



WOODCHURCH COMMUNITY NEWS

The village community working together

February 2025

Contact us: Telephone 01233 861381 Email enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk Web www.woodchurchhub.uk

OVER 1,000 COPIES distributed every month in the Woodchurch area

WOODCHURCH Community Calendar



Weekly events:

Saturdays:

Boot Camp 9:00am-10:00am on the Village Green

Sundays:

Museum Open 10:00am to 4:00pm

Outpost Church 10:30am-11:45pm in the S&G Community Centre, Lower Road

Karate 10:00am-12:00pm in the Jean Mealham Centre

Mondays:

Pilates 9:00am-10:00am in the Memorial Hall

Tai Chi and Qigong 10:00am and 11:00am at the S&G Community Centre

Knit and Natter 2:00pm - 3:30pm in the Jean Mealham Lodge

Line Dancing 2:00pm - 4:00pm in the Jean Mealham Centre

Junior Tennis coaching Red-3:30pm, Orange 4:30pm, Green/Hand Ball 5:30pm, Hard Ball 6:30pm at the Tennis Club

Beavers 6:00pm-7:00pm in the S&G Community Centre

BodyTone 6:15pm-7:00pm in the Memorial Hall

BodyFlex 7:15pm-8:00pm in the Memorial Hall

Scouts 7:30pm-9:00pm in the S&G Community Centre

Tuesdays:

Pilates 9:00am-10:00am, 10:15am-11:15am and 6:00pm-7:00pm in the Memorial Hall

Coffee Morning 10:00am-12:00pm in All Saints Church

Puzzle Club 2:00pm-4:00pm in the Jean Mealham Lodge

Cubs 5:30pm-7:00pm in the S&G Community Centre

Karate 7:00pm-9:00pm in the Jean Mealham Studio

Salsa Dance 7:30pm-8:30pm in the Jean Mealham Centre

Wednesdays:

Pilates 9:00am-10:00am in the Memorial Hall

Museum Volunteers - maintenance and gardening 9:30am-12:00pm at the Museum

Social Pop-In 2:00pm-4:00pm Tea and coffee and boot fair marquee at the Jean Mealham Centre

Junior Tennis coaching Red/Orange-4:00pm, Green/Hard Ball-5:00pm the Tennis Club

Rainbows 5:00pm-6:00pm in the S&G Community Centre

Fish and Chips 4:30pm-7:30pm in the Village Car Park

Brownies and Guides 5:45pm-7:15pm in the S&G Community Centre

Thursdays:

Art Society 10:00am-1:00pm in the Memorial Hall

Margaret Morris Movement 2:15pm-3:45pm in the S&G Community Centre, Lower Road

BodyBlast 6:00pm-7:00pm in the Memorial Hall

Badminton 7:00pm-11:00pm in the Memorial Hall

Karate 7:00pm-9:00pm in the Jean Mealham Centre

Previous editions of the Newsletter can be found on The HUB Web site www.woodchurchhub.UK

Fridays:

Squirrels 5:30pm-6:30pm in the S&G Community Centre

Adult Tennis coaching 5:30pm at the Tennis Club

Other Events:

Sun 2nd **Parish Eucharist** - 11:00am at All Saints Church

Mon 3rd **CARM** - 10:30am in the Memorial Hall

Anna Chaplaincy - 10:30am in the Annexe

WLHS AGM - 7:30 in the Memorial Hall

Tue 4th **Evening Prayer** - 4:00pm at All Saints Church

Thu 6th **Social Prescribers** - 1:00pm to 4:00pm in The HUB

Sun 9th **Holy Communion** - 11:00am at All Saints Church

Tue 11th **WI - Annual Meeting** - 7:15pm in the Memorial Hall

Thu 13th **Citizens Advice** - 1:00pm to 3:00pm in The HUB

Sat 15th **Princess Day on the Farm** - at the Rare Breeds

Sun 16th **Morning Worship** - 9:30am at All Saints Church

Evensong - 4:00pm at All Saints Church

Mon 17th **Anna Chaplaincy** - 10:30am in the Annexe

PPG Meeting - 6:00pm in the Annexe

Tue 18th **Evening Prayer** - 4:00pm at All Saints Church

Wed 19th **HUB AGM** - 1:30pm in the Annexe

Sun 23rd **Holy Communion** - 11:00am at All Saints Church

Mon 24th **Hug in a Mug** - 10:00 in the Coffee Shop

Tue 25th **Evening Prayer** - 4:00pm at All Saints Church

Thu 27th **Parish Council Meeting** - 7:00pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe

The Full Community Calendar can be found at www.woodchurchhub.uk/community-calendar



HELP NEEDED AT THE HUB

The HUB is looking for volunteers to help support the community. This could be by being a reserve volunteer in The HUB office, helping update the Community Calendar, assisting with the monthly Newsletter.

If you are new to the village, newly retired, or just want to help by giving some time to the community in 2025, this would be the perfect opportunity. The HUB team of volunteers is always available to assist and you will get to know a lot of new people from within the village - and beyond.

For more information please contact The HUB enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk - 01233 861381



FROM PETER NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



INTRODUCTION for new readers.

My name is Peter New I am a Police Volunteer with Kent Police and work in Community Neighbourhood Watch across the whole Ashford District. My Force number is 91725.



PLEASE JOIN WOODCHURCH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
Email me on peternew1@aol.com or ring **07768 437422**.

May I start by thanking those residents who contacted me following the January newsletter to join NHW. A fantastic start to the year.

Each of you is a piece of the jigsaw picture I am building of Woodchurch and each of you is a piece of that picture that is building to keep Woodchurch a safe place. "The more we are the stronger we are"

As I said in the last issue, The HUB Newsletter plays a huge role in that overall safety approach. I am looking forward to developing the plan further in 2025 by holding regular NHW surgeries in The HUB in the coming months.

FIRE RISK

I have been carrying out considerable work on the e-scooter problem in the Ashford District. It may not be a huge problem in your area, but a very worrying factor has now begun to surface.

There is a fire risk when e-scooters and or e-bikes are being charged, and that risk increases if you are using a cheap substandard charger. I carry out this sort of work because I do not want to keep you crime free and then you suffer a disaster of a fire.



This is the moment a second-hand e-bike battery exploded at a house in Catford, south east London



Footage shows just how quickly the fire grows and spreads, with sparks and the sound of several explosions.



The bike was charging and had been converted from a normal pedal cycle and purchased online second-hand



Firefighters recommend e-bikes and e-scooters are purchased from reputable sellers such as high street stores

This does not have to happen in Woodchurch for us all to learn and be aware.

Returning to crime

Please be alert and vigilant to thefts from Vehicles, Sheds, Garages, Barns, Stables, Outbuildings and any form of External storage. To that I add fuel thefts from farm vehicles and theft of Domestic heating oil from tanks.

Let me speak about vehicles.

You must leave nothing on show in a parked car especially last park up for the night!

Use "Pete's 5 second rule" "park your car, lock it and then stand for 5 seconds and look in. Can you see anything? If you can so can a criminal.

You may get away with it in the rural Woodchurch but don't chance it! When you travel further afield to the bigger towns, absolutely not please!!

I hope nobody must attend a funeral at a crematorium in coming months but if you do look at the sign in the car park there. **THIEVES OPERATE IN THIS CAR PARK**. That sign is there for the very reason that when we attend funerals we are sad and not at our best. We dread a mobile phone going off in the service (albeit we have checked 20 times that it is switched off) so at last minute we leave it in the car. Ladies may not want to take handbags into the service. Criminals know this and they hide in the gardens there and strike at the cars whilst we are inside. These low life criminals have no thought of your upset on top of an already upsetting and difficult day.

Another risk. We load our dogs into our cars and drive to different woodland locations to give our dogs a different place to walk and run around. We park in isolated woodland car parks but leave items in cars again like handbags so as not to have to carry them around the woods. Criminals know this and know the car will be there for an hour or so whilst you enjoy your walk.

Sometimes I need you to think like a criminal!!

Please report ALL crimes

I need every crime, attempted crime and failed crime reported. That way I can issue crime prevention advice and understand the crime trends. See methods above BUT DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL 999 especially if crimes are in progress or about to happen.

Thank you for all your support. JOIN THAT WOODCHURCH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PLEASE

Stay safe, secure, alert and vigilant

Contacting Kent Police



Report a non-urgent crime or incident online at www.kent.police/report or click the **Live Chat** button



In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger, call **999**



For non-urgent issues, if you are unable to get online, call **101**



Kent Police

www.kent.police.uk

WOODCHURCH SURGERY UPDATE

As New Year has started a few changes have been happening at the Surgery. I read an article by a journalist called Fergal Keane referring to work as the world's most permissive addiction. Coincidentally, I have asked Dr Henrique Lourenco to do regular Friday clinics for the next couple of months to allow me a bit more time with the trainees and to manage all the administrative tasks that seem to be growing. It really has already been a worthwhile trial.

I am very pleased that in dispensary Jenny has realised that she has been doing a brilliant job within the team and has consequently been appointed as Lead Dispenser. The team has been working really hard together, especially over the last few months and despite the changes are still dispensing up to 13,000 items a month and generally managing to keep smiling (although not at the computers).

We also welcome a new member to the administrative / reception team called Abigail. We look forward to introducing her to the village surgery and I'm sure you will get to know her.

I've also started to practise a little of what I preach - perhaps admitting that I am properly in the throes of middle-age... Generally, from middle-age we should be focusing less on cardiovascular fitness and getting more strength and conditioning. As a consequence, I have started a physical training regime with Jo Furneaux, who I know already keeps a lot of the village fit in her classes in the hall.

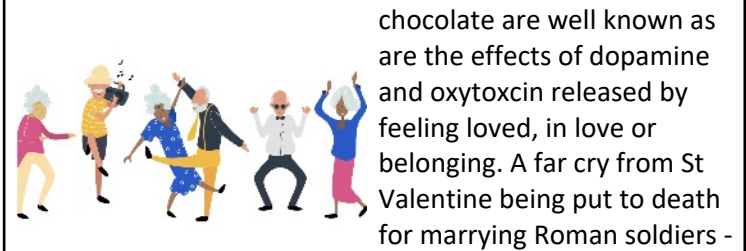
It has opened my eyes to a lot of the benefits of introducing that type of exercise into our lives. There are a number of papers that I've since looked at that have a very common theme; the strength of your quadriceps (thighs) show better outcomes for mental agility, heart attacks, falls and overall life expectancy. It is probably more basic than that and particularly as we get older if our balance and core stability is lost, we are more prone to a loss of confidence, reduced mobility, social isolation and risk of serious injury. A common occurrence following a fall is a hip fracture. Generally the outcome is favourable following surgery, however a patient would be expected to leave hospital weaker than when going in. As a rule of thumb we would expect a person walking to leave with a stick, those using a stick to need a zimmer frame and those needing a zimmer may be only transferring from a bed to a chair following a hip fracture. It sharpens the mind and there are such simple exercises that we can do in our own homes to build or maintain our strength. The big problem is that it is us that no one can do the work for us.



We do organise "wobble" classes and other activities that can be done as sit-down exercises and for the more mobile there is the ongoing Health Coaching that can be accessed with the

aim of walking or running 5km by the end of it. We have had such positive feedback and it has kick-started groups that have spun-off on their own. The current cohort is focusing on people with neurodiversity and I'm already hearing great things. Please ask our admin team if you are interested in these activities.

We have Valentine's day to look forward to in the middle of the month. The health benefits of the anti-oxidants in



chocolate are well known as are the effects of dopamine and oxytocin released by feeling loved, in love or belonging. A far cry from St Valentine being put to death for marrying Roman soldiers -

flowers and chocolate are definitely better for life expectancy.

With that I wish you a very healthy and happy February,

Jack Hickey, GP.



www.woodchurchsurgery.co.uk 01233 860236

Margaret Morris Movement

Gentle exercise for the over 50's will restart on Thursday 6th February at 14:15 at the Scouts Community Centre.

Surgery Opening Hours

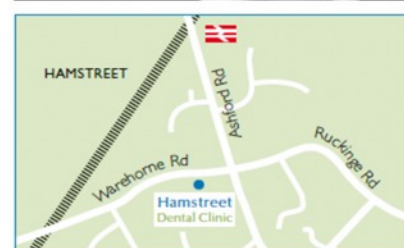
Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm



Where to find us...

Hamstreet Dental Clinic
Warehorne Road
Hamstreet
Kent TN26 2JJ

Find us on facebook



Tel: 01233 733848

Email: hamstreetdentalclinic@gmail.com



Parish Council Website: www.woodchurch-pc.gov.uk
 The next Parish Council Meeting is on Thursday 27th February 2025 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe

Is That A Lower Precept?

The Parish Council has agreed the budget for 2025-2026 at the meeting on 23rd January 2025. This was set at £68,510. Through prudent financial planning the Parish Council has managed to reduce next years precept (the amount that your parish council requests as part of the council tax) to £44,650 compared to £45,006 for this year. The difference between the £68,510 budget and £44,650 will come from unspent earmarked reserves and general reserves. All our financial planning is geared to maintaining and improving the public service amenities which we are responsible for, and implementing the Village Plan. Below shows the Woodchurch Parish Council precept proportion of the council tax for each band.

	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D
2024-5	£34.45	40.19	£45.93	£51.67
2025-6	£34.41	£40.15	£45.88	£51.62
(Decrease)	(4p)	(4p)	(5p)	(5p)

	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
2024-5	£63.15	74.64	£86.12	£103.34
2025-6	£63.09	£74.56	£86.03	£103.24
(Decrease)	(6p)	(8p)	(9p)	(11p)

Where Was Your Precept Spent In The Last Quarter?

The third quarter saw a number of projects commence with some completed in line with The Village Plan. There is now access to electricity on the Village Green, and the power upgrade is close to being completed, despite UKPN delays. The refurbishment of the toilet is underway and is expected to be completed very soon. The village sign has had extensive restoration work and is now back in place. The Parish Council gave the go ahead for the work on the village pump to commence, this will mostly be carried out onsite and therefore will need a break in the weather. Total payments for Quarter 3 were £23,958, made up mostly of £16, 245 New Projects Works. Staffing costs were £4,473, and the balance was general running costs. Total receipts were £190 all of which was bank interest. The combined Hub power upgrade, WC refurbishment and electricity to the village green is likely to come in over the £28,000 budget due to delays in work starting and improvements in specifications. However, this has been mitigated by the £11,000 grant we received from Ashford Borough Council, and should result in around £6,000 additional available funds at the end of this municipal year.

How Much Is in The Bank Accounts?

At the end of December the Parish Council bank balances totalled £76,139. From that figure there is £19,100 of this earmarked for other projects and outstanding payments on projects in progress of up to £15,000 leaving around

£44,000.

For a parish the size of Woodchurch, it is general practice to hold around 50% of running costs as an emergency reserve, which is around £20,000 for the current year. Subtract this figure from the £44,000 and there is around £24,000 to cover the remaining running costs through to 31st March 2025.

Windmill Latest

Despite the Ashford Borough Council stating support for an application by Woodchurch to have the windmill added to the list of Assets of Community Value, their legal department turned down our application. All is not lost as the correspondence returned to the Parish Council doesn't state that we cannot resubmit. The main reason given for the refusal was a lack of evidence of social use. This is somewhat unfair as any social use has been denied due to state of the mill's disrepair at Ashford Borough Council's hands. The Parish Council, The Friends of Woodchurch Windmill and Woodchurch Heritage Trust are currently considering the options, which may include a petition signed by the residents.



Any comments are welcome on clerk@woodchurch-pc.gov.uk

Old Cast Iron Litter Bin Anyone?

The Parish Council has identified ten top priority locations for the recently purchased bins. These will now be rolled out over the coming weeks, replacing some of the existing cast iron ones. We have already had interest in some of the old cast iron litter bins, and there are a few still up for grabs.



If you are interested contact the Clerk on clerk@woodchurch-pc.gov.uk

New Street Names



CALA Homes has approached the Parish Council to assist with coming up with names for the new development due to be built on Front Road. CALA had suggested a theme with links to the RAF/Military.

The Parish Council have responded that we would like to involve the residents in this. If you have any thoughts on themes please contact the Parish Council on clerk@woodchurch-pc.gov.uk. The deadline set is 14th February.

Community Wardens

The Parish Council has been able to budget for a contribution towards a Community Warden in 2025-2026. Having reached out to other parishes with little response on sharing a warden, we have approached Kent County Council for an indication of the cost should we contribute towards a warden to be at the Hub for one day a week. Initially this looks to be around £10,000. Please contact the Clerk with any views you may have on the subject.



Yellow Lines?

A reminder that we will be asking residents for their views on installing yellow lines around the school. The Parish Council will hold a public consultation over the coming months on the topic, which will then be reflected back to East Kent Highways. Additionally East Kent Highways will be installing 30 MPH roundels on the road surface approaching the village along Bethersden Road.



Have You Heard About The Coming Devolution?

In order to bring local authorities more in touch with their residents, the Government published a 99 page English Devolution White Paper on 16th December 2024. This lays out the process whereby the whole country is split into Unitary Authorities, and as a result county and district/borough councils would cease to exist. This should lead to a less complex system. Here in Kent, KCC would disappear along with the all the district councils such as Ashford Borough Council, and they will be replaced with 3 or 4 more efficient unitary authorities covering the county, saving money in the process. Simultaneously there will be a directly elected geographical mayors. Devolution, with an Elected Mayor for Kent will bring with it extra powers and extra non ringfenced money, and will result in more decisions affecting Kent residents being made in Kent. This directly elected position will be fully accountable to residents, theoretically the sharpest sort of democratic accountability. This is likely to result in the postponement of the KCC May elections this year. There will be no opt out clause in this for local authorities, it will be happening and it is just a matter of time. As for parish councils, all this is likely to see more responsibilities devolved down to them, with their roles widening as they are the bodies closest to the communities they represent. We will keep you informed of developments.



This Could Be Interesting Time To Become a Councillor?

With the move to unitary authorities, this could be a very interesting time to think about becoming a Parish Councillor. We currently have a vacancy for someone to join a dynamic council. If you are motivated in serving and helping your local community then this is an excellent opportunity. There are no formal qualifications required. If you have any interest or questions then please email the Council on clerk@woodchurch-pc.gov.uk

Flooding In Lower Levels of Woodchurch

At the last meeting the Parish Council discussed the ongoing flooding issues around the village. It was decided to seek ways to increase pressure on Southern Water to take action. We are seeking further assistance and comments from residents to form a document with historical evidence which we can send to the CEO at Southern Water.

If you have any comments, please contact the Clerk.

Potholes

It is best to report any directly to KCC Highways by phone on [03000 418181](tel:03000418181) or online at www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/what-we-look-after/roads/potholes



Water leaks

If you see a water leak in the road these should be reported to South East Water by phone at 03330 000365 or online at www.southeastwater.co.uk/help/emergencies/report-a-leak



Recent Planning Applications We Have Considered Over The Last Two Months

Application	Location	Parish Council	Ashford Planning
PA/2024/2401	Land north of Appledore Road. Kenardinton. Solar Farm	Insist that Ashford Planning carry out a full EIA analysis before planning application is submitted	Waiting Decision
PA/2024/1795	Keepers End. Shadoxhurst Road	Support	Waiting Decision
AP-90702 3351385	Balcony Farm, Haycross Lane.	Object	Waiting Decision
NOT/2025/0063	Honeysuckle Cottage, Bethersden Road	Support	Waiting Decision
PA/2024/2379	Stonebridgelands, Front Road	Support	Waiting Decision
PA/2024/2135 & PA/2024/2142	Fairview, Bethersden Road	Support	Waiting Decision
AP-90720 3355619	Annexe, Cruttenden Farm, Brook Street	Continue to Support	Waiting Decision
PA/2024/2209	1 West End, Susans Hill	Support	Waiting Decision
PA/2024/2281	Clappers Mead, Bethersden Road	Support	Waiting Decision
PA/2024/2359 & PA2024/2320	Coleham Green Farm	Support	Waiting Decision

How to contact your Parish Council

In person: By talking to one of your councillors - details on the Parish Council Web site

By email: clerk@woodchurch-pc.gov.uk

By phone: 01233 861381

Through The HUB: Place your correspondence in a sealed envelope marked "Parish Council" and deliver to The HUB

By post to: Woodchurch Parish Clerk, c/o The HUB, Front Road, Woodchurch, Kent, TN26 2PA

Through the contact form on the Parish Council Web site: www.woodchurch-pc.gov.uk/contact-us/

Items For Future Newsletters

If there is something that you would like to have included in future editions then please send them to: enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk

All Saints Church



Dear Woodchurch Friends

'Accept the things I cannot change . . .'
(Reinhold Niebuhr)



It is February and some people will be focused on the Six Nations Rugby Tournament. Our family has traditionally had a fun sweepstakes. Being from the southern hemisphere, it is difficult for me to accept I need to support a northern hemisphere team. This year, I have drawn France. But I take comfort that our household is not the only household pondering national allegiances over rugby. I know of at least one where the heritage of one partner is British and the other is French. I accept I cannot change the luck of this friendly draw!

'The wisdom to know the difference . . .' (Reinhold Niebuhr)

It is February and we celebrate Candlemas on the 2nd at All Saints at 11:00 with a Parish Eucharist. Candlemas is a tradition followed since at least the 10th century when adults and children were expected to bring candles to churches. After the service, the candles were blessed and were then ready to use in the church during the coming year. The celebration coincides with the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple by his parents, Mary and Joseph. We no longer enforce coming to church or enforce the giving of candles. However, we do celebrate a festival of light and rejoice at Christ Jesus being recognised as the light of the world when he was presented in the Temple (Luke 2:22-40).

'Change the things I cannot accept . . .' (Angela Davis)

It is February and we mark the 30th anniversary of Racial Justice Sunday. The theme for this year is Coat of Many Colours. While many people of Global Majority Heritage or Black and Brown backgrounds describe themselves as a being part of a Christian community that could be likened to a Coat of Many Colours, there are still too many people who feel unwelcome and excluded from churches. We must ensure Denswood Parish continues to grow inclusively. We look forward to offering a genuine welcome to all people. More can be read about Racial Justice Sunday:

<https://ctbi.org.uk/racial-justice-sunday-9-february-2025/>

Peace and prayers
Maria

Citizens Advice Bureau At Woodchurch HUB

Ashford Citizens Advice now holds regular, confidential consultation clinics at Woodchurch HUB on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 1pm to 3pm.

These are walk-in sessions so you do not need to book.
For more information please contact The HUB.

Woodchurch Village Shed

Just a quick update for everyone.

Last week we had a massive shift around of our kit so we could put our first coat of undercoat on. At the end of the morning, job done. This week main coats and following that we will start to construct some work benches.



We have a number of projects ahead. Apart from our shed and all that goes with it we are looking at renovating Jenny's Cabin next door to us. Hopefully this can be used as a social area for all the people who use the Community Centre site. Work in progress.

We are slowly building an enthusiastic group of people who pitch in or just come along for the craic.

I will keep you posted on future developments.

We meet on a Thursday 10am to 1pm.

For more information please contact me at neilmckay0730@gmail.com.



**WOODCHURCH
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

In January Barbara and Geoff Turner told Woodchurch WI about their visit to the National Needlework Archive. Located in the Old Chapel at Greenham Common near Newbury, it houses "The Country Wife Mural". Designed by Constance Howard in 1951 for the Festival of Britain it was constructed by her students from Goldsmiths Art College and members of the WI. The mural is a major example of 20thC textile art. The raised stump work tells a contemporary story of a village, its inhabitants, buildings and animals using 3D elements.

When the Festival of Britain closed the vast hanging (4.5mx5m) was given to Denman College where it remained until 2009. Now nearly 70 years old, once transferred to the NNA it began its conservation. The central padded figures, 5/8ths human size, depict animated women carrying out country crafts such as baking, knitting, tatting and singing. Now housed in a huge frame its conservation is more easily accessible.

Our speakers went on to mention how the mural was represented on postcards from Denman and how in 1997 WI publications produced a 1,000 piece jigsaw of the mural. More information about this significant and truly remarkable piece of WI art history can be found on the NNA website nationalneedleworkarchive.org.uk



The February meeting will be our AGM followed by a short talk by Vicar Mike Rose telling of his journey from Navy to Church.

Meetings are held in the Memorial Hall at 7.15pm on the second Tuesday of the month.

Woodchurch Yard Together ("WYT")

Thank You



for your support!

DONATIONS ALWAYS WELCOME—IT COSTS US OVER £1000 A YEAR ON FUEL & TOOLS

'WoodchurchYard Together'
Volunteer weekends 2025

February 15 & 16
March 8 & 9
April 12 & 13
May 17 & 18
June 14 & 15
July 5 & 6
August 9 & 10
September 6 & 7
October 18 & 19
November 15 & 16

Keeping in touch:

Email:

WoodchurchYardTogether@btinternet.com

Phone:

07774 608281

Or follow us on:



Search:

'WoodchurchYard Together'

Entry Forms now available from
www.woodchurchinbloom.com or
via Woodchurch HUB



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

19th July 2025

on The Green with Show exhibits in The Memorial Hall

Incorporating Traditional Country Crafts and Displays

The same categories as in 2023, so why not get growing & creating now!

All details are on the entry forms

Woodchurch Local History Society



The Woodchurch Local History Society generally meets on the first Monday of the month at 7:30pm in the village Memorial Hall.

The purpose of the society is to provide our members with a series of lectures and presentations which are normally devoted to items of local historical interest. Membership presently costs £12 annually with visitors being asked to pay £3 at the door..

Our 2025 Programme starts on Monday February 3rd with our AGM. The AGM will be followed by a short talk entitled 'Michelangelo's Sussex Glory'.

Our March 3rd meeting will be devoted to a presentation by David Tadd called 'A Forensic Investigation into the Brighton Bombing of 1984'.



A Provisional IRA bomb at a Brighton hotel killed 5 people and injured 30 but was aimed at the assassination of Margaret Thatcher. David Tadd is a retired Metropolitan police officer who was in charge of the forensic investigation. His department's work led to the eventual arrest and prosecution of the IRA terrorists.

We are always looking for new members and we are also very happy to see visitors arrive. If you might like to become a member then please come to any of our meetings. Secondly, if you just fancy coming to a particular talk as a visitor then just turn up on the night.

If you would like to see our full 2025 talks programme then you will find details in the January issue of this HUB publication.

We look forward to seeing you.

Geoff [01233 860393](tel:01233860393).

Woodchurch Remembers



January draws to a grey and wet close, so it is time to plan for the year ahead. This year we have two significant dates to work around, 8th May and 15th August. The 80th

anniversaries of VE and VJ Days respectively. These will probably be the last significant commemorations of the end of World War Two and we intend to mark them, further details will appear in future newsletters.

Don Grant Tel: [07796 28212](tel:0779628212).

You could advertise your company here from as little as £10 per month

Visit the HUB Web site for more information

www.woodchurchhub.uk/the-hub-old/newsletters/parish-newsletter-advertising

WOODCHURCH VILLAGE LIFE MUSEUM
150+ Club 2025



Thank you to all the subscribers to the WVLM lottery draw. You will see the first winners of 2025 below - congratulations.

This year we have again experienced problems getting in touch with everyone interested so please contact enquiries@woodchurchheritagetrust.uk or Woodchurch Hub on 01233 861381 if you still wish to subscribe. £15 for 9 months, £10 for the latter 6 months of the year.

Maintenance at the museum continues each Wednesday morning from 9:30 whilst our curators are organising our main new exhibit to honour Geoff Loynes, of whom many of Woodchurch residents have very fond memories.

We have an action day planned for Wednesday 10th March. Do join our friendly group on any Wednesday to enjoy a stimulating morning learning new skills or refreshing previous ones. You may be interested in volunteering as a museum steward at the weekends from April; come and find out what it entails.

Woodchurch Village Life Museum and Study Centre, Susan's Hill, TN26 .

January 2025 Draw Results



1st prize	£50	Gorgon Baker	1013
2nd prize	£30	Peter Buckley	976
3rd prize	£20	Val Tribe	1264

For more information contact us at enquiries@woodchurchheritagetrust.uk or phone 01233 860586 or visit our Web site www.woodchurchheritagetrust.uk

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL DRAMA SOCIETY

We are looking for anyone interested in joining our friendly, hardworking and dedicated committee team, which works with Woodchurch Players.

Due to retirement, we have two volunteer roles within the committee that need covering: Costumes and Safeguarding Officer.

These roles are vital for the smooth running of our society and will involve:

Costumes

You will work as part of a small team to help maintain our vast selection of costumes.

Choosing appropriate costumes for the performances could involve entering the loft space, so it would be beneficial if you are happy to use ladders. Also, you may be required to source new costumes online or in shops, this would be working

KENT'S BEST LANDSCAPERS
 Landscaping in Ashford, Maidstone, Heathfield and the surrounding area
 Paving company covering Kent

For Enquiries:
 07793 107246
 07528 230530

info@kentbestlandscapers.co.uk
 www.kentbestlandscapers.co.uk
 Kent's Best Landscapers

- Soft and hard landscaping
- Garden and planting design
- Garden patios, paving, fencing and buildings
- Garden and porcelain paving
- New driveways
- Stables build and equestrian field fencing
- Turfing
- Garden irrigation
- Outside sound and lighting
- Summer houses
- Composite and natural decking

within a budget. Applicants ideally need to be conversant with online retailing, but training can be provided if necessary.

It's not essential that you can sew, but if you can that's a bonus!



Safeguarding

This is a more specialised role in our society and is vital as Woodchurch Players actively encourages children and young people to take part in our productions. This role entails:

Following the guidelines set out by Kent County Council

Completing Safeguarding and First Aid training through Kent County Council (the society will cover this charge)

Keeping registers of the children involved in performances

Arranging a rota of chaperones for each performance

Working with Kent County Council to write an agreement for parents/carers outlining requirements for performances, using Woodchurch players Safeguarding policy

If you are interested in either of these roles or would like further information, please contact our Chairman - Les Fenton at lesfenton926@gmail.com or our Secretary - Kerry Munday at kerry.munday@theoldboiler.com

Twin Oaks

Your Local Handy Man & Gardening Services

Gardening Services



Mowing/ Strimming
Hedge Cutting
Weeding
Fencing/ Fence Maintenance
General Clearance



Bespoke Garden Features (*Pergolas, Bird Feeders, Dove Cotes etc.*)

Household Odd Jobs

For all those little jobs that keep cropping up.
We can sort them!

Wood Processing / Log Splitting Services

Tractor operator and log splitter available for small or large scale jobs.

Contact us today for a FREE consultation

07960991399

twinoaksagriservices@outlook.com

KENT HOLIDAY COTTAGES

+44 (0) 1233 860 293

info@kentholidaycottages.co.uk



WOODCHURCH

SHOP ✦ BAR ✦ WINE TASTING ✦ TOURS

Thursdays to Sundays 11am - 5pm

<http://woodchurchwine.co.uk> tel:01233 860276

To help keep the Newsletter free for the village please become one of our sponsors, or give a donation if you can.
www.woodchurchhub.uk or contact **The HUB**



Bubbles & Bark

Mobile dog grooming service



From tiny terriers to giant great danes we groom them all!
Enjoy convenient, stress-free grooming right at your doorstep.
Your pup's perfect pampering awaits!

Full Groom

Hand stripping

Puppy Package

Teeth Cleaning

Pawsome extras also available!



Mobile: 07731 954485 Email: Bookings@bubblesandbark.co.uk
Website: bubblesandbark.co.uk Instagram: [bubblesandbarksocials](https://www.instagram.com/bubblesandbarksocials)

Architect serving Kent & East Sussex
M: 07967 817 327
www.benhebarchitecture.co.uk



ARCHITECTURE
PLANNING APPS.
BUILDING REGS.
CONSTRUCTION



Sound timber framing

timberology.co.uk



Everything **Outside**

Bringing New Life
To Your Garden

For A Quick Quote From A Company You Can Trust Call

☎ 01580 766 232 ☑ 07795 465 861

Welcome To Everything Outside

We cover a wide range of services to meet the requirements of our ever-growing client list, if you are looking for a company you can trust to provide a high standard of quality work covering

- ✓ Gardening
- ✓ Landscaping
- ✓ Garden Design
- ✓ Hedge Cutting
- ✓ Fencing
- ✓ Tree Surgery
- ✓ Clearance
- ✓ Digger Work

and much more. Then call our experienced team today on 07795 465 861. To view our full range of services, click on the link below.

Our head office is based in Tenterden, Kent and means we are in the perfect location to proudly service Kent and East Sussex. All our services are tailored to each job we carry out and our team are experience in all aspects of fencing and landscaping services making us your number one choice for all work you require.

Great Work

Great Reputation

Great Price

VERNACULAR HOMES
design & build



We work with homeowners and developers on new builds, barn conversions, renovations, restorations, remodelling and extensions.

Trust our experienced team to manage every step to bring your ideas or dream home to life.

vernacularhomes.com 01233 861177

Designing, planning & building dream homes

Karen Stevens

Massage and Reflexology

Massage and Reflexology from my treatment room in Woodchurch

To book or to discuss your treatment needs call me on:

☎ 07808675251

OUR SPONSORS

fab feet
Professional Foot Healthcare

www.fabfeethealthcare.co.uk

Delivering high quality Podiatric care in the
comfort of your own home.

Providing a reliable and friendly service of professional
treatments for all of your foot ailments.

Call Michelle on:

Tel: 01233 731207

Mob: 07766 705824

Registered & Insured



Remedial massage therapy.

Your Local Woodchurch Massage Therapist

- Remedial Massage
- Sports Massage
- Holistic Massage

- Ultrasound Therapy
- Electrotherapy

- Injury Treatments & Rehabilitation
- Rehabilitation Taping/Strapping
- Athletic Taping/Strapping



Bookings - 07799221043

www.musclewhisperer.org.uk

Treatment Room - Little Vale TN26 3QW



musclewhisperer@outlook.com



WOODCHURCH COTTAGE FLOWERS



AN ARTISAN FLORIST & FLOWER GROWER, WE OFFER
BOUQUETS, FAREWELL ARRANGEMENTS AND
WEDDING FLOWERS.

ALL GROWN ON OUR SMALL HOLDING IN
WOODCHURCH. WE WORK WITH NATURE AND THE
SEASONS, NO CHEMICAL OR PESTICIDES USED

call or text 07960 449235

www.woodchurchcottageflowers.co.uk



WINTER WARMERS

FROM ERNEST DOE POWER

DON'T MISS THE 65th DON'T ANNUAL SHOW
4th FEB & 6th FEB 2025
AT UETTING HALL, BARN, WOODCHURCH



IN STORE NOW

OUR RANGE OF HEATERS



IN STORE NOW

COAL & KINDLING



IN STORE NOW

WE STOCK CALOR GAS

Hendon Barn, Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent TN26 3QP
Tel: 01233 224860
[ernestdoeshop.com](http://www.ernestdoeshop.com)

ernestDOE
POWER

CRANBROOK

Fishmongers

FRESH FISH

Cranbrook Fishmongers are now doing home deliveries in Woodchurch

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY

Please call for more information

Jim: 07866 741200

Our local team of care professionals can help with:

- Meal Preparation
- Medication
- Personal Care
- Companionship
- Help around the home
- And much more...

To find out more call or visit:

01233 560400

southkent@goodoakshomecare.co.uk

goodoakshomecare.co.uk/south-kent



GoodOaks
Quality Care at Home

SAVE THE DATE



We are delighted to say that, following a fallow year in 2024, **Wealden Festival will be returning this summer over the weekend of 21 - 22 June 2025.**

Join us in the garden at Boldshaves as we welcome a carefully chosen group of inspirational authors, artists and makers and continue the celebration of nature and creativity that has always been at the heart of Wealden.



Whilst we are thrilled to be going ahead this year, we don't shy away from the fact that these are challenging times for the arts and the organisations that support them. Put simply, it is because of the community of people who generously contribute to Wealden Festival in a host of different ways that we are able to keep going.

We recognise that we need that community now more than ever before. With this in mind, if you would like to support the Festival - whether through volunteering your time, donating to the Festival or participating in the programme of events for 2025 - please get in touch. With your help, Wealden 2025 can continue to play its part in helping us to nurture our relationship with the natural world and explore our creative potential: aspirations that to us feel increasingly critical at this point in time.



Come what may, we will be here in June for two midsummer days of thrilling talks, creative workshops and outdoor events that will seek to bring all generations together, united by a shared desire to kindle a kinder, more understanding way of being in the world.

The Wealden Festival Team

D K Plastering Services

All plastering work carried out



Fully Insured Professional Workmanship

For a clean & tidy job call David

Mobile
07974 891795

Or Email

dk.plastering@hotmail.co.uk

Dates For Your Diary

Organised by Woodchurch HUB



SPRING VILLAGE CLEAN-UP LITTER PICK

Saturday 27th March 2025 - 8am to 12pm

To help our industrious village litter pickers and the growing number of individuals who regularly clear the ditches and hedgerows in and around Woodchurch, please come and join us for our Spring Village Clean Up.

Bags, high viz jackets and litter pickers will be available - but if you have your own then please bring them along.



See you outside The HUB from 8am.

WOODCHURCH GREAT GARAGE/YARD SALE

Saturday 12th April 2025 10am to 3pm



A wonderful opportunity to put out a table... or a few. Sell all those 'treasures' you've been sorting in the past few months.

All welcome - sellers and buyers.
Tour the village streets on this day.

No cost to anyone- the profits are yours!

To be included on the map please email enquiries@woodchurchhub.uk or visit The HUB

The HUB AGM will be held on 19th February at 1:30pm in the Memorial Hall Annexe. All are welcome

Woodchurch Patients Participation Group (PPG)

Please find below the dates for our 4 PPG meetings for 2025



All Woodchurch Surgery Patients welcome!

At each meeting we will be joined by representatives from Woodchurch Surgery and a "Speaker" from a local group/organisation.

2025 Meeting dates (Memorial Hall Annexe starting 6pm):

Monday 17th February

Monday 9th June

Monday 11th August

Monday 17th November

If you would like to receive PPG Surgery updates and details of speakers for the meetings, please contact Philippa at philippaatwoodchurch@btinternet.com

PLEASE COME ALONG TO GILLIAN'S

COFFEE MORNING

HOSTED AND SUPPORTED BY

WOODCHURCH WI

ON SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2025

10.00 - 12.00

WOODCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL

IN AID OF



£3.00 ENTRY

HOMEMADE CAKES & RAFFLE

WE LOOK FORWARD TO GREETING YOU

Simple Kent Funerals

caring • flexible • imaginative • economical • local
Applefield Cottage, Redbrook Street, Woodchurch TN26 3QS



Call Toby on 07806 613297 (24/7) • www.simplekentfunerals.co.uk