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Additional Support

APL Computer Support

About Us

Orlestone Parish Magazine (OPM), covering Orlestone and surrounding Parishes, is run on a not-for-profit basis, with all proceeds to be forwarded to a charity or charities to be decided by our Editor-in-Chief in consultation with the Parish Council and, if possible, our readers!

<https://www.orlestoneparish.co.uk/latest/>



Jumping June

Lovely weather at the end of May, even a good Bank Holiday. A short drive from Hamstreet towards the Rare Breeds Centre showed me an abundance of dog roses, honeysuckle and cow parsley as well as yellow flags, hawthorn and buttercups. A pheasant strolled along the verge – making me slow in case this bird of little brain chose to dart across the road - a buzzard hung overhead and a flash of gold proved to be a green woodpecker or yaffle. At this time of year, when the trees are still lightly leaved, the canopy gives a delightful dappled shade. Yes, all very poetic, but we need a bit of simple pleasure in our lives, don't we?

Lots of lovely events coming up this summer, many for charities or local good causes; I hope you can enjoy many of them.

PLEASE READ page 3

You may not go to church but you might well be interested in how your Parish church will be organised in the future. There are changes afoot and these will be explained and discussed at a meeting in each Parish, dates on page 3.

The meetings are open to all because Anglican churches belong to everyone and everyone should be informed and have their say.

Hamstreet Station, or Ham Street Station as the British Rail likes to call it, is on a line that runs from Ashford to Hastings. The line was originally opened in 1851 and was routed inland via

Appledore rather than Tenterden, as expected, for strategic military defense purposes (according to Wikipedia)

In 1897 the station's name was updated to Ham Street & Orlestone, reverting to Ham Street in 1976. The station building is the original 1851 property and is listed as a Grade II historic building



Village Halls - Weekly Timetables & Events

Warehorne Village Hall



MONDAY
JUMP KIDS
(Yrs R - 1)
3.45pm - 4.45pm

TUESDAY
YOGA WITH LIZZIE
6pm - 7pm

WEDNESDAY
YOGA WITH EDITH
9am - 10.15am
6.30pm - 7.45pm

THURSDAY
JUMP SINGERS
(Community Choir)
7.45pm - 9pm

FRIDAY
ART CLASS
Third Friday of the Month

SATURDAY
JUMP KEN
Jumpers (Yrs 2 & 3)
9.30am - 11am
Jump Juniors (Yrs 4 - 6)
11.10am - 12.40pm
Jump Tweens (Yrs 7 - 10)
12.45pm - 2.15pm



Kenardington Village Hall

For just £10 per hour you can hire this small, cosy and characterful space. Kitchen and bar area, fast wifi, TV, chairs and tables plus little ones for children too. Refurbished four years ago, the hall is great for meetings, drop in working space, children's parties, and village fund raising events.




Your paragraph text

To book or enquiries contact Brenda on 0776 6755 322



**Bilington Village hall -
Your local venue**
Bilington, Ashford, Kent, TN25 7JU
Registered charity 302685

Enquiries through committee members or by email
Chairperson: Mr Mark Bilham 07776 218383
Treasurer/Bookings: Mrs Vivienne Hudson 07887 850075
Secretary/Bookings: Mrs Amanda Riley 07720 386874
bilingtonvillagehall@gmail.com

WEEKLY CALENDAR HAMSTREET VICTORY HALL

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
PILATES 9 - 10	PILATES 9 - 10	PARENT & TODDLER 9 - 11	TAI CHI BEGINNERS 9:30 - 10:30	COFFEE MORNING 9:30 - 10:30	YOGA 9:30 - 10:30
YOGA 5:30 - 6:30	BEGINNER PILATES 10:10 - 11:10	YOGA 1 - 2:15	TAI CHI ADVANCED 10:30 - 11:30	BOWLS 7:30 - 10PM	
WI 7:30 - 9:30 (2 ND MON OF MONTH)	BEGINNERS TAI CHII 6 - 6:45		DOG TRAINING 5:30 - 7:30 (TIMES VARY)		
	BOWLS 7:30 - 10PM				

Hall Hire
Hall available to hire for conferences, meetings, craft workshops, exercise classes, dog training, theatre, music events, private parties etc

Bright & airy hall in a lovely rural location, holds up to 100 people (80 seated), PA system, fully equipped kitchen, stage, Easy access & disabled toilet

We have a selection of tables & chairs for hire

Prices
Local community (not for profit) groups £8.50 ph
Local classes £9.50 ph
Private parties & events £15.00 ph (£100 refundable deposit)
For weddings please email

Find us on facebook & Instagram

Bilington village hall regular groups
please get in touch to join our regular groups

Yoga with Isabel-Tuesdays 10:00-11:15
isabel.carballal 07757 858642
yogaisabelkent@gmail.com

Low impact circuit class with Sandra-Fridays 10:00-11:00
sandra.gooding 07525 857419
sandragoodingtraining@gmail.com

For information on any of our events or to join the email distribution list contact us on bilingtonvillagehall@gmail.com

BOOTFAIR
1ST SUNDAY OF MONTH
APRIL - OCT: 8AM - 12PM



INVITATION

To all residents and members of the congregations of
Aldington, Bilsington, Bonnington, Hamstreet, Ruckinge
and Warehorne

Please come along to discuss
the FUTURE of YOUR CHURCH

and the future governance of the Saxon Shoreline
Benefice

Monday 1st June 7.30pm St Matthew, Warehorne

Monday 8th June 7pm for 7.30 pm St Martin, Aldington

Tuesday 16th June 7.30pm St Mary Magdalene,
Ruckinge

Wednesday 17th June 7.30pm Sts Peter & Paul,
Bilsington

Thursday 2nd July 7pm St Rumwold, Bonnington

Tuesday 14th July 7.30pm Church of the Good
Shepherd, Hamstreet (St Mary, Orlestone parish)



<https://achurchnearyou.com/benefice/06-208DT/page/97822/>

ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH, WAREHORNE



Discover Your Next Great Read at St Matthew's

Did you know that St Matthew's Church in Warehorne hosts a wonderful selection of pre-loved books? They are all available for a small donation, with every penny going directly toward maintaining our beautiful Grade 1 listed building.

Our fiction shelves offer something for everyone. You will find everything from gripping detective stories and immersive

historical fiction to sweeping family sagas and lighthearted beach reads. Thriller fans are particularly well catered for, with gripping titles by bestselling authors like Peter May, Linwood Barclay and Kathy Reichs.

If you prefer non-fiction, our history section currently spans eras from 1757 Georgiana The Duchess of Devonshire through Victorian & Edwardian Rail Travel to Aviation Development. Our factual shelves offer a delightfully eclectic mix, currently featuring practical guides like Practice Makes Perfect – French Grammar and Verbs alongside Why Life Speeds Up as You Get Older to One Ear to the Ground by R Harvey Blizzard, primarily focusing on his agricultural experiences, rural countryside knowledge, and observations of the natural world. We also have dedicated sections for children's books, biographies, poetry, drama, travel, classics, and theology.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who donates to our shelves. Many of these treasures come from locals tackling their overflowing bookshelves—reluctantly parting with beloved stories they once hoped to re-read. Because of this generosity, our stock is always changing. It is well worth popping in every now and then to see what catches your eye.

In our busy modern world, it is easy to let television or phone scrolling consume our free time, making reading feel like an unaffordable luxury. However, picking up a book is one of the best things you can do for yourself. Reading is proven to reduce stress, strengthen the brain, increase empathy, expand your vocabulary, and improve your sleep.

The church is usually open daily, so please do step inside, explore our shelves, and find your next literary escape.

Meriel Bailes

WAREHORNE
COMMUNITY
BRUNCH
SUNDAY 14TH JUNE
10-12
EVERYONE WELCOME
*Warehorne
Village
Hall*
VEGAN AND GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS AVAILABLE
CASH PAYMENT ONLY

A poster for Warehorne Community Brunch. The background is teal with a pattern of concentric circles. The text is in white and yellow. A yellow scalloped-edged circle contains the venue name. At the bottom, it lists dietary options and payment methods.

St Mary Magdalene Church, Ruckinge

Ruckinge has been at full stretch! We had a baptism in June and also the most beautiful wedding with the Church looking like the Garden of Eden, according to Geoff. The archway outside the Church was the cause of much admiration. The day after, nine couples came to renew their vows and have their pictures taken under the arch. Our bells were rung for the wedding by a very experienced team of ringers although we are not allowed to ring them any more until they have had work done on them. Many villagers have said how lovely it was to hear them and it was very interesting to be able to watch the ringers through the glass tower window.



Saturday coffee mornings have started for the summer and will now take place every week up to 12th September, 10am - 11.30. The first was marred by road closures in all directions but we were back to usual the following week. All home baking plus some plants, flowers, marmalade, jam - it all depends on who has the produce and the time! We have also started our Tuesday Together mornings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 10am - 11.30. The news is still taking time to spread but they have been enjoyed by those who have come. It's simply a chance to be with others instead of sitting at home - bring your knitting, bring your children and bring your dog; come and chat - all welcome.

We're already making plans for our "Flower Folk Festival" on 3rd and 4th October and there are still some spots waiting for the offer of an arrangement - would you like to take part? You don't have to be an expert, just enjoy being part of this special venture.

Coffee Mornings



St Mary Magdalene Church,
Ruckinge

every Saturday morning
10am – 11.30am



Coffee ... Tea ...
Cakes ... Savouries

Everyone is welcome
*Supporting
Ruckinge Church*



Tuesday TOGETHER

at St Mary Magdalene Church, Ruckinge

POP ALONG and enjoy ...

Friendly company, a cuppa and a chat
*bring your knitting, share a board game,
finish a jigsaw, find a book,
colour some pages ...*

Children's corner

Dogs welcome

Open 10am – 11.30am
on the **2nd and 4th** Tuesday of every month



SAINT RUMWOLD LECTURES 2026

Come and enjoy a summer evening, with a stimulating talk and discussion by candlelight, in the picturesque setting of St Rumwold's Church, Bonnington on the edge of the Romney Marsh near the Royal Military Canal. SatNav users put in postcode

TN25 7BW and keep on down the lane until you see the church.

All lectures start at 7:00 pm.

FRIDAY 3RD JULY

Dr Robert Gallagher (Author and Senior Lecturer in Early Medieval History at the University of Kent)

Saxons, Vikings and the Written Word in Ninth-Century England

Robert will show how Viking attacks impacted education and written communication

in a crucial period in the development of a unified English kingdom.

FRIDAY 10 TH JULY

Dr James Hannam (Author and historian of science and religion)

Science and Christianity during the Middle Ages:

Debunking the Myths

Contrary to popular belief, the medieval church laid the foundations of modern science rather than opposing it.

FRIDAY 17 TH JULY

Dr Alex Hibberts (Historian of Climate & Weather at the University of Exeter)

Waiting for the End of the World? Surviving Storms, Floods

and Divine Wrath in Medieval and Early Modern Kent

How did faith shape responses to 'natural' disasters in medieval and early modern England?

Supper will be available in the church after the lectures for all who wish to stay.

Admission free, donations towards Saint Rumwold's welcomed.

Walking With Adam

JUNE 2026

'It was twenty years ago today...' begin the lyrics of one of the many legendary songs of the Beatles. Twenty years must have seemed a long time to the young Paul McCartney who wrote the song in 1967. After all, in 1947 we were barely over the Second World War and Paul was five!

Personally, I think the twenty years since I walked the entire Greensand Way footpath have passed in a flash. I understand that plans are afoot for a kind of 'official' start to the path in Forge Gardens. The opposite end is c.110 miles away in Haslemere, Surrey. I walked the local section, up through Hamstreet Woods and on via Kingsnorth, Chilmington and Great Chart back in the winter. I was pleased to see that the route of the trail around Chimington hasn't been severely marred by the recent housing development, retaining a mostly rural feel throughout.

Beyond Great Chart, the route bridges the Ashford to Tonbridge railway line, and I had to abandon my walk due to the path being flooded all the way down to the Great Stour. I've never been a fan of swimming!

My second dabble at the Greensand Way covered the section which runs along the edge of Godinton Park, again not hugely troubled by the suburban developments, before heading west to pass to the south of Hothfield, descending towards the edge of Hothfield Common and then up and over to Little Chart. From here on, I followed the Stour Valley Path to Lenham.

I walked my third section of the Greensand Way backwards, catching a bus from Headcorn to pick up the trail at Sutton Valence, heading eastward. This was, and probably still is, my favourite section of the walk. Kent lives up to its epithet of being the 'Garden of England' here, with numerous orchards along the route. The views from the top of the ridge are panoramic, and the path remains fairly high up the slope until dropping off beyond Boughton Malherbe. After Egerton, the route dips and then climbs again to Pluckley, where the orchards take over again for the descent to Little Chart.

After a pint in the Swan's beer garden, I negotiated a route to Pluckley Station, being somewhat gutted to find that Dering Arms was closed and the next train was in 55 minutes time. Time for some stoicism.

Most recently, I booked myself a Travelodge in Dorking, with the aim of completing the sections of the Greensand Way from Reigate to Dorking and from Reigate to Oxted.

Alighting the train at Reigate Station, the town is reached via a foot tunnel, which was the first road tunnel to be built in the UK, opening in 1823. This was constructed for the ease of stagecoaches, travelling from London to Brighton, so-called because these long journeys were completed in stages, with a change of horses being needed at regular intervals. The route of the Greensand Way to Dorking was far more scenic than I remembered it. The path drops dramatically into the valley of the River Mole, which runs from Gatwick to the Thames. The Greensand Ridge doesn't reassert itself until Dorking area, leaving the North Downs on the right hand side to dominate the skyline.

I passed through the pretty villages of Betchworth and Brockham and passed a small woodland that I camped in in 2006. I described this as 'cake shaped' in my book about the walk ('Mud, Sweat and Beers') and I can confirm that it still gives that impression! The 'cherry on top' was passing a blue plaque in Dorking marking Strawberry Studios where 10cc, Paul McCartney, Steve Wonder and others had all recorded music.

On the following day I would catch the train to Reigate and walk the 'GW' eastward. It was nice to walk a section of the trail that my friend Tom and I had completely missed twenty years ago, having made a hash of the map-reading and ended up in Redhill town centre. Thankfully, modern apps make following a trail of this kind much easier today.

However, signage for the trail was still non-existent on the lanes to the west of South Nutfield so I reported this to Surrey County Council. Modern apps make this easier too!

My lunchtime refreshment break was at a pub in Bletchingley, a village straddling the A25 at the top of the ridge. It was doing brisk business and the barmaid was clearly feeling the pressure.

The next section feels similar to the Pilgrims' Way, with the Greensand Way running along the lower part of the ridge's scarp slope in an easy-to-follow straight line. Crossing the A22 near Godstone was more of a challenge, but the section via Tandridge to Oxted passed very quickly. Oxted is perhaps most famous for the being the origin of a certain Keir Starmer. Not far from here is the furthest known mention of Hamstreet, where the 'GW' crosses the Kent border, with the village signed as being 55 miles away.



I hope to complete the missing sections of the Greensand Way as the year progresses. I may even do a little camping a la 2006. I wonder if I'll repeat the walk in another twenty years time...

Adam Colton

Monthly Local Business Feature

WILLOW BEES

Vanessa and Andy have been bee keepers for 4 years now, although Andy watched his Father keep hives of bees when they lived in Aldington. For a long time Andy thought he'd rather like to learn more about the skill of apiary - bee keeping - and after retirement he was able to make it reality. The opportunity to obtain a large amount of beekeeping equipment set him on the road and he sorted, mended and added to what he'd got as well as becoming a member of Ashford Apiary, based in Ruckinge. Members of that skilled group were keen to share their knowledge and Andy has followed his interest in what started as a small hobby, learning a great deal and discovering so much about bees over the years. Listening to Andy talk about bees reveals a vast amount of knowledge and a deep passion for those wonderful creatures.

Vanessa, who plays a huge role in preparing and selling the honey, says it has completely changed their lives, from how they garden to how she spends her weekends. In the process they have learned the law concerning the sale of honey, developed an interest in recipes using honey and made a place in the world of craft markets. This year she ordered 690 jars and has already filled over a third of them; the bees have been gathering pollen earlier, something that Andy has noticed every year since he began bee keeping.



Willow Bees hives are kept in their own garden and also at Hamstreet Vineyards so anyone buying their jars - 12oz £7 and 1lb £10 - gets not just a premium product at an excellent price but truly local honey, and that is so much better for you than supermarket jars with a dubious provenance. To buy this very special honey ... *Editor - it's really delicious, lovely flavour ...* contact Vanessa 07598 771054

SCRAP METAL, please!



In support of
Ruckinge and Hamstreet Scouts and Guides

SCRAP METAL WANTED

Brass
Copper
Electric cable
Aluminium

NON-FERROUS METALS ONLY

Please leave any non-ferrous metals in/near the porch at
28 Willow Drive, Hamstreet, TN26 2HZ
or speak to George or Margaret Hanlon!

hanlon1@btinternet.com 01233 732684 REGISTERED CHARITY 308134

Brass, Copper, Electric cable, Aluminium,

If unsure, just ask us: *George & Margaret*

01233 732684 / hanlon1@btinternet.com

MORE CASH IN THAT PIGGY BANK!

SO FAR SO GOOD!

The total raised in 2026 has reached **£230.04** - not bad but could be better - all due to the kind hearts and good memories of local people. Thank you very much and keep it coming!

This cash helps the hard-working leaders and helpers of Ruckinge and Hamstreet Scouts & Guides to continue to offer a wide range of activities for the youngsters who attend weekly.

Those same youngsters will grow up and become doctors, dentists, engineers, scientists and other vital and useful members of society.

What better way to begin than in the Scouting and Guiding movements.

PLACE YOUR AD HERE

Create a 'Buzz' about your business
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in our village digital publication.

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local connections within your community
with local advertising.

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or contact Margaret on editorparmag@gmail.com
for a no obligation quote for yearly and quarterly costs.

Royal British Legion

Remembrance

What is Remembrance?

Remembrance honours those who serve to defend our democratic freedoms and way of life. We unite across faiths, cultures and backgrounds to remember the service and sacrifice of the Armed Forces community from United Kingdom and the Commonwealth. We will remember them.

Notable commemoration dates for 2026 are:

Sunday 13th September - 86th Battle of Britain service (location TBA)

Saturday 31st October - our Annual Poppy Appeal Coffee Morning in the Victory Hall

Sunday 8th November - Remembrance Service in Ruckinge Church

Wednesday 12th November - Armistice Day service at the Hamstreet War Memorial

“The Hamstreet branch welcomes new members, who may or may not have any armed service links, but share the aims of the Royal British Legion to provide welfare & support to service personnel & their families. If you feel you could support such aims, please contact our Chairman, Dennis Seton, 0788076806.

Thank you

Peter Gostling 07713104488



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION HAMSTREET & DISTRICT BRANCH

The aim of the Royal British Legion
is to support ex-service personnel,
but you do not need to be
ex-military to belong.



As I see it on the Land

If only I **could** see something on the land!!

After that prolonged wet winter, the weather did eventually change. By the end of February, the land was drying and some field operations started. Nitrogen was applied to the wheat fields to give the plants some energy to get growing. The soil was difficult to cultivate into a decent seed bed. It dried rapidly and clods of earth were as hard as concrete! Some farmers opted to bash the soil into submission to get a drillable seedbed, but at a high cost of fuel per acre. Mark opted for minimal disturbance and just drilled into the surface. Both methods were looking for rain to get the germination going, and to break the clods down. We are still waiting. I have recorded just two lots of 3mm of rain in the last two months. We have over 140 acres planted with flower seeds. The ground is bare. Hence my remark 'if only I could see something'

We are only growing wheat to harvest this summer. We are still waiting on DEFRA to tell us what we can, or can't grow next year. Planning is impossible.

The wheat is currently putting up with the dryness. It has had all the normal sprays and fertiliser. There is little more we can do.

We ordered diesel to fill the tanks up with sufficient fuel for the summer at the beginning of March. So did dozens of other farmers. Mr Trump had started his war game and fuel was priced on the day of delivery. The bill was in excess of £6 thousand. Double last years.

We had an early morning phone call to say there had been a fire in a fly tipped load of household rubbish in the growing wheat along the canal track. The previous evening the fire brigade was travelling along the main road when they saw flames shooting into the air. They went along the byway and put the fire out. Someone had thrown petrol all over the pile. Mattresses burn well but they leave a terrible amount of small metal. In the middle of the pile was a paper with the name and address of the owner of a house near the Stour Centre. A bank statement and utility bills requesting payment make it quite clear where the mess came from. A golden opportunity for the Environment Agency to press charges. Have they?

No. Mark cleared the site. Metal in one bag. Mostly wood and burnable in another and finally a bag to go into the waste depot in Ashford at our expense.

There were a few warmer days in March and a duck with 6 small ducklings on the main sewer was getting a living from all the insects on the water, whilst trying to keep out of the way of predators. The wind turned to the east. The insects ceased to be swimming about and the duck's food larder was empty. Death followed. No doubt she will have had a second brood but conditions are still not good, no warmth.

Several species of butterflies were busy on the ditch bank and the garden, but not in large numbers. Small blues, peacocks, and orange/white ones, but they argued with the cabbage whites for territory.

I transplanted several hedgerow shrubs in February and have been trying to keep them watered. We have just emptied our water storage tanks on the buildings. It is only May and unless the weather changes I can foresee water restrictions coming in soon. Some flowers and trees are not going to survive without additional liquid. The mistletoe is drawing too much goodness out of the apple trees so there will be less for charity come Christmas. The ground is too hard for gardening. You can only snap the weeds off.

The carrots which we planted in tubs well off the ground to avoid cabbage root fly have all germinated. However, after 10 days they have developed into fat hen plants!!!. Sow again or go and see Mr. Tesco who was competing with other supermarkets to give them away as a loss leader?

The caravan site has been extremely quiet despite the dry conditions. Only 30 nights during April and that was mostly for a long stay.

The holiday let continues to be used but with more breaks between guests. People are taking 4 day bookings which really wastes a lot of days. We have been presented with, or should I say we have earned, 'Customers Choice Award' for the sixth year in a row by Cottages.com. So, if you have friends or family wanting a top-class holiday let in a quiet, remote spot with beautiful views, in a well-equipped cottage look no farther. Website lordsfarmkent.co.uk

The cuckoo has been noisy since the 25 th April. He doesn't tire of disturbing other birds until after 9pm. We have had a cock pheasant with 4 hens feeding just outside the house throughout the spring. Suddenly he was joined by another cock and 3 more hens. They eat all the sunflower seeds the small birds reject from the feeders.

We now have had 4 cock birds for about 2 weeks and they are very aggressive and fight one another viciously. This week we have a hen bird with a broken leg that swings in the air. The cocks won't leave her alone. She is hassled all the time. I cannot think she will survive to rear a brood let alone the attention of the cock birds or any predators.

I started this article on the 18 th . This morning we have had 7mm of rain. Enough to fill the house water butts but little change to the farm tanks. I know Hamstreet gets more. We watch the rain go along the canal and across the hills. Perhaps the flowers will grow?

Peter Sillibourne



Nash Potatoes Fruit and veg



Fresh fruit and vegetable stall: seasonal produce sourced locally, competitively priced.

Near Bournemouth bus stop, Hamstreet, every Saturday 8am - 12pm

www.facebook.com/NashPotatoes.veg/
01233 733613 / 07484 380634
nashpotatoesveg@gmail.com



Join us at

Parkinson's Cafe, Hamstreet

Monthly on the last Monday
12 - 1pm
The Dukes Head, The Street, Hamstreet TN26 2HE

****Launching Monday 27 April****
Join a small and friendly social group for conversation, friendship and mutual support. Friends and family welcome.

Contact Elisa...
ebienz@parkinsons.org.uk
07955 269507



Parkinson's UK is the operating name of the Parkinson's Disease Society of the United Kingdom. A registered charity in England and Wales (281197) and in Scotland (SC031551).



Evening & Weekend Sessions 2026

Try a fun summer sport in beautiful surroundings

When:
Friday Evenings from 27th June, 7pm - 9pm
Saturdays from 16th May, 11am - 3pm

Where:
Millbank Farm, Marsh Lane, Ruckinge. TN26 2QB

What to expect:

- fun, social & easy to learn
- equipment provided for beginners
- no experience necessary
- friendly & welcoming
- tea & coffee provided

Cost:
First four sessions free
Membership: £50 per adult, £25 per child aged 10+ (all under 18s must be accompanied by an adult)

Contact:
For more information, phone Andrew on 07814 292027 or email asinden@vfast.co.uk





Ivychurch Croquet Club

Club News

The fourth running of our annual Coronation Cup competition took place on 6th May. Ten pairs were drawn from the hat and played a round robin competition, nine games of best of seven hoops. It was a closely fought competition and our congratulations to the winners, Jane Fleming and Denis Wimble.



Evening/Weekend Sessions

This year, the club will be open to prospective new (and existing) members on Friday evenings during the months of June, July and August. The first evening session will be on 5th June from 7 - 9pm and the last date will be 28th August. The Saturday sessions began in May and run until 26th September from 11am - 3pm. Come along a try this fun summer sport! Equipment will be provided. Refreshment available. Please wear flat-soled shoes or trainers.

Kentish Night

We will be holding a Kentish themed evening on Saturday, 27th June in the church hall, Saint Mary's Bay. Tickets are £25 per person. Menu: Smoked Mackerel Pate or Kentish Blue and Broccoli Tart; Shepherd's Pie or Chicken in Kentish Cider; Canterbury Tart or fresh Fruit Salad. To book, please contact Andrew - details below.

New members are always welcome. The club address is Millbank Farm, Marsh Road, Ruckinge, Kent. TN26 2QB. For all information about the club, phone Andrew on 07814 292027 or email asinden@vfast.co.uk



A warm welcome awaits you at **The Cosy Kettle!**

Open 7 days a week for a selection of hot and cold drinks - homemade cakes - light lunches - cream teas - ice cream desserts including sundaes and waffles - afternoon teas (24 hours notice required please).

Stonebaked pizzas are available for eat in or takeaway on Friday evenings from 5pm to 8pm. We also provide outside catering for small or large events.

For enquiries or to book a table contact us on:
01233 733030
jacqui@cosykettle.com
[facebook.com/TheCosyKettle](https://www.facebook.com/TheCosyKettle)



Craft at Cosy

Looking for inspiration /company /help with a new or existing craft project?



Join us on **Wednesday evenings 7pm to 9pm**

Bring your own sewing / craft project or start something new!

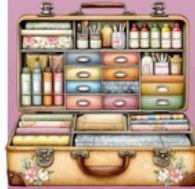
(Small selection of materials to buy and equipment to use)



We are excited to welcome guest crafters

on the first Wednesday of each month

These will be charged, bookable events



Cosy Kettle menu /refreshments available to purchase.

Contact us on 01233 733030 or via Facebook

WAREHORNE VINEYARD
LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE KENT COUNTRYIDE

KENT WINE TOURS TASTINGS

PRODUCING QUALITY STILL WINE IN KENT

www.warehornevineyard.co.uk

Visit us at our charming vineyard, located next to Warehorne Oast.

As you travel along Warehorne Road from Hamstreet, you'll easily spot our vineyard on the right-hand side. Look out for our welcome sign by the road, guiding you to our family-run cellar door.

Immerse yourself in the beauty of the Kent countryside and experience the warmth of our vineyard first hand as your travel down our driveway.

You can find all the information you need for your visit on our website, including opening hours, directions, recommended accommodation in the area and more.

Tours start from £15 per-person for approximately 1 hour 30 minutes. To book please visit our website or click [HERE](#).

We can't wait to welcome you to our vineyard and share the joy of our wines with you in an idyllic setting. Come and join us for an unforgettable vineyard experience!

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Orlestone WI



First of all, thank you very much to all who came to the RNLI fundraising Coffee Morning on 2nd May.

We raised £280.40 and the crew at Littlestone Lifeboat Station are delighted with the result. Some members went along on May 24th to hand over the cheque.



Our speaker in May told us all about the work of the Dog's Trust, a longstanding charity that does an enormous amount of work for the welfare of dogs including rehoming as many as possible and is happy to offer advice and support to all dog owners.

Every two months we choose a Good Cause to support and for June and July it will be The Wardrobe, run by Pneuma Church, Ashford. Members will be gathering good quality pre-loved clothes, both adult and child, as well as children's toys.

For our 60th anniversary we are making a tablecloth that will be embroidered with the names of all members in our Anniversary year, we have even bought coloured fabric pens and are all set to begin. Also to mark the anniversary we've commissioned an oak seat from The Shed Men and it will soon be in place on Pound Leas.

There is now a Bra Bank at Federation HQ; we collect discarded bras and pass them on. Old bras are recycled and good quality bras will be sold on at an affordable price to women in countries where they are needed - *it appears that wome in some countries are less likely to be assaulted if they are wearing a bra, because it is assumed that they are from a wealthier family, which might take action against the assaulter.* The Federation is paid a small sum for the bra collection

This month we're looking forward to our Anniversary Garden Party, which will be held on 12th June at a Member's garden in Stone. We'll be decorating small wicker bowls, adding a little gift and bringing them to create a free raffle

On Monday 8th June our speaker will tell us of how the WI stepped up to help war work in WW2. The competition will be a COW. The June outing is to Link Hill House, Sandhurst

We meet in Victory Hall, Hamstreet on the second Monday monthly (no meeting in August) and all women are welcome; guests pay £1.00 and can come as a guest for two meetings before joining.

**Contact Margaret Hanlon 07748 006249,
hanlon1@btinternet.com or orlestone.wi@outlook.com**

The Begging Bowl is still in action ...

Many will have seen my regular appeals on the local Facebook pages for all sorts of things for all sorts of good causes.

No apology but a reminder of what I'm happy to receive and pass on :

Used stamps: please leave at least 5mm around them for the Pilgrims Hospice.

Old foreign and British coins & bank notes: I'm continuing to collect these and the next collection will raise funds for the Ruckinge and Hamstreet Scouts & Guides group, helping to build a useful, thoughtful and caring new generation.

Medical supplies & mobility equipment: these will be sent to the hospitals and care organisations in Ukraine.

Scrap metal: brass, copper, aluminium, electric cable for Ruckinge & Hamstreet Scouts & Guides.

Not sure? Ask us!

George & Margaret Hanlon 01233 732684 07748 006249
Leave in or near the porch at 28 Willow Drive,
Hamstreet TN26 2HZ

3rd July
7.00pm



WINE TASTING WITH CHEESE

Warehorne Village Hall

3rd July

7.00pm.

£25.00 pp

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June Bootfair

CAR BOOT
SALE

Sunday 7th June
8 AM - 12 NOON

Hamstreet Victory Hall

Tea / Coffee • Bacon Rolls • Hot Dogs

★ **£6 Per Stall** ★

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Chin	£10	Hybrid Infills	£35
Lip and Chin Combo	£18	Russian Full Set	£55
Full Face Lip, Chin and Cheeks	£22	Russian Infills	£45
		Lash removals	£12
		Lash lift and Tint	£40
		Tint only	£10

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Facebook: Lashes ToAt

Email: Lashes.to.a.t@hotmail.com

Phone: 07459025844

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Katie Lam MP's Weald of Kent Awards 2026



One of the things I love most about being the MP for the Weald of Kent is that it genuinely is one of the most special places in the country. Our farms, village shops, pubs and cafés, growers and producers are some of the best in Britain, and I'll always do whatever I can to support them. That's why I'm so pleased to open the nominations for the Weald of Kent Awards 2026, my annual celebration of the very best of our corner of Kent. There are five categories: Local Hero of the Year, Independent Shop of the Year, Local Business of the Year, Farmer, Grower or Producer of the Year, and Pub, Café or Restaurant of the Year.

The awards recognise everyone from individuals and community groups who go above and beyond, to the businesses, pubs, cafés and producers that make the Weald such a special place to live. Across the Weald, there are so many people and groups who work quietly and tirelessly to hold our villages and parishes together. Alongside them are brilliant businesses that work around the clock and which stand out as some of the best in Britain, even when the pressures on them have never been greater.

Last year, we received more than 100 nominations and over 1,000 of you cast your votes. I'd love to beat that this year. There's so much to be proud of in the Weald, and I'd love for more of the people who make the Weald what it is to get the recognition that they deserve. So, if there's a local business that's gone the extra mile, a farm that grows particularly delicious fruit, or a community hero that deserves recognition, please do nominate them.

You can do so at www.katieforkent.com/weald-of-kent-awards and nominations close on 13th July at 5pm with voting to begin shortly after.

Let's use this as a chance to celebrate everything that makes the Weald so special, and the people and businesses who help keep it that way.

awoc

ageing without children
East Kent

**Are you ageing
without
support from
adult children?**

Next Ashford Mtg

Thursday 18th June 2026

10:30am-12:30pm

at Kingsnorth Sports Pavilion, Church Hill

TN23 3EF

**Share thoughts and experiences
with others in similar situations**

Hear about support in East Kent

Speak up together so we can age well

Supported by

**Contact ashford@awoceastkent.org.uk
Quarterly meetings**



Over 60s Meet



At the next meeting we had a very good speaker from the Air Ambulance accompanied by his very well behaved dog. The Air Ambulance give such a worthwhile emergency service covering Kent, Sussex and Surrey and rely on charitable donations as they only receive 9% of their funding from the Government. They are finding it increasingly difficult with the rising fuel prices as a result of the hostilities in the Middle East.

May Day brought a visit from South African singer, Clayton, who sang beautifully with lots of interaction with the audience.

Forthcoming attractions:

- 28th May - An outing to the Greek restaurant, Demetrio's, in New Romney.
 - 29th May - A speaker from Age Concern who will tell us of the help and support they give us "oldies"
 - 12th June - Singer, Cheryl
 - 26th June - Singer, Norman
- Please come and join us at Cotton Hill House.
For further information contact June McKay on 07999841140



OPEN GARDENS
HASTINGLEIGH & BODSHAM
A lovely afternoon of village gardens, flowers, tea and cake



Sunday 14 June 2026
12 noon to 5.30 pm

Your programme includes all 6 gardens and
Tea/coffee/cordial and cake
St Mary's Church, Hastingleigh, TN25 5HN
for £10 per person • Cream teas available
Children free

Programmes available at every garden and The Bowl Inn, Hastingleigh

- South Hill Farm, Hastingleigh, TN25 5HL
- Sycamore Cottage, Tamley Lane, Hastingleigh, TN25 5HW
- The White House, Tamley Lane, Hastingleigh, TN25 5HW
- Ashenfield Farm, Waltham, CT4 5SP
- Holt Lodge, Bodsham, TN25 5JQ
- Little Holt Farm, Bodsham, TN25 5JY

Proceeds to St Mary's Church, Hastingleigh, and Pilgrims Hospices



Summer Fair

Sunday 26 July 2026
12pm-5pm

Free entry

**Sandyacres,
Sandyhurst Lane,
Ashford
TN25 4PE**

Lots of stalls
Children's activities
Refreshments
Games
Grand Prize Draw

**New!
Pilgrims
Dog Show**

Call: 01233 504 111
Email: ashford.fundraising@pilgrimshospices.org
Visit: pilgrimshospices.org

Pilgrims Hospices in East Kent is a company limited by guarantee. Registered charity number: 293968. Registered company number: 2000560. Registered office: 56 London Road, Canterbury, Kent CT2 8JA

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR
With thanks to Sandyacres Sports & Social Centre

Pilgrims Hospices, Summer Fair

Our much-loved Summer Fair is being held at Sandyacres Sports & Social Club in Sandyhurst Lane on Sunday 26th July from 12pm - 5pm. Enjoy an afternoon of fun and laughter with friends and family as the community comes together.

Whether you choose to browse our stalls, sit and listen to the music with an ice-cream, challenge a loved one on the inflatables or try your luck on the bottle tombola, you will be raising vital funds for Pilgrims.

NEW for this year, join in the fun with our Dog Show, run by Gefion dog Training, judging starts 2pm.

There's a chance to win tickets for "2 Night Glamping for 4 at Broadhembury", "Kent & East Sussex Railway £275.00 voucher", "Port Lympne entry for four and cuddly Gorilla", along with some other great prizes on the Grand Prize Draw. Tickets can be purchased in advance from Pilgrims Hospices in Ashford or on the day.

As always, there will be many games to try on the day, including Beat The Goalie, Putting and Tin Can Alley to name a few. There will also be a wide selection of our traditional Pilgrims Hospices stalls to browse, including crafts, cakes, plants, children's toys, jewellery, jigsaws and much more.

There will also be lots to keep the children entertained, from traditional games to inflatable fun. Our craft marquee always proves very popular for those that want to get creative.

At its heart, Pilgrims Hospices is dedicated to ensuring people living with a life limiting illness can access the quality care and comfort they deserve.

In the run-up to the fair, Pilgrims are asking the local community to help out by donating any unopened bottles from champagne to shampoo, chocolates, unwanted gifts, new craft items and new toys and games. Our bottle and chocolate tombola's are always really popular, along with the bottle fishing game. Donations are gratefully received. You can drop items into a collection box held outside the lower reception at the hospice site on Hythe Road, Ashford TN24 0NE. Alternatively, The Wardrobe at 1-3 North Street Ashford are also helping by holding a collection point.

From one community to another, come and join us, make some memories and support the work that Pilgrims Hospices does in the local community.

Dates for your diary:-

Christmas Fair, 21st November 2026, Grosvenor Hall, Ashford
Or contact the Community Fundraising Office on 01233 504111
rachael.fagg@pilgrimshospices.org



**Hamstreet Youth
Football Club**



MARSHCATS



Players Needed

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girls_football@hamstreetfc.co.uk

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Ruckinge & Hamstreet Scouts



For the first time ever, Ruckinge and Hamstreet held their own joint camp last weekend with their Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers.

Over 30 young people enjoyed a 'back to basics' camp, survived the heat wave and made memories to last a lifetime.

Activities included axe and saw work, fire lighting, cooking, personal care, den building, pioneering, games, sleeping under canvas and in bivvies, sleeping in the woods in survival bags, hiking and more!

All sections worked extremely well and every young person was a credit to Scouting!

Thank you to all the leaders and parents for making it happen. Now onto JOTT where all Ruckinge & Hamstreet Scout + Guides Group will be involved!



June Puzzle Page



This month we celebrate the start of summer, which means only one thing is on peoples minds.....

WIMBLEDON.

Can you unscramble the letters below to find 16 tennis related words.

No.	Scrambled Letters	Your Answer
1.	IMSLILWA	<input type="text"/>
2.	IRAAOVLNAV T	<input type="text"/>
3.	DEWLMIBON	<input type="text"/>
4.	RSSABITWERER	<input type="text"/>
5.	MRCAE	<input type="text"/>
6.	MPSIM	<input type="text"/>
7.	GSRAS	<input type="text"/>
8.	CRUTECONRET	<input type="text"/>
9.	AEC	<input type="text"/>
10.	EEUCD	<input type="text"/>
11.	EIMPRU	<input type="text"/>
12.	IPHOACMN	<input type="text"/>
13.	HROTYP	<input type="text"/>
14.	RUMYAR	<input type="text"/>
15.	ERRFDEE	<input type="text"/>
16.	NENMAH	<input type="text"/>

SAXON SHORELINE BENEFICE WORSHIP CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2026

1st Sunday: 7th June Trinity 1 Proper 5 (Green)	9.00am CW Holy Communion 10.00 am Holy Communion BCP 9.45 for 10.00am Family Fun Service 10.30am Parish Communion 10.30am Holy Communion	St. Rumwold, Bonnington St. Matthew, Warehorne Village Hall, Aldington St. Mary Magdalene, Ruckinge Church of the Good Shepherd, Hamstreet
2nd Sunday: 14th June Trinity 2 Proper 6 (Green)	9.00am BCP Holy Communion 10.30am Morning Worship 10.30am Morning Worship 10.45am Holy Communion	SS Peter & Paul, Bilsington St. Mary Magdalene, Ruckinge Church of the Good Shepherd, Hamstreet St. Martin, Aldington
3rd Sunday: 21st June Trinity 3 Proper 7 Fathers Day (Green)	9.00am CW Holy Communion 9.00 am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Service 10.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Prayer, Praise and Coffee 10.45am Worship Service	St. Rumwold, Bonnington St. Mary, Orlestone St. Mary, Kenardington Church of the Good Shepherd, Hamstreet St. Mary Magdalene, Ruckinge St. Martin, Aldington
Thursday: 25th June	7.00 pm Taize Prayer	St. Rumwold, Bonnington
4th Sunday: 28th June Trinity 4 Proper 8 (Green)	9.00am BCP Holy Communion 10.30am BCP Holy Communion 10.30am Morning Worship 10.45am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evensong	SS Peter & Paul, Bilsington St. Mary Magdalene, Ruckinge Church of the Good Shepherd, Hamstreet St. Martin, Aldington St. Matthew, Warehorne

Midweek Benefice Holy Communion Service at 12 noon every Wednesday at St. Mary Orlestone ALL WELCOME

Key Events:

Coffee mornings at St. Mary Magdalene, Ruckinge every Saturday from 10am to 11.30 am all welcome
 St. Rumwold, Bonnington Monday mornings 10 am – 12 midday, Dog Walkers, cyclists, Ramblers, coffee stop.,
 St. Matthew, Warehorne Monday 1st June at 7.30 pm Meeting for Warehorne Residents and Congregants to discuss the future of the church in Warehorne.
 St. Mary, Kenardington 7th June at 3pm Organ Recital, Sean Maxwell. free admission.
 St. Martin, Aldington 8th June 7.00 for 7.30pm Benefice Reorganisation Consultation.
 St. Rumwold, Bonnington Monday 8th June 7.00pm “Ancestors in Cold Regions” A talk by Philippa Foster Back CBE.
 SS Peter and Paul Bilsington Wednesday 17th June 7.30pm Bilsington Parish, Public Meeting. Consultation on the future governance of the Parish Church.
 Tuesdays Together June 9th and 23rd 10.00am – 11.30 am St. Mary Magdalene, Ruckinge

Parish Contacts

Church of England Saxon Shoreline Benefice	Rector: Rev Geoff Abasolo-Munnery revgeoff.saxonshorelinebenefice@gmail.com Canon John Saunders (retired Anglican Priest) Pauline Williams (Benefice Safeguarding Officer)	07743 598896 07732 682472 07907 676829
Methodist Minister	Rev. Adrian Roux revadrianroux@wesleys.uk	07721 006800
Roman Catholic Priest	Father Hans, St Simon's Church	01233 622399
Church of the Good Shepherd & St Mary, Orlestone (C of E and Methodist Local Ecumenical Partnership)	Mrs Doreen Dawson (Churchwarden) Mrs Janet Carter (Steward) David Smith (Steward)	07788 776941 01233 732403 01233 732368
St Mary Magdalene, Ruckinge	Mrs Mary Sillibourne (Churchwarden)	01233 732615
St Peter & St Paul, Bilsington	Mrs Linda King (Churchwarden)	01233 720554
St Matthew, Warehorne	Mrs Meriel Bailes (Churchwarden)	01233 731211
St Mary, Kenardington	Dr Stephen Coles	01233 721242
St Rumwold, Bonnington	Dr Norman Corfield (Churchwarden)	01233 720241
St Martin, Aldington	Tim Loat (Churchwarden)	07718 052114

Local Contacts

Hamstreet Surgery	Mon-Fri 8.00 – 18.30		01233 730190
Aldington & Bonnington Parish Council	Emily Arnold	clerk@aldingtonandbonnington-pc.gov.uk	07928 453208
Bilsington Parish Council	Peter Settlefield	Bilsingtonclerk@gmail.com	
Kenardington Parish Council	Annette Beach	clerk@kenardington-pc.gov.uk	07905 658117
Orlestone Parish Council Clerk	Sue Stiffell	stiffells@btinternet.com	01233 628481
Ruckinge Parish Council	Emily Arnold	clerk@ruckinge-pc.gov.uk	07714 000986
Warehorne Parish Council	Annette Beach	clerk@warehorne-pc.gov.uk	07905 658117
Bilsington Village Hall bookings	Vivienne Hudson		01233 721731
Bromley Green Hall bookings	Mark Nash		01233 733613
Hamstreet Church Hall bookings	Doreen Dawson		07788 776941
Hamstreet Pavilion bookings	Mags Wellsted-Boorman		07886 515573
Hamstreet Sports & Leisure Assoc. (Field & MUGA bookings)	Mark Taylor		07786 712939
Kenardington Village Hall booking	Mrs Brenda Headley		01233 733085
Ruckinge Village Hall bookings	Emily Arnold	clerk@ruckinge-pc.gov.uk	07714 300986
Victory Hall bookings	Mrs Rita Ward	weyward@hotmail.co.uk	07535 349910
Warehorne Village Hall bookings	Kelly O'Leary-White		01233 733980
Orlestone WI	Margaret Hanlon	orlestonewi@outlook.com	07748 006249
Over 60s Club	Mrs June McKay		01233 732879
Hamstreet Bowling Club	Adam Smidmore		07947 007686
Hamstreet Short Mat Bowls Club	Paula Scales		01233 334958
The Shed Men	Sid Gittens	slgittens@btinternet.com	01233 732553
Table Tennis Club	David Smith		01233 732368
Ruckinge & Hamstreet Scouts and Guides Group			
Group Scout contact :	Melvyn Beeching	gsl@rhsandg.org.uk	01303 271807
Explorers :	Dave Lukehurst	smugglersrhexplorers@gmail.com	07986 036320
Scouts :	Melvyn Beeching	(as above)	
Cubs:	Susan Hanlon	csl@rhsandg.org.uk	
Beavers :	Zoe Munro	Ruckingebeavers1@outlook.com	
Squirrels :	Jess Roberts	gsl@rhsandg.org.uk	01233 730884
Group Guide Contact :	Mrs Gill Andrews	gill.andrews79@gmail.com	07779 442463
Ist Ruckinge Guides:	Gill Andrews	(as above)	
“ “ Brownies :	Jane Munro	janemunro44@yahoo.co.uk	07884 486706
“ “ Rainbows :	Gill Andrews	(as above)	
Supporters Group		gsl@rhsandg.org.uk	
Royal British Legion	Dennis Seton		07880 761806
Therouanne Twinning Rep.	Mags Wellsted-Boorman		07886 515573
Children's Society	Margaret Hanlon	hanlon1@btinternet.com	07748 006249
Community Warden	Kathy Carter		07813 711940
Kent Police & Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	Peter New	peternew1@aol	07768 437422
Bargain Oil Network	Susan Hanlon	ordermeoil@hotmail.co.uk	01233 730884
SSAFA Forces Help Kent		Kent.branch@ssafa.org.uk	0208 8956716
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