

COLLIER STREET NEWS

November 2020



THIS ISSUE:

Ramblings

Jacqui Bakes

School Report

Words from Lay Minister Justin Elks

Fungi Finding

Woodpeckers

The Dog Walking Circle

Parish Council Meeting Notes

COLLIER STREET

PAPER DELIVERY

There is a paper delivery service to the village at around 6am every morning. It is supplied by Jackie's News Limited based in Tenterden, they can be contacted on 01580 763183. Cost of delivery is £3.51 a week.

Rubbish, food waste and small electrical items

9th and 23rd November

Recycling, food waste and textiles

2nd, 16th and 30th November

Please check www.maidstone.gov.uk for more information.

COLLIER STREET PARISH COUNCIL HAVE A NEW WEBSITE:

<https://collierstreetparishcouncil.co.uk>

PCSO NICOLA MORRIS

If you are worried about crime and antisocial behaviour in your area, I am the local Police Community Support Officer for **Collier Street, Laddingford and Yalding.**

If you would like to talk to me, please ring - **Mobile: 07870163411 / Non-emergency: 101**

There is a very successful Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Collier Street involving over 100 residents.

However there are many more households within the Parish who are currently not involved in the scheme. If you would like to be part of the NHW scheme and receive notifications of any suspicious activity or crime then please send your email address to Barbara Grandi at:

barbaragrandi@aol.com

Editors' Report

Thankfully 2020 is nearing it's end and November is now upon us. Hopefully you will be able to attend a safe firework display but if letting fireworks off at home, remember livestock and pets will be traumatised and neighbours will not want to hear them late in the evening. Be responsible.



Front cover, small picture—Drays picking up hop pockets outside Martins Farm

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF KIND RESIDENTS IN THE VILLAGE WHO HAVE OFFERED TO HELP ANYONE WHO IS SELF-ISOLATING OR NEEDS HELP DURING THIS CRISIS

IF YOU WOULD LIKE SOMEONE TO COLLECT SHOPPING, MEDICINE OR TO WALK YOUR DOG PLEASE CONTACT EITHER:

DAVID GOFF: 01892 730512

BARBARA GRANDI: 01892 730376

MARGARET ASHWORTH: 01892 730323

AND THEY WILL PUT YOU IN TOUCH WITH SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP

PLEASE DO ASK FOR HELP!

WE NEED YOUR HELP

We would love to hear from you with information, ideas or anything you may feel relevant to the magazine and our village. Maybe a photo taken in the village, or something you would like to share, or write us a letter. Or please send us a picture of your pet for 'cute pet of the month'.

Without your contributions there would not be a magazine, so please send to
editorparishmag@mail.com

FLY TIPPING AND POTHOLES

Did you know that anyone can report pot holes or fly tipping in the village.

Please go to the Maidstone Borough Council website and click on the "Report It" tab.



CUTE PET OF THE MONTH - KODA



WHEELCHAIR AVAILABLE

FOR BORROWING ON SHORT-TERM BASIS

FOLDS FLAT

NOT SELF-PROPELLING

PHONE SUE 01892 730393

(picture not actual chair)



LOCAL BABYSITTERS

- Lucy Anderson 730244 - Weekdays and weekends
- Rosie Ridd 730816 - During term time Friday and Saturday evenings only
- Edward Simmonds 730306 - Any time in Holidays, own transport
- Victoria Simmonds 730306 - Anytime , own transport
- Nancy Murdoch 730433 - Anytime
- Jonny Bentley - 730252
- Georgie Barham - 730247





CHURCH INFORMATION

NOVEMBER 2020

CHURCH ROTA FOR NOVEMBER 2020

Tea & Coffee :

8th and 15th—Mrs Ashworth

22nd and 29th—Mrs Head

Brass Cleaning and Altar Flowers

Mrs Doctor

St. Peter & St. Paul, Yalding

with Junior Church on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays

Wednesday's	10.00am	Said Communion
1st, 2nd, 3rd Sunday	09.30am	Holy Communion
4th Sunday	09.30am	Breakfast
	10.00am	All Age Worship
5th Sunday	09.30am	Family Communion

St. Margaret's, Collier Street

Every Sunday	11.00am	Holy Communion
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St. Mary's, Laddingford

2nd Sunday	09.00am	Morning Worship
4th Sunday	09.00am	Morning Communion

CHURCH CONTACTS

Churchwardens	Rachel West	01622 872278	rachel.west@ymail.com
	Joanna Doctor	01892 730489	josoar@aol.com
Parish Secretary	Sue Crompton	01622 814182	office@yaldingchurches.co.uk
PCC Secretary	Vicky George		brivick@aol.com
Safe Guarding	Sue Crompton	01622 814182	office@yaldingchurches.co.uk

The new creation

“...there is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or more uncertain in its success, than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things. Because the innovator has for enemies all those who have done well under the old conditions, and lukewarm defenders in those who may do well under the new.”

This quote, from Niccolò Machiavelli's *The Prince*, was given to me when I started a major transformation project at work to make the point that it wouldn't be easy. Significant change is difficult for all of us. It shifts the foundations on which we rely for our security. Detractors tend to be more vocal than supporters. Change can often feel “done to” us rather than “done with” our engagement and collaboration, or even a clear explanation of why it's necessary.

So it is with the Covid-19 pandemic, and the significant anxiety, suffering and uncertainty it has created. While recognising this pain, changes have sometimes been two-edged, bringing benefits and opportunities alongside risks. While some seem keen we get back to normal as soon as possible, others would like to make changes to their lives and to society. Machiavelli's words encourage us to consider the motives of those taking either position. Irrespective of what we'd like to do, the virus continues to create uncertainty.

Christianity brings a message of radical change. Jesus' parable of the wineskins (Luke 5:36-39) demonstrates that Christians need to be flexible; new ideas can't be confined within old structures, approaches and ways of thinking. We need to keep our hearts open to receive Jesus' life-changing message. St Paul says, “if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come” (2 Corinthians 5: 17); we are to be “a new self, created to be like God” (Ephesians 4:22-24).

While Christians are to be open to change and uncertainty, we should be confident that God is unchanging in a changing world (Hebrews 13:8, James 1:17) and acts to renew us daily (2 Corinthians 4:16) to help us to cope with challenges and uncertainties. We can place our trust on the rock on which our salvation can be built (Psalm 18:2). Our purpose as Christians is to discern and try to do God's will; as simple as it sounds, and as difficult as it is in practice. Even Jesus, facing his torture and death, asked for God's will to be done (Luke 22:42); facing enemies and supported at this point by lukewarm defenders, he triumphed over death.

Where Machiavelli's quote is rooted in conflict, Jesus's message is more radical; we are to love our enemies as ourselves (Matthew 22:39). As we emerge from the pandemic, this could be about creating a place for all people in society, seeking to ensure people aren't exploited for the advantage of others. While our society seems increasingly unequal, the pandemic has illuminated how important those often looked down upon are to the functioning of our lives.

An unfortunate part of the human need to be part of a group seems to be needing to have an “other” to look down on - whether due to race, age, sex, class or learning. I believe our job as Christians is to engage with the world, changed by faith (Isaiah 61:4). I hope we can see the positives in change and uncertainty, and seek to reset our society to be fairer, more equitable and less polarised. So, while no-one would have wished for a pandemic to have happened, let's take the opportunity it brings to enable God's will to be done.

Justin Elks

Licensed Lay Minister



SCHOOL REPORT

The Parable of the Sower

Our School Vision

'Learning as we grow. Growing as we learn. Rooted in Jesus.'

A rural community, learning and growing together, sharing the love of God. We believe that each individual will be inspired and nurtured so that they flourish in their learning, relationships and personal growth so that together we discover life in all its fullness.

This November our school will be thinking about a bible story, related to our school vision, which will become a theme running through many different aspects of our school life – The Parable of the Sower. The parables that Jesus told are tales about simple, common subjects to illustrate a deeper, valuable moral lesson. The Parable of the Sower illustrates this very well. We will be sharing this parable with all the children in the first week of November, with many different activities tailored for each class. For the younger children in our school we will be starting with a poem:

The Parable of the Sower

Jesus told us stories
To help us understand.
He talked of common people,
Who fished or worked the land.

Jesus sat on board a boat,
The folk sat on the shore.
His stories seemed quite simple,
But they meant a whole lot more.

One tale was of a farmer,
Who went out one day to sow.
But he was planting seeds,
Not sewing clothes, you know.

He told of farmers planting seeds,
But not by farm machine, because
At the time when he was talking
They wouldn't have known what one was.

So, listen to this story
About the farmer growing seed.
Are you producing what you should,
Or are you a bit of a weed?

Well, the farmer spread the seed all right,
But some of it fell on the ground.
And the birds flew down and ate it all,
As they hopped and pecked around.

Some seeds fell upon stony ground,
Where it was hard to grow.
And seeds do needs some fertile soil,
As all you gardeners will know.

These seeds grew very quickly,
But when the sun grew hot,
Because they hadn't many roots,
It burnt them up – the LOT.

Now other seeds fell in thistles,
So they hadn't got a hope.
Anything choked by thistles
Would find it very hard to cope.

But some seeds fell on good ground,
And grew and grew and grew.
And bore lots of lovely fruit,
As it was meant to do ...
And we hope that you do too!

From this we will bring aspects of the parable into everyday teaching; socially, academically and pastorally. We will do this in a range of ways, by celebrating successes with 'trees of knowledge', creating collaborative pieces of art work and weaving the parable into every day aspects of our school life by asking questions such as:

Who has flourished like a seed in good soil today?

Who has been the sower today and sown a school value of friendship, respect, fairness or helpfulness?

As part of this process of immersing ourselves in this parable we will also become sowers ourselves. We are looking forward to the beauty and promise of Spring with each child planting a few bulbs in the school grounds – we are lucky to have outside areas which each class can easily access and we will be planting and nurturing these areas. Some volunteers from the Woodpeckers gardening group will also be helping us to prepare the soil. In these rather different times we feel it really important for all of us to be planning for the future; planting bulbs in the dark, rich soil, knowing that they will be growing and changing over the next few months and giving us an explosion of colour in the Spring.

Each family will be asked to donate a few bulbs for their children to plant, however, any additional donations of bulbs from the wider community will be gratefully received. It would be wonderful to have the Parable of the Sower come to life in Spring with a joyous display of colour around our school! Many thanks in advance and we hope that you can join us in becoming sowers and helping our community to grow and thrive, this year and for many Springs to come!

Please bring any donations to the front door of the school.

Fungi Finding

It's that time of year when fungi make a show. Fungi are fascinating ... they live on land, in the water, in the air and even in and on plants and animals. They vary widely in size and form, from the microscopically small to the largest organism on earth- at several square miles in size!

Fungi can be deadly poisonous. Please don't use this information to identify them for culinary use! Here are some of the ones I've come across in recent weeks that you can find locally:

1. Common earthball

Unlike puffballs, which have a central opening in the top to 'puff' their spores, the common earthball's scaly cap splits open to release spores.

Key features: rounded, dirty-yellow to ochre-brown, up to 10cm across. The thick, tough skin is covered in coarse warty scales. Inside, the spore mass is greyish, becoming purply-black marbled at first by white veins. Powdery when mature. Attached to the soil by cord-like threads. Has a rubbery smell.

Where to look: on mossy or peaty ground on heaths and in woodland, especially on sandy soil. **When:** Late summer to early winter.



2. Common inkcap

This mushroom has been known to push its way through asphalt and lift the corners of paving stones. Its strength is down to the vertically-aligned hyphae in the stems.

Key features: fawn-grey conical cap that's grooved and often split at the edges. Hollow white stem. Grows in tufts from buried decaying wood. Up to 17cm tall.

Where to look: pastures, parks and gardens, tree stumps and pavements - wherever there is buried wood. It's very common and appears after rain. Spring to early winter.



3. Fly agaric

Traditionally used as an insecticide, the cap was broken up and sprinkled into saucers of milk. Fly agaric is now known to contain ibotenic acid, which both attracts and kills flies.

Key features: probably our most familiar toadstool, with a brilliant scarlet or orange cap covered with white, wart-like spots. Underneath the cap, the gills are white. The white stem has a floppy ring and a bulbous base surrounded by fleecy bands. Up to 20cm across and 30cm tall.

Where to look: on light soils in mixed woodland and heaths among birch, pine and spruce.

When: Late summer to the first frosts of winter.



4. Jelly ear

Its Latin name, translated as 'Jew's ear', comes from the legend that Judas hanged himself on an elder tree after betraying Jesus.

Key features: at first cup-shaped, developing lobes that make them look uncannily like human ears. Tan-brown and velvety on the outside, with a wrinkled shiny inner surface. Rubbery, gelatinous flesh. Up to 8cm across.

Where to look: usually in clusters, drooping from dead and dying branches, mainly of elder. **When:** All year round, especially during spells of wet weather.



5. Stinkhorn

Recognisable by its foul odour, the stinkhorn relies on flies and other insects to transport its spores. The slime on its cap is a sticky mass of spores that has a sickly sweet rotting-flesh smell to attract insects.

Key features: first appears like a white egg nestling in leaf litter and moss. A thick white polystyrene-like stem emerges from the egg. Has a conical slimy olive-green cap. The cap is crowned by a small white ring. Grows up to 25cm tall. Smells like rotting flesh.

Where to look: in woodland and gardens. More often smelled than seen, its aroma can be detected far and wide and can be mistaken for dead animals or bad drains. **When:** Summer to late autumn.



6. Shaggy parasol

Its scientific name *rhacodes* comes from the Greek word *rhakos*, which means a piece of cloth. It does often have a soft, ragged fabric-like appearance.

Key features: the cap is at first egg-shaped and chestnut-brown, then opens flat and the outer skin breaks up into shaggy brown scales on a cream background. Underneath the cap the gills are creamy-white, bruising red. The stem is bulbous at the base and has a double ring that can be moved up and down. It smells sweetly aromatic. Up to 20cm tall and 15cm across.



Danielle Bride

YALDING POST OFFICE - MOST LOVED POST OFFICE IN KENT 2016 /17/18/19/20

OUR PRODUCTS, LOCALLY SOURCED, LOCALLY SOLD

November 2020

Still nothing from Post Office about whether the subsidy will continue or not. However, there has been some interest from the local press about the story. It all adds a bit of pressure on the decision makers. Somewhere along the line someone will have to contact me and say one way or the other whether we can stay open or not.

Sorting Office news. Royal Mail have decided to re-locate our posties to a new mail centre at Snodland. Both us and Wateringbury Post Office will be affected by the move. They will have transferred by 27th March 2021. However, in reality not much will change for Yalding. It will still mean that Dan and Cheryl will be delivering our mail and undelivered mail will still be collected from us in the Post Office.

The Post Office Horizon Scandal. You may be aware that Post Office Ltd (POL) lost a court case last December where it was proved that, despite numerous denials, the Post Office's Horizon computer system was very much less robust than it should have been, leading to some 900 Sub Postmasters being prosecuted for theft and false accounting when many thousands of pounds vanished from their accounts. POL knew that Horizon was not safe, yet continued to prosecute Postmasters leading to imprisonment, suicide, financial ruin and reputational loss for many. The Post Office recently agreed not to contest the appeals against convictions by those convicted and are investigating the prosecutions they instigated against the other 900. Yalding Post Office has been similarly affected, thankfully only with minor shortages... To see what we are talking about go online and look up **Nick Wallis Post Office**.

The Coronavirus emergency. Please wear a mask in the shop. Only one customer in the shop at any one time (more than one allowed if residing together) Please also keep a safe distance apart whilst waiting to enter.

Bakery. Our alternative supplier of pastries has broken his leg and is currently unable to produce his wonderful croissants etc for the time being. Hopefully he will be able to start again soon. Coxheath Bakery has resumed its Monday service.

Vulnerable persons cash withdrawals. We are happy to allow 3rd parties to undertake financial transactions for vulnerable or isolating people. We require a confirmation letter from the customer and ID from the 3rd party.

New stamps sets this month are the **Rupert the Bear and Beautiful Bugs** collections. Other Philately products in stock or can be ordered on request. **Christmas stamps available soon. I will post the send by dates on the Yalding Post Office Facebook page as soon as they are published.**

All kinds of Post Office savings, insurance and investments, telephone and Broadband services available. Post Office Classic Travel Insurance cannot be arranged in branch at present due to a technical problem, but you can collect literature and contact details from us.

Foreign Currencies. We still have a stock of Euros and US Dollars...minimal demand at the moment of course. POL have informed us that credit on Travel Money Cards can be encashed at all branches in UK currency.

Your Post Office offers free cash withdrawals with most debit cards, pay bills, top up gas and electricity cards and keys, pay in cheques and cash to most banks using your debit card. We do Health Lottery, phone Top-Ups, Fishing licences and Moneygram. And, of course...we sell stamps and send parcels and letters all over the world.

Bakery items fresh every day, cold drinks, Helen's fantastic biscuits, Annette's gluten free selection (on hold due to self-isolation) unique greetings cards by local artists, Yalding honey, Joan's jams, Bit Spicy curry mixes, hand-made fabric items, stationery, Yalding mugs, fresh eggs from local chickens, Loddington Farm fruit juices, Oakapple Farm fresh produce.....All in stock now. As well as a large stock of locally made face masks, bags and scrunchies...all moneys to the Yalding Surgery fund to pay for some new vital equipment. Well done to Sharon...the face mask manufacturer extraordinaire...

The Post Office Gift Card is an ideal gift for that person hard to buy for....These can be used at pretty much every major retailer in the UK. See us for details.

Our opening hours are 9.00am to 1.00pm. 2.00pm to 5.30pm. Closed on Sundays.

Early closing on Wednesdays and Saturdays (12.30pm Saturdays).

Many thanks for your wonderful support for Kent's Most Loved Post Office.... Telephone...01622 814327

Look us up on our Facebook page and website. www.yaldingpostoffice.weebly.co.uk

Marden Medical Centre Patient Participation Group (PPG)



Are you or your family members patients of the Marden Medical Centre? Do you want to more aware of healthcare and well-being services available locally?

The Marden Medical Centre Patient Participation Group (PPG) was formed in 2011 and acts as a patient voice, representing patient's views, helping the GPs deliver high quality health care services. New members are always welcome. The PPG is free to join, you will receive regular health & well-being information by email and receive the bi-annual Newsletter. For more information on why you should consider joining the Group, visit our website: <https://www.mardenppg.org.uk/>

You can also follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mardenmedicalcentrepagg>

We hold meetings every 3 months. Our next virtual meeting will be held on **Thursday 17th December 2020 at 7:00pm**. Our guest speaker will be Carole-ann Alexander from The Harmony Therapy Trust <http://theharmonytherapytrust.org.uk/> based in Sheerness. The Trust provides different types of complementary and supportive therapy to medically referred NHS patients, free of charge.

You do not need to be a PPG member to participate in PPG meetings which last about 60 minutes – the only criteria is that you are a current patient of the Marden Medical Centre. For more information on the Group and how to join or attend meetings, please contact ppg@mardenppg.org.uk or give me a call on 07769 53 88 97.

John Haddow, Chairman.

HELP THE WORLD'S POOREST WITHOUT SPENDING A PENNY

Did you know that when you shop online you could be helping the most vulnerable and forgotten people in the world via the Catriona Hargreaves Charitable Trust. We are a local charity, (four of the Trustees live in Claygate and Collier Street) who for over 30 years have provided food, shelter, medical treatment and health education to the poorest people in this world. We are all volunteers so all money raised goes directly to those in need.

Simply register with www.easyfundraising.org.uk and select Catriona Hargreaves Charitable Trust (CHCT) as your chosen charity. For a mobile or tablet download the free app from the App Store or Google Play. Then every time you shop simply go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk and enter the store you wish to shop in. There are over 2700 outlets including the main supermarkets, M&S, John Lewis, eBay, Boots and holiday operators to name just a few. You are then sent to your chosen store, just shop and checkout in the normal way. Easy fundraising then send a percentage to CHCT. You do not spend a penny more and the donation is done automatically.

If you shop with Amazon a similar scheme is in operation. Simply go to smile.amazon.co.uk, register, and select Catriona Hargreaves Charitable Trust as your chosen charity. A percentage of your purchase will be paid to CHCT via smile.amazon, again you do not pay a penny more and the donation is done automatically.

If you have any problems please call myself, Teresa on 01892 730222

Here are just a few examples of our funding last year:

leprosy patients in Nigeria received hospital treatment, nutritious food, essential medication and ulcer care materials.

Sponsored six young adults in nurse training in Africa.

Testing and immunisation to protect against Hepatitis in Ghana

Building of a Bore Well to provide clean water in India

Supporting orphans of HIV/AIDS adults in Kenya

Jacqui Bakes

Lemon Meringue Cupcakes

I made these for our school party day, Jo my fellow teaching assistant loves lemon meringue, these twist on a classic went down so well there wasn't any left to put in the fridge.

Cupcake Ingredients

150g butter
150g caster sugar
150g self raising flour
3 medium eggs
Zest of 2 lemons
150g lemon curd

Italian Meringue Ingredients

3 egg whites
140g granulated sugar
65 ml water

Cupcake Method

Preheat oven 180 degrees.
Cream together butter & sugar, until light & fluffy.
Add eggs, SR flour & lemon zest, beat until smooth.
Spoon mixture into 12 cupcake cases, bake for 20 - 25 minutes, cool on a wire rack.
Once cooled core out the middle of the cupcakes & place a spoonful of lemon curd in each.

Italian Meringue Method

Place sugar & water in a heavy based pan, bring to the boil stirring occasionally with a wooden spoon. Bring to the boil until sugar dissolves & thicken slightly.
Meanwhile, whisk egg whites until stiff peaks form.
Slowly pour the sugar syrup into egg whites, whisking continuously, whisk on high speed for 3 minutes until mixture is smooth & cooled.
Once cool, pipe onto your cupcakes cases, brown using a blowtorch.

ENJOY!

These cupcakes will last up to 2 days in the fridge, though I doubt any will make it there !





Woodpeckers- 'Bluebells and Tulips'

18 willing volunteers worked happily in the churchyard on Saturday October 10th, a week after the session was postponed because of the heavy showers. It was a much more pleasant day and the Woodpeckers managed to tackle all the jobs on team



leader Stephane's list.

Many of the team members have regular tasks they always take on and this was again the case with David Goff on the tractor mower and Dave Sealey spraying weedkiller around the edges of the graves and the perimeter walls. Stephane tackled weed and bramble growth with his strimmer.

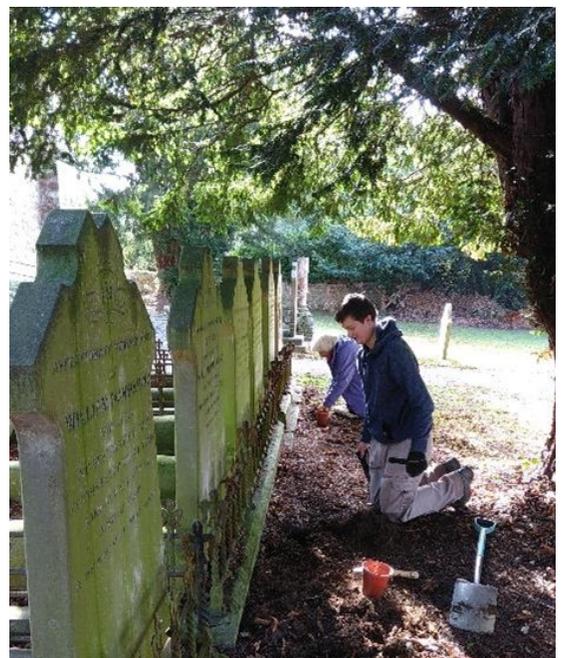


There are several large trees in the churchyard including huge oaks, chestnuts and horse chestnuts so there are always plenty of acorns, chestnuts and conkers on the ground. One of the repetitive jobs is the clearing of Autumn leaves but many hands certainly do make this work easier; Ann, Derick, Roger, Vicki and Dave Philpott raked up piles of leaves, occasionally dragging full builders' bags to empty them on the growing pile by the stone wall.

With Spring weddings planned, which hopefully will go ahead despite Covid 19, we were given lots

of Bluebell bulbs which needed planting 4/5 inches deep to prevent them being dug up again by squirrels etc. Bulb planting is surprisingly time consuming, particularly when the ground is full of tree roots, but we managed to get them in and concentrated on the spaces between graves close to the front of the church. Jo supervised the team of planters including Margaret, Olly and Barbara and we will look forward to seeing them come up in the spring. We also had some tulip bulbs to go in either side of the central path up to the church doors but they will not be planted until November.

We all enjoyed Pam's lovely cakes at the tea/coffee break. As always if you wish to join this happy group you would be welcome on the first Saturday of each month between 10 and 12 noon. November's meeting should go ahead but the months of December, January and February are usually a winter break.



Collier Street Ramblings Heavy Horses

At this time of year Ray and I have usually been to the local country shows and ploughing matches and enjoyed the atmosphere created by announcements on the PA, steam engines whistling, tractions engines chugging, smoky tractors rumbling past, Bolebrook Beagles howling, crowds chattering in hospitality marquees and dogs barking all mixed in with the aromas of burgers, beer, pizzas, chips and straw bales. We know that all this will return and be better than ever, hopefully next year, but we have missed traditional country events and it makes us appreciate them even more.

One of my favourite attractions is the wonderful site of beautiful heavy horses adorned with gleaming brasses and polished leather as they negotiate the stony furrows. It's a shame that heavy horses ceased to provide the horse power for many tasks on the farm, we have two lovely heavy horses in the field adjacent to our garden, they always wander over to the fence when we are out there and really seem to enjoy company as they nosily watch us getting on with gardening, they love apples and carrots too.



The Suffolk is our oldest, native working horse. Originally bred in the eastern counties as an agricultural horse, the Suffolk is the least changed of our native breeds but there are only around 300 or so registered Suffolks in this country today. It is widely regarded as one of the rarest equines in the world (if not the rarest.) and is a 'Category One' breed on the RBST Watch List – meaning that it is officially endangered.



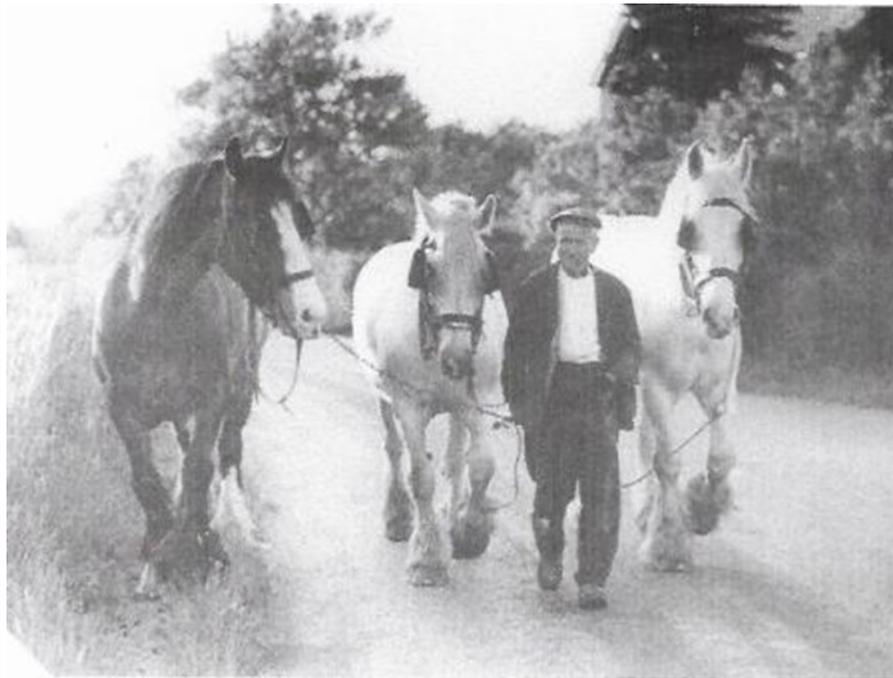
The Shire is probably the most familiar of our native breeds but is now considered to be 'at risk' and as such its numbers are carefully monitored. Over the last ten years alone Shire horse numbers have nearly halved and the number of foals being born each year is not sufficient to replace the ageing population. For the first time in the breed's history, there are more Shires outside of the UK than in it.



The Clydesdale, once the premier draught horse of lowland Scotland and the north of England, is now classified as a 'vulnerable' breed having been re-assessed by the RBST in 2007 and re-entered on the Watch List. The first Clydesdale stud book of 1877 had 1,044 stallions registered. Today that number is around 100 and whilst there are in the region of 700 breeding mares registered with the Society, the number of foals being born each year is low.



The Ardennes is one of the oldest breeds of working horse in the world – possibly existing relatively unchanged for c.2,000 years. Originally from the Ardennes region of France and Belgium, the breed is remarkable for its strength and stamina, its agility and versatility. It is believed the Ardennes arrived in this country with the Roman Legions and that it has been regularly imported since. It is largely regarded as the founding stock of all known draught breeds. There are only around 40 or so Ardennes in this country at the present time.



The use of such horses used to be a familiar site in Collier Street in the last Century. Here you can see a picture of the Wagoner Jack Brown returning his horses to their field after a hard day's work on Crow Plain Farm. He used to live with his sister Annie at Stonebridge Cottages.

Bill Edwards was the village farrier and his forge was opposite Martin's Farm; the site of the old forge is now occupied by Forge House so at least the name lives on to denote the location.

The high peak of the horse-drawn world was in the 1880s when around 3.5 to 4.5 million draught horses were at work in agriculture, forestry, transport and the military. But with increased mechanisation the heavy horse population plummeted to a point

where, by the end of the 1960s, extinction in this country was a very real possibility, averted only by a handful of enthusiasts who kept the breeds alive.

It wasn't just heavy horses that provided the Horse Power. Many of the older properties in Collier Street Village had stables for their horses and wagon sheds to store the carts and wagons. Here you can see a picture of Bill Friend who was the Groom to Mr Roydon Stewart from the Old Vicarage. He is waiting outside the Duke of Wellington Pub (now a private house on the B2162) with his Hackney pony and trap.



All generations would work with all sizes of horses and were confident to handle even the largest ones as you can see in the pictures below.



Thanks to The Working Horse Trust for information on their website and to Margaret Ashworth for lending me her Collier Street Apple Group Calendars for research. BARBARA GRANDI

YOUR VILLAGE MAGAZINE NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!

Printing costs have escalated and to ensure we can continue production of the magazine we ask for your help



Please make an annual or monthly voluntary contribution
(suggested donation £10):

BACs to: 40-44-20 91469185

Or

Cheques made payable to Collier Street Parish Magazine

and delivered either to:

Tracey Bentley

Jacki Fogg, Crow Plain Oast, Jarmons Lane

Or, Emma Howard, Carriers Cottage, Collier Street

Mr Scott, the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner has asked me to share this Road Safety and Enforcement survey with residents of Kent:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/apccsaferoads>

It aims to gauge views on road safety across the country and what traffic law enforcement may look like in future. We would like as many people across all parishes to get their views heard.

Would you be so kind as to take part in the survey.



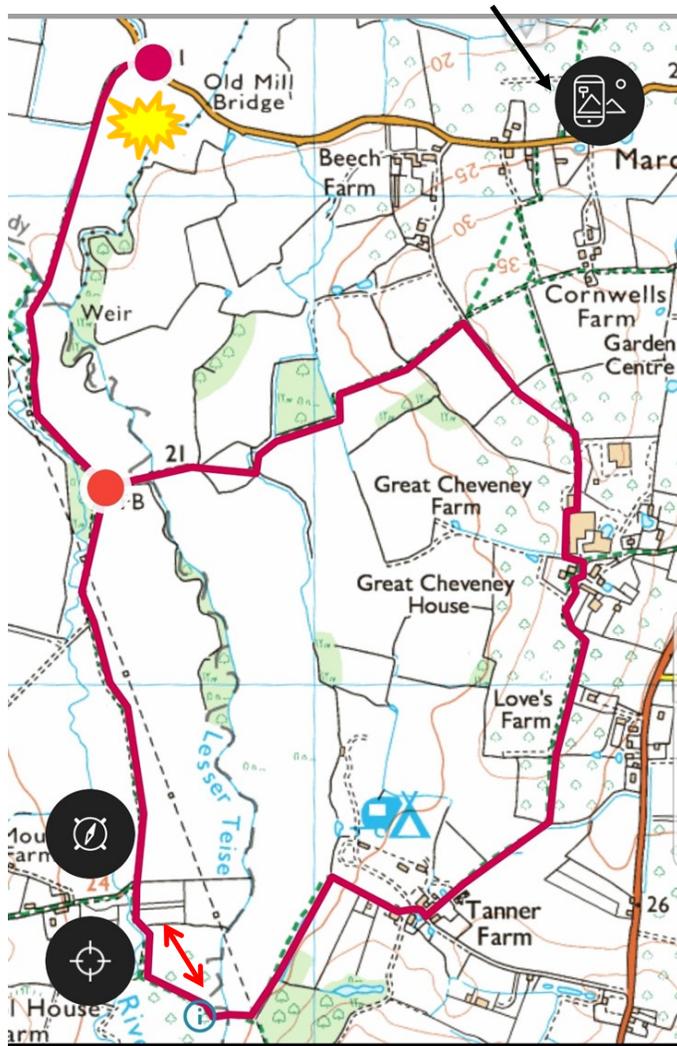
COLLIER STREET PARISH COUNCIL

The (dog) walking circle

Many of us like to discover new walks to take with our furry companions. 'The (dog) walking circle' aims to feature local, circular walks to meet that need. If you know some good routes nearby, let the community know through the village magazine.

Shephurst Lane

This flat, circular route starts on Shephurst Lane (Claygate), and takes you around fields and across the Lesser Teise. It's a popular hour-ish dog walk of approximately 5km. You can lengthen it with some additional loops and diversions, whether you start near the 'Old Mill Bridge' or park up nearer the Goudhurst Road end of Shephurst Lane, where the path continues on the other side of the road toward Marden.



Please don't park across the green metal barrier on Shephurst Lane,  near the bridge unless the landowner gives you permission.



Part of the route has regular horse traffic, marked here with red arrows.

Please keep to the path and ensure your dog is under close control

This walk is a favourite because it's safely off-road and obedient dogs under close control can be let off lead for the whole route. There are only a few stiles and the path is kept in excellent condition and clearly marked. Often you'll hear, if not see, kingfishers flying along the river; buzzards circling in the thermals; gold crests and yellow hammers hiding in the green, and, at dusk, you might be lucky to see the silent barn owl hunting over the open fields.

In spring there's a sea of bluebells; anemones and wild garlic in the woods. Mink have been seen on the river banks, and there are obvious badger sets thriving. If you're up early you're likely to see roe or fallow deer (both are in the area), and you'll unlikely complete the short loop without coming across at least another dog and their human companions.

COLLIER STREET PARISH COUNCIL



DO YOU WANT SUPERFAST BROADBAND?

Everyday life relies more and more on using the Internet, including for many people their everyday work. Collier Street has a very slow broadband speed and unfortunately, there are no immediate plans from Openreach to expand to Superfast Broadband in the near future. So, what options are open to us?

Kent County Council have a “Broadband Voucher Scheme” – details can be found <https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/broadband/broadband-voucher-schemes/kent-broadband-top-up-voucher>

Where there is a potential subsidy to obtain fibre broadband to the premises (FTTP), which enables very high connection speeds (up to 1Gbps). In order for the scheme to be viable, there needs to be a community group that needs to sign up together to apply for the funding. The more that sign up, the better for everyone.

At this stage, you will not be committing to anything by expressing an interest in the partnership scheme, so if you wish to be included, please email with a subject heading alaric.j.r.turner@gmail.com “FTTP Interest” giving your full name, address and telephone number. The details will be entered into the Openreach system so that they can generate an indicative estimate for the works. Your information will not be shared with any other party and only be used for the sole purpose of registering an interest in the scheme mentioned above.



COLLIER STREET PARISH COUNCIL

VACANCY



BECOMING A PARISH COUNCILLOR

Who is allowed to stand?

Anyone who is over 18, subject to a short list of disqualifications (available from Electoral Registration), can become a Parish Councillor, provided they live within the Parish, or within 3 miles of the Parish boundary. Alternatively, they are eligible if they are on the Electoral Register in the relevant Parish, own Property within that Parish, or have their principal place of employment within the Parish. Once elected, members normally serve for 4 years.

What is a Parish Council?

A Parish Council is the most Local unit of Local Government and can carry out a large number of functions and duties.

Collier Street Parish Council carries out a range of services. One of the most important roles carried out by parishes is to act as an advocate and representative of the interests of local people. Parish Councils are regularly consulted on major issues by the Borough Council and County Council and by other public bodies. Parish Councils are also an important part of the Planning process and it is illegal to determine a Planning Application without consulting the relevant Parish Council. It is likely that the powers and duties of Parish Councils will increase over the next few years. As a lead councillor, in a field that would interest you, being available to attend meetings during the daytime would be most advantageous. There are training opportunities to help you develop in the role.

The parish council meet on a monthly basis [not August or December] either face to face or during the current situation via Zoom.

If you feel you that you could act as an advocate and represent the interests of local people please do not hesitate to contact The Clerk to the Council at parish.clerk@collierstreetparishcouncil.co.uk

NOTES

FROM A VIRTUAL MEETING OF COLLIER STREET PARISH COUNCIL UNDER THE CORONAVIRUS ACT [2020] Monday 12th October 2020 commencing at 6.00pm

In attendance: Cllr David Goff [Chairman] | Cllr Andrew Papas [Vice Chairman] | Cllr Steve Barham | Cllr Deborah Papas | Cllr Steve Sandys | Cllr Steve Sandys | Cllr Dave Sealey | Clerk Alan Crocker | Rosemary Selling Action with Communities in Rural Kent | 5 residents

Declarations of Interest None declared

Community Housing Enabler - Affordable Housing

Rosemary Selling outlined the following issues:

- Why is affordable housing important in 2020 and beyond?
- How to find out if there is a local housing need?
- How can local needs affordable hoses be delivered?
- Examples of completed affordable housing schemes.
- Questions.

The Parish Council will reflect on the issues discussed and revisit the topic in the November meeting.

PLANNING Cllr Dave Sealy chaired this section of the agenda.

20/504386 The Orchard Place Benover Road Yalding Kent

Change of use of the land for the siting of 3 no. static caravans and 3 no. touring caravans for gypsy/traveller occupation [revised scheme to 18/506342/Full] Full comments can be read at <http://pa.midkent.gov.uk/online-applications>

The Parish Council voted unanimously to REFUSE this application.

MINUTES

Virtual Finance and Development Control Meeting 7th September 2020.

Virtual Full Council Meeting 14th September 2020.

Virtual Extraordinary Meeting 28th September 2020.

The meeting unanimously agreed that the minutes of the above meeting represented an accurate recording of the said meetings. These minutes have been uploaded into the public domain and are displayed on the parish website.

Questions from members of the Public. Public adjournment.

To suspend meeting for any public statements for up to 15 minutes in total. Individual items should not be longer than 5 minutes. Members of the public are encouraged to attend Council meetings and raise any pertinent issues at this point

Questions from the attendant residents. Clarity was sought on whether Sat Nav's show when roads are closed in the parish in the event of flooding. The coordinator does advise KCC. DG will enquire of KCC and reply accordingly. Residents interested in joining Speedwatch from the Claygate end of the parish. DP advises that owing to the Covid issues only two sites have been approved to be used. DP will check with the Speedwatch Manager Kent to see if other sites can now be released. We will advise the resident accordingly. Another resident sought clarity on the process for applying for the vacant Councillor position.

Correspondence and Action Points

Defibrillator Update

The Revd Paul Filmer has obtained permission from the diocese for the defibrillator to be affixed to the church wall and connected to the church electrics. The Clerk will now progress the order.

Speedwatch Update

Cllrs Andrew and Deborah Papas briefed the meeting and presented the current statistics.

The Speedwatch statistics, are detailed as an appendix to the minutes of this meeting which can be viewed on the parish website. Both within the parish and by all of the Kent groups

Traffic Surveys, Results of traffic surveys in Longend Lane and Sheephurst Lane conducted from 25th September to and including 1st October 2020.

The surveys have now taken place and an analysis of the data is taking place.

Coronavirus Update Lead DS

The parish has been asked to update the Kent Association of Parish Council spreadsheets on the current parish situation. We agreed the content for upload.

CIL MONIES Lead DG

To discuss progress towards the production of the CIL Spend Plan and commence consultation with residents of the parish.

Some 22 residents have replied, and we thank you for your responses. We are now bringing together a potential list of projects. We will then cost them, consult with the scheme administrator at Maidstone BC to confirm that they fall within the scheme criteria and further consult with residents.

FIBRE BROADBAND UPDATE Lead DP

Alaric Turner has been investigating the possibility of several villages coming together in order to bid for a grant.

In the meantime DP has been lobbying BT Openreach since 2018 and the good news is that FTTP is available for some 60 residents from Haviker Street back to the school. No plans as yet for the other end of the parish. The suggestion would be that those who may be interested in using BT as a provider should phone BT direct rather than apply online. They can offer some really good deals and more products.

TOP SITES FOR 4 NEW GARDEN VILLAGES Lead DG

Marden is one of the top four sites to be considered as a new garden village. Also 2000 homes have been approved in Paddock Wood which will impact on the parish and the surrounding villages.

10.20.08.09 LEEDS/LANGLEY RELIEF ROAD LeadDG

The Chairman flagged up the potential Leeds/Langley relief road which has been resurrected again. Our county councillor has also flagged this issue.

Flood Committee Report The EA have published a strategy going forward, which is envisaged to result in joined up thinking and local involvement.

It is envisaged that there will be an overhaul of Riparian ownership, which may involve a change in the law together with the issue being flagged up on ownership searches. The IDB could take on the work but this will involve a cost.

There are two ponds in the village that are unregistered [KCC will try and find a solution].

It is apparent that 15% of land in the UK is 'technically unregistered'. There are action points in the village that DG will follow up on. **Lead DG**

Recreation Field Report The football pitch will be used for the second time this upcoming Saturday for the second home match.

The hedge is to be cut in the next couple of weeks.

The Clerk will chase Sovereign in order to obtain the bolt covers for the swings as the incorrect sizes were sent.

The Chairman reports that it is pleasing to see how well the children are enjoying the new play equipment.

HIGHWAYS Lead DG

A meeting with a representative of KCC Highways is due, to conduct a survey of issues.

The meeting discussed the air pollution monitoring equipment with a view to possibly renewing the project for the next year. The meeting agreed that owing to the Covid issue no statistics have been provided and the council would wish to see the existing result prior to committing to a further year and the costs involved.

The camera is turned on at the school. DG met with another IT specialist with a view to having 'standalone' equipment in view of the issues with the school firewall and their support company. It is possible to re-use some of the equipment. The Clerk will look at any termination issues with the existing contract. Ben Ward, a resident has offered his services to assist with the opening of the firewall. DG is to arrange to furnish Ben with the specifications of the existing equipment.

DG is to consult with our Highways coordinator in relation to the Jarmon's Lane junction.

FINANCE

ACCOUNTS RECONCILIATION

BANK RECONCILIATION

RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

RECORD OF PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS

BUDGET REPORT

APPROVAL FOR SPENDS

Full Council approved these reports.

Village Hall Following the resignation of the lead Councillor DP, AP, and DG are to meet shortly to progress matters and review legal advice papers that the Clerk obtained from a local law firm. **Leads**

DG: DP: AP

Matters for Discussion at the Next Meeting Review of Affordable Housing

Date of Next Meetings Next Virtual Full Council Meeting scheduled for **Monday 9th November 2020** commencing at 18.00hrs. **Zoom links for our meetings can be obtained from the website under the advertised event.**

NOTES | ALAN CROCKER | Clerk to Collier Street Parish Council

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

CHURCH

Reverend Paul Kish 01622 814182
Church Warden

Rachel West 01622 872278

Sec to P.C.C.

Vicky George 01892 730239

R.C Priest

Father Victor McLean 01580 211267

KENT MESSENGER VILLAGE COLUMN

Jenny Scott jscott@callflow.uk 01892 459041

PARISH MAGAZINE

Editor

Jacki Fogg 01892 730869

Emma Howard 01892 730245

Tracey Bentley (Advertising) 01892 730252

Email: editorparishmag@mail.com

VILLAGE HALL

Chairman
TBC

HELPING HANDS

Margaret Ashworth 01892 730323
(Age concern representative)

SCHOOL

Headteacher Paul Ryan 01892 730264

Chairman of Governors

Gareth Waterman TBC

Friends of Collier Street School

Chair Person: Harriet Breslin

email info@focss.org.uk

WOMANS INSTITUTE

Yalding President: Doreen Stanford 01622 813384

Doctors Yalding Surgery

Dr Scott 01622 814380

Marden Medical Centre

Drs Streeter, Potter, Morgan, Estall, DeCourcy

Hallinan & Wilford 01622 831257

POLICE

PCSO Nicola Morris 07870163411

Non Emergency 101

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Barbara Grandi 01892 730376

Paddock Wood Citizens Advice Bureau

08701 264856

COLLIER STREET PARISH COUNCIL

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parish.clerk@collierstreetparishcouncil.co.uk

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David Goff **Chairman** 01892 730512
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andrew.papas@collierstreetparishcouncil.co.uk

Deborah Papas 01892 730830

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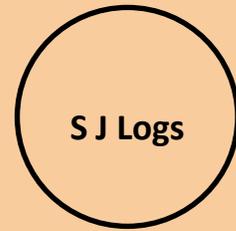


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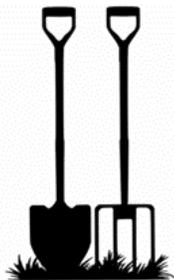
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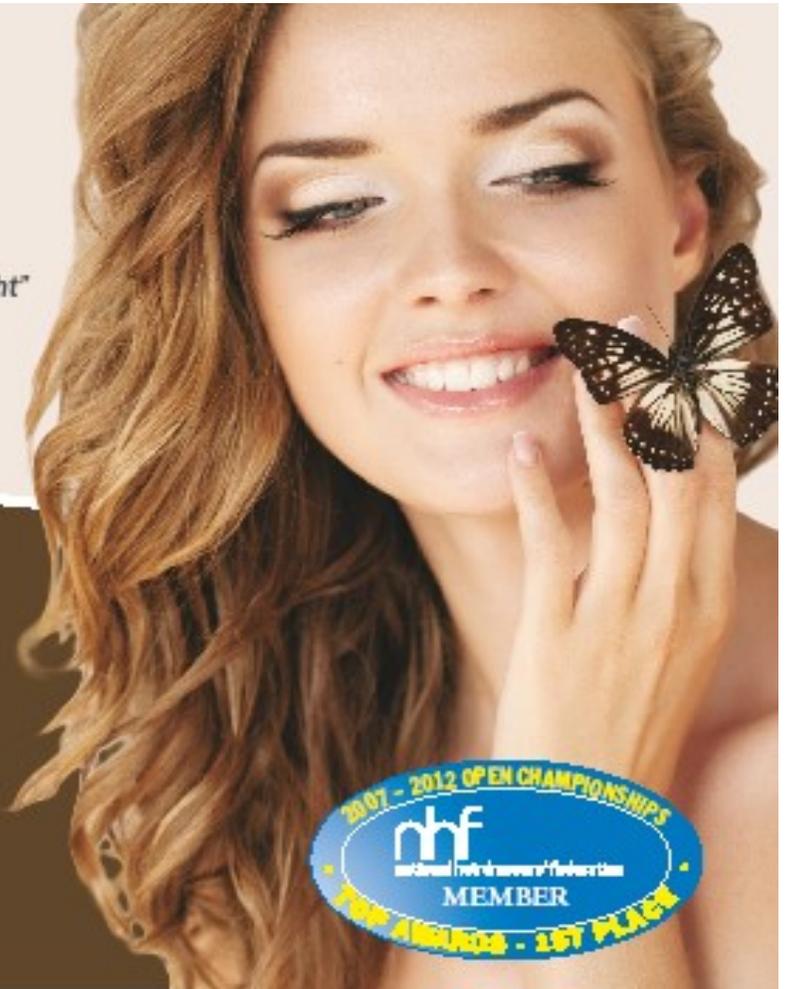
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