Peters Eaton Square award.



The Quartet regularly performs across the UK, Europe and the world at prestigious venues and festivals, including multiple performances at the Wigmore Hall. The Quartet is also committed to the education of young chamber musicians, having given lessons and masterclasses at many of the UK's most prestigious Schools and Universities.

Much more about TMC can be found on its website, [www.tmc.org.uk](http://www.tmc.org.uk), as well as information on how to book tickets or join as a member. Or you may prefer to call 01732 364 204. Everyone is welcome to attend TMC concerts, both members and non-members. For non-members, tickets for the Fitzroy Quartet concert cost £20 for an adult and £5 for students and under-18s. Please note that under-16s must be accompanied by an adult.

We look forward to welcoming you to one of our concerts very soon!

**The Night Sky in Hildenborough**  
**October 2024**

In the solar system, as in the wider universe, not much moves in a perfect circle. The orbits of the Moon around the Earth and the planets and other objects around the Sun are all ellipses. In some cases, these are almost circular but in others they are extremely elliptical. Comets are a prime example of bodies that move in orbits far removed from circles. Closer to home, the Moon moves around us on an elliptical path whilst at the same time we move elliptically around the Sun. The result of this is that the distances between the three bodies is constantly changing. We can see this for ourselves in the way the size of the Moon varies which occasionally provides us with a "supermoon". This is something that is seriously over hyped by the media and possibly indicates a "not much news day". Any casual observer who glances at the full Moon on such an occasion won't immediately be struck by its suddenly engrossed proportions.

Because the Moon has to be opposite the Sun to appear full, it follows that at such a time, the Moon is rising as the Sun is setting so the rising full Moon is always seen at a comparatively sensible hour. It is a well-known phenomenon that a full Moon always looks larger when it is seen rising against other foreground objects such as trees and buildings even when it isn't a supermoon. If you watch the Moon rising and then look again several hours later you will see that, miraculously, it has reverted to its regular size. It's entirely likely that if the full Moon were to rise at 3am then the term supermoon would never have come into existence.

Of course, the supermoon does appear larger but not by very much. If we go back to thinking about elliptical orbits, then when the Moon is at perigee

(closest to Earth) it is around 7% larger than average and when it is at apogee (furthest from Earth) it is 7% smaller than average. It is also brighter when it appears larger but only because there is (apparently) more surface area to reflect the sunlight onto the Earth.

Another example of an elliptical orbit can be seen on 2<sup>nd</sup> October when the southern tip of South America experiences an eclipse of the Sun. In most total solar eclipses, the Sun's light is blotted out completely which allows us to observe the corona, the Sun's outer atmosphere which is normally invisible to us. However, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of this month, the Moon will be slightly more distant from the Earth with the result that it appears smaller and in fact not large enough to obscure all of the Sun. The result is what astronomers call an "annular" eclipse because a ring (annulus) of sunlight remains visible even when the Moon is centrally located in front of the Sun. If you would like to witness the event there are always live feeds on the internet if you do a search. The eclipse begins at 5:50pm and finishes at 9:39pm BST.

For planetary observers, the evening sky is an improving picture with Mars rising at 11pm, Jupiter at 9.30pm and Saturn at 6pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> October. If you look at the map for September, the planets are in virtually the same positions although Mars is slightly further east (left). Just be aware that although the relationship of the planets to the stars is very similar the sky has rotated a little towards the west.

Venus is still very low down in the SW (just 8° high) at sunset around the middle of October. Please wait until the Sun has set before searching for it with any optical aid to avoid any damage to your eyes.

*Brian Mills FRAS*

# Centre Piece

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

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September, the Parish Council met following the summer break during which time sadly, the council's Vice-Chair, Cllr Karen Dobson, resigned from the council for personal reasons. This means there is a vacancy for a new parish councillor which is the perfect role for anyone wishing to get more involved in serving their local community. Parish councillors are required to attend one council meeting a month, on a Wednesday evening, and be willing to join at least one of the committees – Planning, Finance and/or Open Spaces. The council currently has members from a diverse range of backgrounds leading to interesting discussions from a range of perspectives about issues concerning the residents of Hildenborough. Please contact me for more information if you think this is a role you would like to consider.

## Highways

At the September Parish Council meeting the councillors agreed unanimously to accept Kent County Council's offer to upgrade the existing village name plate on the B245 to a "gateway" with the words "Please Drive Carefully" to remind motorists of the 30mph speed limit as they come into Hildenborough from the London Road end of the B245. With regard to the potential installation of double yellow lines opposite the Harvest Garage to try and deter inconsiderate parking, the first stage of the process will be for the Parish Council to carry out a "Pre-consultation Engagement" exercise to provide evidence to Tonbridge and Malling District Council of local support for the

project. Judging by the number of complaints we receive regarding the risks being posed to pedestrians by motorists obstructing the pavement, we trust there will be plenty of support for anything that will improve safety for residents.

## Recreation Ground

This summer our contractor spent a couple of days clearing out the ditches around part of the perimeter of the Recreation Ground, ready for the rainy season. We were very pleased that the work was completed quickly with a thorough clean up and removal of the debris afterwards, resulting in minimum disruption to the users of the Rec'.

Our Maintenance Contractor, Andy, has repaired the broken fence at the playground recently and treated it with preservative and one of the next jobs on the list will be to repair patches of the surface of the playground that are showing signs of wear and tear. Members of the Parish Council and an ex-councillor undertook a playground safety training course during the summer to enable them to carry out the weekly safety checks in the event that Andy is unable to do so.

## West Wood

Work on completing the installation of the new picnic table in memory of Cllr Mike Dobson was completed this summer and all that is left to do now is to fill the planter with a selection of hardy plants. There is no water supply close by for watering the plants which will limit the choice but there are

drought-tolerant plants, such as grasses, that it has been suggested would be suitable.



Members of the late Cllr Mike Dobson's family gather for a photo by the picnic table they have donated to the community in his memory.

Nature has been working its magic around the renovated pond, with native plants repopulating the areas that were covered in silt that was removed from the pond when the work was carried out. However, thorny brambles are winning the race to re-establish themselves so the Hildenborough Conservation Group are being asked to recommend how best to manage the process so that more attractive, native wild plants can hold sway over the brambles.

## Village Green

We would like to say a big "thank you" to the residents who have been helping to look after the trees and planters on the Village Green all through the summer. Their regular

watering of the flowers in the planters has helped to ensure a colourful display for residents and users of this local public space to enjoy.

## Police

This summer we said goodbye to Hildenborough's Beat Officer, PC Ollie Evans, who has moved on to pastures new and from 9<sup>th</sup> September PC Tom Mead took over the role. Before he left, Ollie asked me to share the following message with readers of Keys magazine: "I have enjoyed my 15 months working in Hildenborough and would like to thank the residents for being so forthcoming with me. The village is a very safe and respectful place to live and work in and it has been a pleasure to see the community spirit thrive. Remember to remain vigilant and report anything suspicious to the police or Parish Council as, believe it or not, there is lots going on behind the scenes working towards keeping you safe! All the best, Ollie."

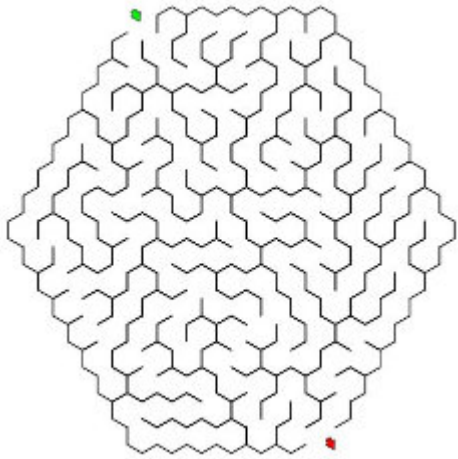
I am sure PC Tom Mead will enjoy meeting Hildenborough's residents as he familiarises himself with his new area.

Finally, I am sure users of the Village Hall will be pleased to hear that the building can now offer free WiFi access to visitors, courtesy of the Parish Council who are the trustees of the building.

Please e-mail [clerk@hildenboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@hildenboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk) or call me on 07828 329 029 if you have any issues you would like to report. On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October, members of the Parish Council will be at Hildenborough Farmers' Market for a coffee and chat with residents.

**Julia Church**

**Puzzle Page**



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y	q	g	e	r	a	s	a	h	o	m	e
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n	m	y	z	s	d	a	a	r	y	e	t
t	h	a	p	p	e	n	e	d	o	r	e
k	w	r	n	l	e	g	i	o	n	d	l
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<u>Wordsearch clues</u>	disciples	man	happened	demons
home	clothes	Jesus	Gerasa	leave
leigon	name	graveyard	come	many
cliff	pigherds	tell	pigs	chains
everyone	want	stampeded	begged	terrified



The harvest produce was taken to the old people's bungalows

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## Church Contacts

Home (Connect) Groups

Prayer Chain

Bright Sparks, (Mondays, term-time)

Generation Creation (Sundays)

Church Office **01732 833 596**

Cynthia Fawcus **01732 833 397**

Lisa Glasscote **01732 833 596**

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Evening Women's Institute

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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

Floodline

Hildenborough Speedwatch

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## Hildenborough Sports

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Hildenborough Friendly Badminton Club

Stoolball Club

Tennis Club (membership)

Hildenborough Road Races

Tonbridge Swimming Club

Tonbridge Bridge Club

Miss Lorna Stapley - **07960 174 789**

**hildenboroughbeavers8thtonbridgescouts@hotmail.com**

**hildenboroughwolfcubs@gmail.com**

**8thtonbridgescouts@gmail.com**

Sharon Roberts - **07960 782 178**

**hildenbrownies@outlook.com**

Mrs Lynne Flower **01732 355 080**

Nick Aldridge - **managerhildenboroughfm@gmail.com**

David Haugh **01732 832 869**

Judith McQuillan **01732 834 610**

David Vanns **01732 835 289**

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Barry Webb **01732 838 422**

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Amy Pay - **hildenroadrace@gmail.com**

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Lionel Shields **01732 355 919**



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## COMPANIES HOUSE ONLINE SERVICES TO MOVE TO GOV.UK ONE LOGIN

Companies House confirmed that their online services will move to the GOV.UK One Login beginning from autumn 2024.

The GOV.UK One Login is becoming an increasingly important way of accessing government digital services. It means that you only need one account, one username, and one password to access a range of government services.

The Login is already used for a

number of government services, including those related to being an apprenticeship provider and finding and applying for grants.

Ultimately, the GOV.UK One Login will be used to access all GOV.UK services, which eventually would include tax services. Companies House services moving across will be a major step towards this goal.

The Find and update company information service will be the first

to move across, with the Webfiling service being moved at a later date.

As part of the changes being made by the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act, any person who sets up, runs, or controls a company in the UK will need to verify their identity.

The GOV.UK Login will be used when Companies House implement this requirement so that users can verify their identity directly.

If you would like any advice, please contact us on **01732 838877**

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