

COLLIER STREET NEWS

February/March 2023



THIS EDITION

Find ROSA

School Report

Ramblings

Words from Father Paul

Jacqui Bakes

Pop-in Tea

Lost Tilly

Parish Council Notes

RSPCA story

Woodpeckers' Christmas Buffet

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

13th and 27th February 2023

13th and 27th March 2023

Recycling, food waste and textiles

6th and 20th February 2023

6th and 20th March 2023

CUTE PET OF THE MONTH - EVA THE DIVA



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

VILLAGE WHATSAPP GROUP

There is a village Whatsapp group which allows for news, information and advice to be circulated instantly
If you would like to be added please text

Deborah Pappas on:

07960 754641

COPY DEADLINE 20TH OF THE MONTH

Margaret (Ashworth), Fiona, Victoria and all the family would like to express our grateful thanks for all your support, letters, cards and flowers at our recent loss of David who died on December 15th 2022, peacefully, at Pembury Hospital after a very short illness.

David was born in Edinburgh in 1936, he did his National Service, became a special policeman, enjoyed many sports before he met Margaret and came to live in Collier Street after they married in 1964. He worked for 30 years in Lloyds Bank in The Strand.

He joined in village life, played football for Collier Street (when the football pitch was opposite the Village Hall), played badminton and tennis before his knees gave up. He then took up darts at The White Hart where many a good evening was spent, even winning the Darts League Cup Final!

Sadly missed by us all.

Front cover photo by Hattie Yousefian

WE NEED YOUR HELP

We would love to hear from you with information, articles or photographs you wish to feature in the village magazine.

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.



Defibrillators

There are defibrillators available at St Margaret's Church, Collier Street and The Woolpack, Benover Road. These are life saving devices so it is important that as many people as possible are able to use them. Defibrillator training is available for anyone to undertake via the website below:

<https://vimeo.com/557677120/e7524918c5>

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
- Jonny Bentley - 730252
- Georgie Barham - 730247
- Olivia Brown—07460 243707—weekends



Jacqui Bakes

It's been a cold few weeks, I'm not complaining as I much prefer this to the rain. We fight a constant battle with the mud, the sheep and pigs look so much happier when the rain is at bay. There nothing like a warm brownie with a milky coffee on a chilly day to warm you through. Delicious hot or cold, with ice cream or custard. My flapjack recipe is a winner when we are out in the fields as they keep well in an airtight container and give you that much needed boost of energy.

Brownie Ingredients

50g butter
100g demerara sugar
200g SR Flour
3 tbsp cocoa powder
1 tsp baking powder
3 medium eggs, beaten
3 medium bananas
50g chocolate chips

Brownie Method

Preheat your oven to 160 degrees, grease and line your baking tin, I use a small traybake tin.

Beat together the sugar and butter until light and fluffy.

In a separate bowl combine the flour, cocoa and baking powder.

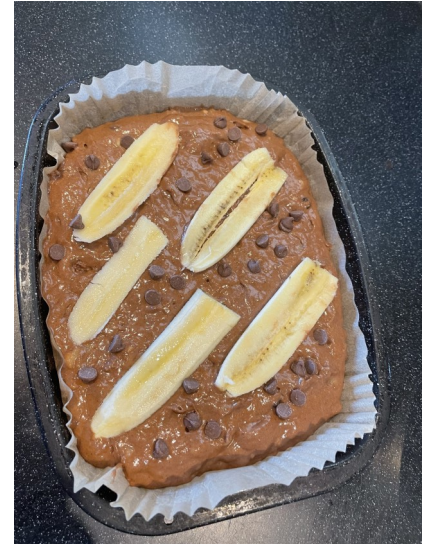
Beat the eggs into the sugar mixture, mix the dry ingredients into the wet.

Mash 2 of the bananas and combine with the mixture.

Pour the brownie mixture into your prepared tin, slice the 3 bananas lengthways and place on top, sprinkle with the chocolate chips.

Bake in the oven for 20 minutes, remove from the oven, allow to cool in the tin, (or serve hot with custard or ice cream).

Cut into squares. These will keep for up to 3 days in an airtight container, I doubt they will last that long!



Flapjack Ingredients

200g peanut butter
200g honey
3 over ripe bananas, mashed
400g rolled oats

Flapjack method

Preheat the oven to 180 degrees, grease and line a small rectangular baking tin.

Over a low heat melt the peanut butter and honey.

Remove from heat and stir through the mashed banana.

Then combine with the oats mixing well. You can add fruit or chocolate chips at this point.

Bake in the oven for 20 mins. Remove allow to cool in the tin.

Slice and enjoy.



Collier Street Pop-In Get Together 2022

St Margaret's Church

*Margaret, Barbara, Jacki, Christine and Lorna
invite you to come along and enjoy: home-made cakes and
savouries, friendly company and a raffle.
2 - 4pm the second Wednesday of the month:*

The new dates for this year are:

*February 8th,
March 8th,
April 12th,
May 10th,
June 14th,
July 12th,*

*August 9th,
September 13th,
October 11th,
November 8th,
December 13th*



*Our last Wednesday Pop In of
2022 was on a chilly December day and the heating inside the church had
not been switched on so we kept everyone warm by putting a little heater
into the recently refurbished small choir rehearsal room.*

*It was very cosy and we even managed to have a raffle. There was only room
for one long table but this meant all the customers had a great chat and a
good laugh together.*

Please join us during 2023, we will make sure it is warm.

“Give me neither poverty nor riches but give me only my daily bread.” (Proverbs 30:8)

As a start to a New Year, this one has not been great. Grim weather, snow, and floods; cold and windy nights, pot-holed roads, heating bills going up the chimney, prices rising, and fuel costs off the scale. Then there are the strikes that reflect a dissatisfied nation, a worried and unhappy people who want things to change for the better and who need more money to stay on top of their responsibilities for fear of slipping into debt. That’s who we are.

The lingering effects of the pandemic are still with us, healthcare something of a lottery, the misery of the war in Ukraine a daily reality in the news, and an economic recession on the horizon. Not good for anybody, but part of the ebb and flow of fortune that characterises our rapidly changing 21st century existence, where we hope for the promise of prosperity and increasing standards of living, but discover that the reality can be somewhat different.

Into this life speaks the varied wisdom of the biblical book of Proverbs, its several parts written and collected together up to three thousand years ago to reflect on the nature of human behaviour, morality, and the meaning of life. With such a difference in time between then and now it is unsurprising that its conclusions are not always the ones which we might draw today, but the issues are often alarmingly clear to any generation: Life can be hard.

Across the centuries, we hear the cries of our distant ancestors and find some comfort in the discovery that if for all our knowledge and technology we haven’t yet solved their problems, then maybe we are not ever going to do so. Life’s purpose is not to sail alone on calm seas in endless comfort and fair weather, but to learn to support one another in our weakness, to work together as a crew to survive the storms, and to discover through shared experience what is enough to thrive, without having so much as to become corrupted.

By all means seek to avoid poverty – its ravages are long-lasting and debilitating, but be careful also of riches that give a false sense of security and a hollow gratification.

It is when times are hard that we learn to realise how important and satisfying it can be to have enough without yearning for excess, and the importance of sharing with others so that nobody need be hungry or lonely as we live with each other’s mistakes and enjoy each other’s company. We’re lucky in these our villages to have a lot of that.

When Jesus’ disciples asked him to teach them how to pray he taught them the Lord’s Prayer which many of us have known by heart since we were children. Perhaps it’s no accident that this also contains a request for daily bread. If you say it often then you will have no trouble remembering it and it can be with you through all that might happen as we look forward to better times ahead, and we pray that God will give us what we need, and hope from time to time for a bit more to spare in the sunshine.

“Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.” (Luke 11:3)

St. Paul

STILL LOST

“Tilly”



Missing since 22nd November 2022 from Sheephurst Lane, Colliers St, Kent. Much loved family pet. Is chipped and neutered. Spooked and now displaced by a feral cat. Very timid. Likely to be seeking shelter and food. Very much missed. Reward for any information that brings her home.

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH IF YOU SEE OR KNOW ANYTHING

Thank you

Vickey and family

07813702977

tootstoo@gmail.com



School Report Welcome to this month's school page where we aim to take you on a journey! As part of our focus on improving writing across the school, all the classes have taken part in a whole-school writing project. The focus has been a superb wordless picture book called 'The Journey' by Aaron Becker.

Escaping her grey and lonely house, the main character uses a red crayon to draw and create her own adventures: creating a doorway into a forest, a hot air balloon, a boat and a magic carpet.

We would like to share a few extracts of the wonderful writing that the children produced.

Pupils from Russet Class wrote sentences exploring how the character might be feeling and seeing the airship through her eyes.

Harley (Yr R): *'I'm bored and lonely.'*

George (Yr 1): *'As I float away I see a purple bird. Why....do they want the bird? I think I will follow the airship. The airship is very noisy and loud and very cold. They put the bird in a golden cage.'*

Pippin Class described what they imagined could be behind a magical door.

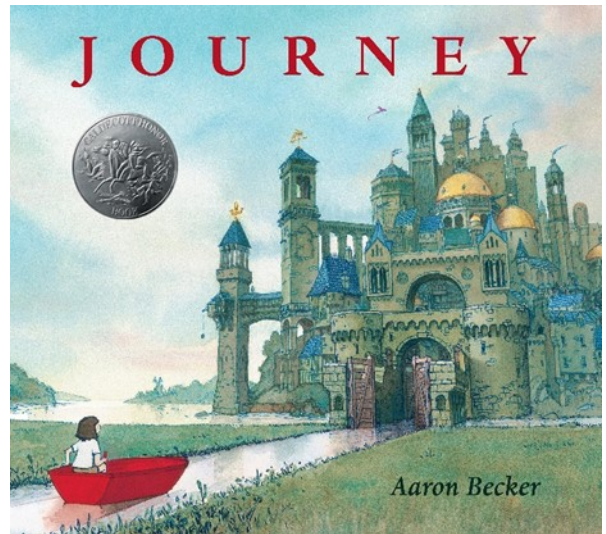
Roman (Yr 1): *'He saw in front of him was a city underground where no one ignored him. The city had some clouds floating in the blue sky. The city sat on a green hill high up in the sky. Roman was excited. He saw a dragon that led Roman to a castle. In the castle there was a red door.'*

Olivia (Yr 2): *'Katy felt sad and ignored and dreamt of escaping to a new world. As Katy drew the door with the large ruby red crayon in her hand she saw in front of her a spectacular palm tree. Behind the palm tree was a magical rainforest with lots of peacocks prancing around. Sitting in front of her was a magnificent flamingo watching her.'*

Bramley Class worked on their descriptive writing using different images from the story as inspiration.

Emelia (Yr 3): *'The curious but lonely girl peered through the creaking door... then opened it a little further. Finally it was open and curiously she stepped forward through the ruby red door into the cool air of a fairytale forest! The trees, which were patterned with bark covered in moss, were reaching high to the top clouds of the sky where colourful birds were singing to squirrels with bushy tails. They were watching the sweet little show with rushing water that curved through the forest and was brightened by the reflection of the fairy lights and lanterns.'*

Frances (Yr 3): *'The curious carpet that shone bright, raced over countless buildings. Ice cold wind iced my face. What a beautiful sight it was. The ancient phoenix soared in front of me. Her tail feathers long, with tips of bright shining light at the end. The elegant body was pure*



purple with streaks of pink flames all over, beak to claw; she was thin and sleek. Her head was small and purple with oceania blue eyes. The sight was beautiful.'

Discovery Class took over the storyline at the point where the airship appeared.

Ramona (Year 5):

'As the mesmerising airship silently soared into position, the thrumming of the sinister engines vibrated through the fluffy clouds. The vast hulking machine glided through the sky. Just above the flightpath was their target. A bird. Not just any bird. A powerful bird. Inside its body was special DNA which could grant immense power to the drinker. Cogs spun, levers clicked and clacked; the riveted hull of the ship seemed to be growling, preparing, something bad was going to happen.'

This writing project has been a wonderful opportunity for pupils of different ages to share in the same text and allow their imaginations to take them to so many different places. There was great excitement at school when the next two books in the trilogy, 'Quest' and 'Return' arrived this week so there are plenty more adventures to come.



We leave you with the important question: where would a magic red crayon take you?

A VERY BIG THANK YOU

A very big thank you to all involved in the Nativity play produced by St Margarets school just before Christmas

All narrators, actors, singers, and dancers performed their parts brilliantly and to great effect

The costumes completed a very accomplished production and all who contributed deserve many congratulations.

It made an excellent beginning to the Christmas celebrations

So very many thanks and congratulations and

Please do it again next year

Margaret Ashworth and Cynthia Stanford

OUR PRODUCTS, LOCALLY SOURCED, LOCALLY SOLD

FEBRUARY 2023

Thank you kindly for all the cards and gifts we received this Christmas. We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas celebration and wish you a Happy, and hopefully, prosperous 2023.

The new bar-coded stamps. Royal Mail have extended the shut-off date for the non-barcoded stamps to the end of July. They have also arranged for "swap-out" forms to be available in Post Offices. Where you can, please use the old normal stamps to exhaustion. Some people have returned old stamps to Royal Mail only to find they haven't arrived. So no exchange. Post Offices are not permitted to physically exchange them. Christmas and special stamps without bar codes can be used normally ad-in-finitum.

The Emporium is now open every day in Post Office opening hours. Visit us for an exciting ever changing range of greetings cards, localised gift ideas, Hadlow Pottery items, paintings etc etc.

Shop & Local Produce. Coxheath bakery items on sale every day. Orders taken. Sourdough bread available on Fridays and Saturdays. Cold drinks, unique greetings cards by local artists, Yalding and Laddingford honey, Joan's jams. Bit Spicy curry mixes, stationery, Yalding mugs, fresh eggs, (from genuinely free range local chickens), Loddington Farm fruit juices & Oakapple Farm fresh produce – all in stock now.

New stamps sets this month are the **Iron Maiden** collections. Other Philately products in stock or can be ordered on request.

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

We are now operating as an Amazon PUDO office. (Pick Up and Drop Off) Technology finally appears to be working as it should. Fingers crossed..

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. A list of nations that cannot accept mail at this time is on the Royal Mail website. **Mail to Russia, Belarus and Ukraine are currently subject to restrictions**

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.

Collier Street Ramblings : *New Year Traditions*



The biggest party of the year for many people in Scotland is the celebration called Hogmanay. At a time of year when days are dark people all around the world look forward to lighter longer days and the new opportunities of a new year.

Ancient Romans celebrated the coming of the shortest day and the birth of the new year with a festival called Saturnalia from December 17th to the 23rd with the New Year beginning on January 1st.

During the Middle Ages previous pagan winter festivals were overshadowed by the Christmas feasts, and the New Year was moved to coincide with Christian holy days. Following the reformation in Scotland, however, celebration of Christmas was discouraged, and so the gift-giving took place at New Year, giving rise to the uniquely Scottish celebration of Hogmanay.

'Hogmanay', a word from French, Gaelic, Flemish or Ancient English was common practice by 1604, when it made its first appearance in written records. 'First Footing' happened when a tall, dark and handsome stranger, was the first visitor of the New Year and they would bring a gift of coal, salt, shortbread or whiskey to bring good luck. A tall dark haired man was preferred to a fair haired Viking carrying an axe! In Scotland bonfires would be lit or torch lit processions organised to symbolise more sun returning and to keep away evil spirits in the dark. The singing of Auld Lang Syne, a Robert Burns poem, also spread from Scotland.

Many Scots also love to celebrate the birthday of Robert Burns with a Burns Night on January 25th. The Haggis is piped to the table with great ceremony and then the Burns' Address to the Haggis is read out before the Haggis is cut open.

Other New Year Traditions:

In Italy they wear red underwear as red is a colour symbolising fertility.

In Denmark they throw plates at their friends and neighbours' doors, the more broken crockery found there the luckier the resident will be!

In Russia they write their New Year wishes on paper, burn them to ashes over a candle then drink the ashes in a glass of champagne.

In Spain they eat 12 grapes, one for each stroke of midnight.



In Johannesburg, South Africa, they throw old furniture out of the window.

In Greece they hang onions, at their door as they are believed to be a symbol of rebirth.

In Turkey they sprinkle salt on the doorstep.

In Ireland single girls sleep with mistletoe under their pillows hoping to find their future husbands.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR
2023!**



Woodpeckers- 'Christmas buffet at The Woolpack'



After a very busy year keeping the Churchyard and cemetery in a neat and manageable condition the members of the Woodpeckers team looked forward to the Christmas 'get together'. In December 2021 we held a buffet lunch at The Woolpack, Benover for the first time and it was such a success we decided to make it an annual event.

It was touch and go whether it would go ahead on December 3rd 2022 as our inspiring leader Stephane and his wife Margaret were stuck on a cruise ship that had a Covid outbreak. Luckily they were released from their cabin and came back just in time for us all to meet.



Once again Renata and Dave made us very welcome, an area of the pub was set aside for us and we had a lovely finger buffet. Most of the Woodpeckers were able to attend and it was a perfect way to round off the year and build up our enthusiasm for 2023.

If you would like to come and join this happy bunch and keep our beautiful churchyard looking cared for during 2023 please come along. You don't need to commit to every

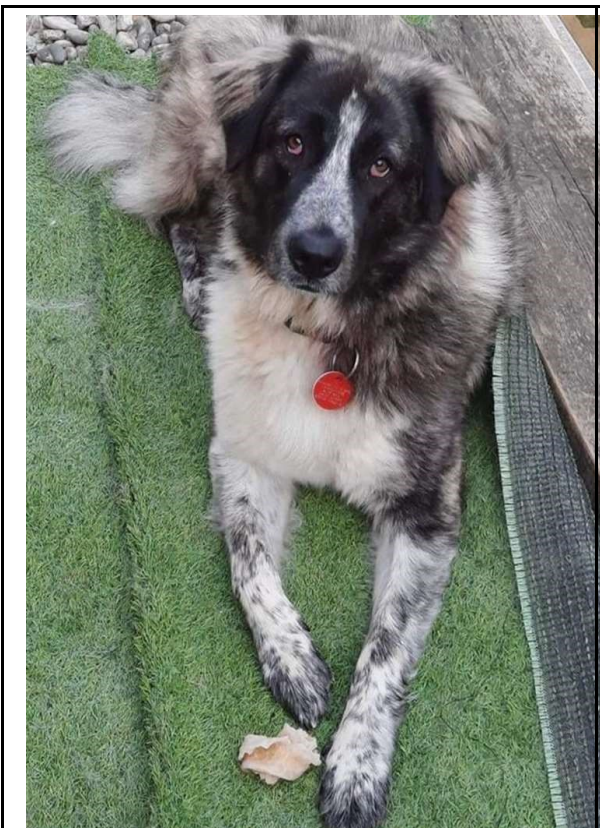
month and it is usually just pruning, weeding and raking that needs doing.

Our first Saturday this year will be February 4th if the weather is kind enough. We meet between 10am and 12 midday but have usually stopped working at 11.15 for our tea/coffee and cake break.

The next date will be March 4th.



Rosa - young nervous rescue dog – missing since owner was hit by car



Rosa has distinct markings and half a tail

MISSING

Since Saturday 14th January
2023

Very Nervous Rescue Dog

Young, spayed and chipped female cross breed with grey, black and white colouring

At point of accident was wearing a red harness with double ended lead

**Professional team updates on FB
@Rosamissingladdingfordme18**

If sighted - DO

Phone any sightings immediately to :

07718 229188

07968 360314

07833 727975

State:

Date & Exact Time if possible

Location – pinpoint on a map

Direction of travel

Behaviour (walking, running, nervous, calm, sniffing etc)

Take **Photo** / video

If sighted - DONT

Approach, Chase, Call, Whistle or attempt to grab

Arrange any search parties

Post any details on social media

Ways you can help immediately

All farmers, walkers, dog walkers, bird watchers, horse riders, land owners, posties, couriers etc please be our eyes on the ground

If you have an old shed, outhouse, barn, building work etc on your land

Can you check any signs that a large dog has been sheltering there?

Dog Pooh – have you started noticing in unusual places

Bins / Bin Bags – have they been ripped open for food

Unusual Barking / Howling – have you heard any day or night and from which direction

Any potential evidence please report to the sighting numbers listed



PADDOCK WOOD & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB



'Surviving Winter Campaign'

Do you **NEED** your winter fuel payment?

We know there are local individuals and families who will really struggle to afford to keep warm this winter.



If you can contribute all or part of your winter fuel allowance, we are working with the PW Community Advice Centre to ensure those who need it most can keep their heating on.

To donate...

Visit our website www.paddockwoodlions.co.uk or our Facebook page 'Paddock Wood & District Lions Club' to access our JustGiving link. Or email enquiries@paddockwoodlions.co.uk and we can provide BACS details.

Any funds not used this year will be held until next year to be used for the same purpose.

We cover: Branchley, Collier Street, East Peckham, Goudhurst, Horamonden, Lamberhurst, Marden, Mastfield, Paddock Wood, Staplehurst & Yalding

Church bulletin board

The following appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing 'Break Forth Into Joy'.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm – prayer and medication to follow.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7pm there will be hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge – Up Yours.'

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

Compiled by Max Bowen

Dog thrown from truck at 50mph finally finds happiness and learns to wag her tail

Freya - now called Bella - is loving life in her new home

A dog who was 'lucky to survive' after being thrown from a vehicle driving at 50mph along a rural Kent road has finally found her happy ending - and started to wag her tail!



Vets were amazed the terrier wasn't seriously injured when she was seen being tossed out of a vehicle travelling at 50mph along Benover Road, Yalding, on 28 January. Witnesses rushed her to a local vet who reported the incident to the [RSPCA](#).

The animal welfare charity is highlighting its rescue and rehabilitation work for dogs like Freya as part of its [Cancel Out Cruelty](#) summer appeal. The charity is concerned that calls reporting cruelty rise over the summer months and is urging the public to help it tackle animal abuse.

The RSPCA receives around 90,000 calls to its cruelty line every month and investigates 6,000 reports of deliberate animal cruelty, including cases like Freya's. But in the summer (June-August) [calls rise to 134,000 a month, and reports of cruelty soar to 7,600 each month](#). With the increase in pet ownership and the cost of living crisis putting a strain on people's finances, rescuers now fear more animals will be coming into care during the next few months than ever before.

Freya was lucky not to be seriously injured when she was cruelly thrown from a moving car like a piece of rubbish.

Inspector Kirsten Ormerod, who launched an investigation* into the incident, said: "Freya was incredibly lucky to survive after being hurled from the moving vehicle at such a high speed and vets were incredibly concerned that she may have suffered internal bleeding so performed surgery immediately.

"Witnesses described her being thrown with such force that she landed on the opposite side of the road, and the vehicle didn't stop or even slow down."

Vets found the frightened terrier to be underweight, suffering from fleas and with a matted, dirty coat. After discharging her, she was taken in by the charity for care and rehabilitation.

Gill**, from Maidstone, was heartbroken when she heard about Freya's story and decided she'd love to offer the terrier a home. When she seriously started looking to adopt a dog she spotted Freya's profile on the [RSPCA's Find A Pet website](#) but didn't realise it was the same dog - until she read the story in her local newspaper!

- £2 could help to provide a meal for a dog in our care
 - £6 could help pay to feed a dog for a day in our care
 - £10 could help pay towards bandages for a dog
 - £15 could help pay for a cat or dog's clinical exam
- £500 could kit out a 4x4 inspector van

She said: "I lost my Jack Russell terrier in April and we'd been thinking about getting another dog. I was so sad to hear about what had happened to Freya and thought we could give her a wonderful home but assumed she'd be snapped up.

“When my daughter sent me her profile on the RSPCA website I fell in love with her straight away - but I didn't realise that she was the same dog until I read her story in the Downs Mail and recognised her!”

Gill, her husband Ray and their daughter went to meet 18-month-old Freya - now renamed Bella - at [RSPCA Leybourne Animal Centre](#). Gill said: “As soon as I met her I could see she was lively but I wanted to give her a chance!”

Now, Freya - who found being in kennels really difficult - has settled in well at her new home; and has even started to wag her tail.

Gill said: “Freya is really happy here and is always wagging her tail. She loves to.



“She can be a bit naughty and play bites a lot but we love her just the way she is. We have a trainer coming to help us as she is very scared around men and finds it difficult meeting other dogs. But she's been through so much that we know it'll take her some time to understand that she's safe now.”

Freya is just one of many cases the RSPCA has dealt with over the last year. In 2021, the charity received 1,081,018 calls to its cruelty line, including 38,087 abandonments (or more than 100 animals callously abandoned every day).

RSPCA figures also show that despite being man's best friend, 92,244 dogs were reported to the charity last year as being victims of cruelty (2021). That is 253 a day or more than 10 an hour. There was a significant 16% increase since 2020 - when the pandemic took hold - when 79,513 reports of dogs being cruelly treated were made to the charity.

The RSPCA's rescue teams need support to stay out on the frontline as the only charity rescuing animals and investigating cruelty:

RSPCA frontline teams are working hard to rescue animals in need this summer but they can't do it alone - they need your help to [Cancel Out Cruelty](#). To help support the RSPCA, visit: www.rspca.org.uk/stopcruelty. If you cannot donate, there are other ways you can help [Cancel Out Cruelty](#), from [volunteering with the RSPCA](#), holding a bake sale or fundraiser.

**No one was ever traced in connection with Freya's abandonment. Anyone with information about who may have been responsible should contact the RSPCA's appeal line on 0300 123 8018 and leave a message for Inspector Kirsten Ormerod.
**Gill and Ray have asked that their surname is not used.*



ANNUAL VILLAGE CLEAN UP

The time is fast approaching when we all come together to clean up the village ,
the date this year is **Saturday 11 March.**

If you can spare an hour or so to get involved please give me a call and I will deliver bags to you.

01892 730323

Please get involved

Margaret Ashworth

MARDEN WALKS

SUNDAY WALKS

On February 5th the walk will be to Collier Street and back, led by Steve. This 4.5 mile walk was No 1 of our "6 more walks around Marden" leaflets and has not been done for some years. We will start from the Library at 10.am and should take around 2.5 hours.

SATURDAY WALKS

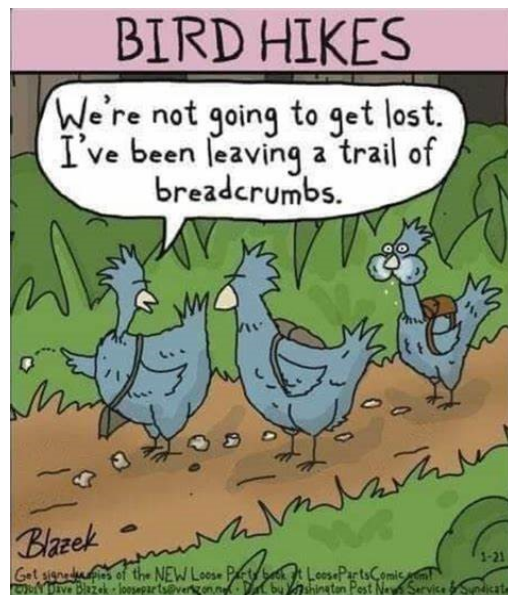
Weekly Saturday walks are continuing. All start at the Library at 2.pm and are approximately an hour long.

February 4th, Vineyard and Orchards to Highwood green. No stiles.

February 11th Plain Road and Millennium Avenue. No stiles.

February 18th to Tilden lane 1 stile 2 flights of stairs.

February 25th, Car share to Mote Park.



MINUTES

Full Council Meeting
COLLIER STREET PARISH COUNCIL
 Orchard Room, St Margaret's School
 on Monday 9 JANUARY 2023
 commencing at 7.00pm

In attendance

Cllr David Goff [Chair] [DG]	Cllr Andrew Papas [Vice-chair] [AP]
Cllr Jack Highwood [JH]	Cllr Steve Barham [SB]
Cllr Deborah Papas [DP]	
Parish Clerk Michelle Rumble [MR]	Borough Councillor Claudine Russell [CR]

01.23.01 Apologies	Cllr Dave Sealey, Cllr Steve Sandys, Councillor Lottie Parfitt-Reid, PCSO Nicola Morris	
01.23.02 Declarations of Interest	None declared	

01.23.06 CIL MONIES	Lead DG
Focus/Workshop Group Feedback	
Health and Wellbeing – Lead Cllr Steve Barham was not in attendance. Village Hall – Lead Cllr David Goff reported that the AGM of the Village Hall will be in January 2023 Highways and Community Safety –	
01.23.07 HIGHWAYS	Lead DG
The HIP was discussed, it needed updating and then can be submitted to the Highway Improvement Team. The members wished to have Junction warning signs in the additional locations Jarmons Lane, Den Lane Green Lane (there have been 2 accidents here in the last 12 months). Cllr Goff met with a KCC Highways Officer and they are looking at replacing the triangle on Longend Lane junction with B2162 – this will also be added to the HIP. The Clerk will try and get the Crash stats for Collier Street and add this to the HIP. The Clerk will circulate to all members once she has made the approved amendments. There is also no additional monies this year to deal with Pot Holes.	

01.23.07.01 LORRY WATCH and SPEEDWATCH UPDATE	Lead DG
It was noted that the Speed watch coordinator Sean Randall had resigned from the post, the Parish Council are looking for a new Coordinator, but at the moment it will be put on hold. Cllr Deborah Papas will collect the equipment. Cllr Goff will try to get hold of the Speed camera stats. Lorry Watch Cllr Goff reported that a new Team had been set up within Kent County Council to look at Lorry watch.	

01.23.08 Transfer of portion of Recreation Field Land to St Margaret's Church
Cllr Goff reported that he was meeting with the Solicitors to move this forward.

01.23.09 Police Report
PCSO Morris was not in attendance and no report had been received

01.23.10.05.		
PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION DECEMBER AND JANUARY 2023		
DD - DECEMBER	WEBSITE EMAILS	£20.39
DECEMBER	CLERKS SALARY	£761.80
DECEMBER	EMPLOYERS NIC	£0.52
DECEMBER	STAFF EXPENSES (MR)	£63.73
DECEMBER	ROSPA – PLAY AREA INSPECTION	£100.80
JANUARY	CLERKS SALARY	£761.80
JANUARY	CLERKS EXPENSES	
JANUARY	EMPLOYERS NIC	£0.52
DD- JANUARY	WEBSITE EMAILS	£20.39
DD -JANUARY	EDF – STREETLIGHTING ENERGY	£70.94
DD - DECEMBER	BANK CHARGES	£8.00
DD- JANUARY	BANK CHARGES	£8,00
INCOME		
INCOME	MBC - CIL MONIES	£10, 294.08
	MBC – 2 ND INSTALMENT PSS	£921.50

01.23.11.

Proposed by DG and seconded by JH and unanimously agreed by full council.

DONATIONS

Cllr Goff asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to make a donation towards the electrical work at the Churchyard. It was **RESOLVED** by all members that they would make a donation of £150 towards this. Cllr Goff will ask the Church to send a donation request to the Clerk.

01.23.10.06

BUDGET 2023/24

RESOLUTION - TO APPROVE THE BUDGET FOR 2023/24
and to set the precept for 2023/24

it was proposed by CLLR GOFF, seconded by CLLR JACK HIGHWOOD and **RESOLVED** by all members present to increase the precept by 5% from £19,808.00 to £20,798.40 and approve the budget

01.23.10.07

CIVILITY AND RESPECT PLEDGE

Resolution to sign the civility and respect pledge

Resolution to approve the dignity at work policy

It was **RESOLVED** by all members present to sign the civility and respect pledge and to adopt the dignity at work policy.

01.23.10.08

HSBC BANK MANDATE

RESOLUTION TO SIGN HSBC BANK MANDATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH BANK SIGNING RULES

It was **RESOLVED** by all members present that they sign the New Council mandate and that the Signatories all sign the Mandate as per the signing rules of the Council.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR CLAUDINE RUSSELL MBC Members Report from Cllr Claudine Russell

Dated: January 2023

Warm Spaces

MBC have launched two community hubs with a warm welcome, one in Maidstone Museum and one in Trinity.

Potholes

I mentioned the amount and epic proportions of the potholes around the borough in the Joint Transportation Board meeting on the 4th January. I received assurances from the KCC Highways officers that they are working hard to fill them. Potholes and other road issues can be reported online to Kent County Council at;

<https://webapps.kent.gov.uk/KCC.KHSFaultsGIS.Web.Sites.Public/ReportAFault.aspx>

Creative Communities Grant

The grants are to support events and activities encouraging art engagement and community cohesion in Maidstone. The first round applications have been assessed and round two will shortly be open to applications for up to £2,000 to get your community art project off the ground. More information and how to apply is at.

<https://arts.maidstone.gov.uk/home/funding>

Events

There are so many events coming up this year – please see the table below and the attached flyer for detail.

Date	Event	Location
4 January	MBC Community Hub with a Warm Welcome Launch	Maidstone Museum & Trinity Community Hub
12 January	Rising Cost of Living Support Event	Headcorn Village Hall
28 January	Lunar New Year	Town Centre
3 February	Light Up Maidstone	Town Centre
08 Feb - 17 Jun	Hooden Horse exhibition	Maidstone Museum
08 Feb - 17 Jun	Secret Stash? Discovering a Bronze Age hoard	Maidstone Museum
11 February	Family Fun Day (Hooden Horse)	Maidstone Museum
11 February	Arts Award (Hooden Horse)	Maidstone Museum
13 February	Talk & Panel on Kentish Folklore	Maidstone Museum
14 -16 February	Half Term Craft Activities	Maidstone Museum
17 February	Fossil Friday	Maidstone Museum
17 & 18 Feb	Talk of the Town	Town centre
7 March	Why don't we speak Latin (talk)	Maidstone Museum
24 Mar - 2 Apr	Heart of Kent Walking Festival	Various
1 April	Folklore & Hoodening Day	Maidstone Museum
1 April	Punk Up your Horse (craft activity)	Maidstone Museum
4 - 6 April	Easter-themed craft activities	Maidstone Museum
8 April	Easter fair	Brenchley Gardens
11 - 13 April	Treasure-themed craft activities	Maidstone Museum
22 April	Wild Escape (Earth Day)	Maidstone Museum

RECREATION FIELD

The Members discussed the Play area Inspections which will need to be carried out monthly, the Councillors will do this and send the Clerk the Inspection reports.

Cllr Goff reported that there has been an increase of broken glass on the play area and a lot of rubbish along the edge of the playing field.

FLOODING UPDATE

Cllr Goff reported that various roads had been shut due to the Flooding on the 16th of November 2022 and the 1st January 2023.

They have been looking at various ways to help control the flooding including the Bund at Brook Farm which is ongoing and Natural Flood management at Lamberhurst.

The Environment Agency are on Industrial Action at the moment and this could last up to six months, so because of this alerts have been coming out at night.

Cllr Russell said that there is Funding available for Flood Prevention Schemes.

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

CHURCH

Reverend Paul Kish 01622 814182

Church Warden

Jo Doctor 01892 730489

Sec to P.C.C.

Evie Slater 01892 732278

R.C Priest

Father Victor McLean 01580 211267

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

PARISH MAGAZINE

Editor

Jacki Fogg 01892 730869

Emma Howard 01892 730245

Tracey Bentley (Advertising) 01892 730252

Email: editorparishmag@mail.com

Paddock Wood Community Advice Centre

01892 838619

Email address: info@pwadvice.org

VILLAGE HALL

Chairman

TBC

Clerk to the Council

Michelle Rumble 07938511974

parish.clerk@collierstreetparishcouncil.co.uk

Dave Sealey 01892 730589
davesealey51@hotmail.com

HELPING HANDS

Margaret Ashworth 01892 730323

(Age concern representative)

David Goff **Chairman** 01892 730512

david.goff@collierstreetparishcouncil.co.uk

SCHOOL

Headteacher Paul Ryan 01892 730264

Chairman of Governors

Gareth Waterman TBC

Steve Sandys 01892 730628

steve.sandys@collierstreetparishcouncil.co.uk

Steve Barham 01892 730247

steve.barham@collierstreetparishcouncil.co.uk

Friends of Collier Street School

Chair Person: Kelly Rigden

email info@focss.org.uk

Andrew Papas 01892 730830

andrew.papas@collierstreetparishcouncil.co.uk

Deborah Papas 01892 730830

deborah.papas@collierstreetparishcouncil.co.uk

WOMANS INSTITUTE

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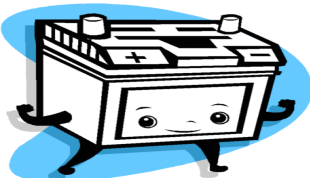
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