

Yalding & Laddingford

Parish & Church Magazine

50p per issue



December 2020 / January 2021

*A joyous festive season
to all our readers
and a
Happy New Year*

St.Peter & St.Paul, Yalding with St.Mary's, Laddingford

For further information please go to Church website

www.yaldingchurches.co.uk

Further information can be obtained by contacting Father Paul Kish or the Churchwardens
(contact details are in the magazine).

Editor's Notes

Another year is drawing to a close and it will be a year none of us will forget. There has been a lot of doom and gloom, but also rays of sunshine. Nature has given comfort to many and although lockdown has been terrible, it has given us all time to reflect on what really is important. It has been with great fortitude the country has undergone yet another lockdown - this virus is really wreaking havoc on all of us.

I hope you have a good Christmas albeit a small one as even on this day we have to observe Government guidelines. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported the Friends of Yalding Surgery over the past months. Sharon is a one man (woman!) band and has sewn fantastic bags, masks, scrunchies, Christmas stockings for dogs and cats, aprons, book cushions - there really is no end to her talent. She has been joined by Janet who is also a one woman band, giving Sharon much needed support. The truly staggering amount of money raised has gone a long way to helping our surgery support the community.

Whilst I reflect on 2020, one thing really stands out for me. Major, Colonel, Sir! Tom Moore and many many more fund raising people. It is true that times of crisis bring the best out in people. Spare a thought for all the frontline NHS staff who are still fighting for us especially over the festive period. I remember working over Christmas and New Year - it is busy and there is no time for enjoyment for staff with important jobs to do.

FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH

St.Peter & St.Paul Parish Church

Grade 1 listed

information from www.historicengland.org.uk

Grade 1 Parish Church - C13, early C14 & C15, restored in C19 & C20. Small blocks of roughly coursed ragstone and sandstone and tower with later brick repairs.

Situated on a low terrace, just above the River Beult with a major medieval bridge over the river to the South West. This church was heavily restored in 1859-62 - this and external render have obscured many of the original medieval external features.

A 13C addition is of the west tower. In the SE corner of the tower there is a spiral staircase which now has an onion dome on top with a weather vane dated 1734. The boarded ceiling may cover a 14C or 15C roof. It has interlaced ribbed decoration with bosses in the bay by the North and South doors.

The earliest reference to the church is in the Domesday Book. 1184 - Patron: Given by Richard le Clare to Tonbridge Priory. Confirmed by Bishop de Glanvill in 1184 with appropriation of church.

Editor's Comments:

The Grade 1 listed parish church of St.Peter & St.Paul is a well loved building in the heart of Yalding. It is supported by all of the community and various organisations which make sure this building of such great age is kept for future generations to enjoy. It was a real revelation to me that it is mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1184 - long may it be at the heart of our community.

Together, we are stronger

“Twenty-Twenty” is a popular phrase used to describe having perfect vision. As we approach the end of the year 2020, it is difficult to imagine any future, let alone one with a clear view. As I look back over this year, I can see God at work and so much good alongside the awfulness many have experienced. The goodness and service of others prove to me that amidst uncertainty, God’s love will always prevail. Whilst many aspects of our lives such as our health, jobs and finances may seem uncertain, what can be relied upon is the love of God; a love that will always surround us and is bigger and stronger than anything we can imagine.

Working in Yalding, Laddingford and Collier Street during the 2020 pandemic has been an unusual experience. Whilst there have been many good times, at intervals I have struggled to be upbeat, acting more like A.A. Milne’s Eeyore rather than my normal Tigger-like self. At times I have felt tearful, anxious, and rather downbeat. I have felt distressed at not being able to see my family and friends due to Covid restrictions, and I particularly struggled when we were unable to worship together in this community. However, on balance this has been a year with many positives; a time when having faith and sharing in Christian fellowship have proved invaluable sources of support. In Philippians 4:8, St. Paul writes: “Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.” I have returned to this Bible verse whenever I have found myself having Eeyore moments.

This Bible verse reminds us that there are many praiseworthy and excellent things around us. In the weeks of the Spring lockdown, nature seemed more vibrant with the blossoms brighter, the birdsong louder and the skies clearer. Amongst the gifts offered, many of us had the opportunity to think about our lives and those of the people around us. A phrase in popular use at this time, was that of a Keyworker. Initially, we used the phrase to speak of those employed in health and social care, but the definition soon broadened to include those in education, logistics, retail, and hygiene services. Arguably, this year, we came to value afresh many of those whose work is essential but at times invisible. Never have I appreciated delivery drivers, refuse collectors, or postal workers quite so much. I hope the habit of being thankful for those that serve us, will be one of the positive legacies of this year.

Reflecting on what is noble and admirable, it is noticeable how hard people have worked for the benefit of others. Those in health and care settings who have worked tirelessly despite the risks to themselves and the unknown nature of the threats have received much well-deserved public praise. I also note with admiration the work of staff and volunteers in our schools who for many months looked after keyworker children and managed the learning of those unable to attend in person. Since the schools reopened, they have continued to work tirelessly to keep our children safe and making progress after an unprecedented time of disruption. Many more people have stepped into volunteer roles. People have delivered shopping and prescriptions, checked up on neighbours; donated to food banks and responding to crowdfunding and practical requests locally and nationally. Service to others has become the norm and long may this attitude prevail.

As we enter the seasons of Advent and Christmas, we prepare to celebrate the Incarnation of Jesus. “Emmanuel” - meaning “God with us.” A God who came to us as a vulnerable baby, lived among us and grew up learning how the troubles of the world feel. He is a God whose love is timeless and all-encompassing. People have responded to that love in a variety of creative ways this year. As we go forward into 2021, I urge us to be more loving, modelling God in all we do and serving others in any way we can. In the Carol ‘In the Bleak Midwinter’ Christina Rossetti reflects on how we might respond to God’s love. She writes: “What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; Yet what I can I give Him: give my heart.” This year, we perhaps came to realise that when all else is uncertain, love never fails. We have shown that love through supporting our families, helping each other as volunteers or in the workplace; by following government guidelines regarding safe behaviour and by accepting that, for now, our normal lives are on hold.

As I prepare to celebrate a third Christmas in this community, I thank you all for your love, support, and prayers. Thank you to all of you who have served this community by direct action outside your home or by locking down within to keep yourselves and others safe. May God bless you all.

Rev’d Lisa Cornell. Assistant Curate



**The Chequers Inn
The Street
Laddingford
Kent
ME18 6BP**

01622 871266
www.chequersladdingford.co.uk



So, as we are writing this we are in lockdown 2 and closed once again, but it is our hope that as you read this we are either out of lockdown and once again open or that it will be happening very soon. As we say goodbye to 2020 there will many of us that are pleased to see the end of what has been a very different and for many a difficult and even sad year. However there have also been some lovely times with births and marriages that have been celebrated (at a distance!) and the sense of true community that has shown itself within our Parish once again.

Our last day of trading before lockdown 2 saw some very special customers at The Chequers. Having been given a little bit of notice before the requirement to close this gave some people the chance to come out and see friends before lockdown. For those that think that all “the elderly” are locked in doors, Wednesday lunchtime saw 3 of customers totalling 278 years between them. Terry at 92 and Peter at 89 are part of the Epicurians group who have been meeting at The Chequers for over 24 years. What was lovely to see was their continued enthusiasm and confidence in coming back to see us in December (or whenever we will re-open). Both living alone, recent times have obviously held challenges for them but they seem to show that a positive outlook can be a great benefit. We look forward to seeing them both back soon.

Our other “mature” lunchtime customer was 97 year old Pip (Albert)Parsons who had some fantastic stories to tell. Pip played at The Chequers in the 1940’s in a band called the Ace High Dance Band where he played the drums. He particularly remembers playing here on December 24th 1940 as well as around the time of The Battle of Britain and several other dates in 1940 & 1941, they were paid 10 shillings! At that time there were various Forces based in this area and he also played in the “New Foundland Band”. As bright as a button, it was a delight to talk to Pip and we hope he will be back with us for lunch sometime soon with his friend Gordon Hardwick

Even with the good news (issued today) of a potential vaccine there is still a lot of uncertainty when things can “return to normal”. However even with the restrictions, that we’re all getting used to, we continue to plan December and January and into 2021. We will have our 2 and 3 course festive menu available in December and even though there will be no big parties it will still be nice to meet up with family or friends to catch up. Our afternoon teas will carry on in December and January with December being a special Festive Tea with the option of prosecco, mulled wine and cocktails as well as traditional tea. In December teas will be available from noon all day on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays but must be pre-booked and you can choose between sweet or savoury selection. **Book on 01622 871266.**

Of course The Chequers will be decorated in it’s usual festive way, with it’s lovely double open fire and the additional red room will give a lovely Christmas atmosphere to enjoy in line with whatever guidelines are in place at the time. Our quirky logshack provides the informal atmosphere to relax and chat where we will also provide table service for you. So whether you fancy a delicious real ale, warming mulled wine or cider, a festive meal, afternoon tea, our usual traditional menu or just a coffee or hot chocolate – we’ll have it and look forward to seeing you.



**The Chequers Inn
The Street
Laddingford
Kent
ME18 6BP**

01622 871266



Depending on what guidelines we have to adhere to we plan to hold our annual Christmas Quizzes on 28 & 29 December, which will be slightly different than usual years and will be fully Covid compliant. Due to limited table space a deposit will be required which can be used against purchases on the night or for their charity entry fee. Tables must be booked in advance. If it's not possible to hold the quizzes we will look to hold them virtually online.

January will see our Burns Celebration Dinner on Saturday 23rd January with our regular Pipe Major Hamilton Bracken, who unfortunately wasn't able to pipe in Laddingford on Remembrance Sunday due to lockdown restrictions.

We hope that the annual crib competition will be completed before the year end – a record for the ongoing competition! The semi-finals were played just before lockdown2 and the final will be scheduled as soon it is possible – between Tracey & Roger Manklow. We'll then be ready to start next year's competition in January!!

Unfortunately the Chequers Racers selection evening had to be postponed due to Covid restrictions and discussions are ongoing for when this can be rescheduled and where they might be able to go on tour!

However the Racers have been working on designing a new club shirt – lots of discussion in groups of 6, whatsapp messages and of course the (secret) design members – all will be revealed (hopefully not literally) in January. The Chequers Otters have been particularly brave and continued open water swimming in to November (yes they're a bit mad!).

So as a difficult 2020 disappears we send our heartfelt thanks to all our customers and friends for your continuous support through lockdowns and when we are open, we very much appreciate your support and kind words.

We would also like to thank our fantastic staff who rose to the new challenges of working in a different way, keeping everyone safe and working extra long hours with enthusiasm and smiles on their faces. You've been a remarkable team and we really couldn't have got through this year without you, thank you.

So we look forward to 2021 and whatever that holds for all of us. We hope that you are all able to spend time with your families over the festive season. We wish everyone a safe and healthy 2021 and as has been said many times "we look forward to seeing you on the other side".
Charles & Tracey

We look forward to getting back to holding our events once again in 2021

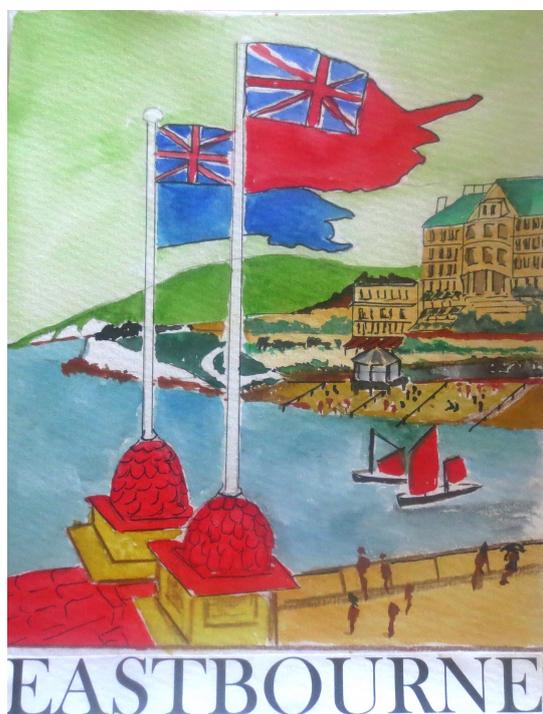


YALDING ART GROUP

WE had a couple of weeks of meeting before the second lockdown shut us down again. Featured this month is Debbie's lovely picture from an Alfonse Mucha picture. He was a Czechoslovakian illustrator and was famous for his posters for Sarah Bernhardt. All his pictures are very detailed and usually featured a lovely lady. It was certainly a challenge and not for the faint hearted, so well done.

Our other pictures are also from our poster theme and is Daphne's picture of Kent and Jill's picture of Eastbourne - both from posters advertising how lovely these places are to visit. Jill added all the lettering which has brought them all together. We can only dream of travel at the moment, even if it is only Eastbourne and other parts of Kent!

We also had time to dabble with oils which was messy and tremendous fun, although oil takes weeks and weeks to dry, so the pictures might be dry by the time we return after the latest lockdown! We had a go at painting a figure in oils and then some abstract patterns. We are persevering and we are all at the moment painting at home. We will be back as soon as the lockdown has been lifted and we will remain in our two groups of meeting on Thursday and Friday mornings term time from 10am until midday. Merry Christmas.



YCPS 22nd AGM
Thursday 10th December 2020
at 8pm
via a Zoom link



The Trustees of YCPS invite all interested parties to attend our annual AGM (postponed from March 2020) where we will outline the works we have funded and supported over the past year and what we now have planned for the year ahead.

Please email ycpstrustees@yahoo.co.uk for a link to be sent to you 24 hours before the AGM

www.ycps.org.uk

All are welcome to attend

DECEMBER DRAW FOR THE 100 CLUB

1 James Brown	45
2 Mark Bollen	100
3 Wendy Thurston	47

Next Draw: Sunday, 6th December 2020





Yalding Post Office

**Most loved
Post Office
in Kent
2016/17/18/19/20**

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

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

For those customers with Post Office Card Accounts. (POCA) The contract between the Government and the Post Office for these accounts expires November 2021. You will receive a letter sometime asking you to allow them to pay pensions / benefits into a bank account for you instead. They have not thought of what to do for customers who do not have...or cannot get a normal bank account. Apparently the Gov't may well accelerate the changeover, but still no plans for those without access to ordinary bank accounts. The Gov't has been writing to POCA customers about this for a while now. Earlier letters have been interpreted as quite threatening by some customers who have, rightly in our opinion, ignored them. They are now taking a more conciliatory approach. Post Office Ltd (POL) are now taking the approach that customers should change their benefits arrangements sooner rather than later in order that customers have time to enrol with a bank that allows financial transactions at Post Offices. I have asked POL what will happen to those customers that may be left behind in this.

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

Bakery. Our alternative supplier of pastries has recovered enough to resume producing his wonderful croissants etc. Coxheath Bakery has resumed its Monday service.

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

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

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

Foreign Currencies. We still have a stock of Euros and US Dollars...minimal demand at the moment of

YALDING POST OFFICE

Post Office Classic Travel Insurance cannot be arranged in branch at present due to a technical problem, but you can collect literature and contact details from us.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LAST POSTAGE DATES FOR CHRISTMAS 2020

United Kingdom

Friday, 18th Dec 2nd class & 2nd class signed for
Monday, 21st Dec 1st class & 1st class signed for
Wed, 23rd Dec Special Delivery (guaranteed)

International

Africa	Wed, 9th Dec	Asia	Wed, 9th Dec	Australia	Fri, 4th Dec
Austria	Wed, 16th Dec	Belgium	Fri, 18th Dec	Canada	Sat, 12th Dec
Caribbean	Wed, 9th Dec	C.America	Wed, 9th Dec	Cyprus	Thurs, 10th Dec
Czech Rep	Sat, 12th Dec	Denmark	Wed, 16th Dec	E.Europe	Fri, 11th Dec
Far East	Wed, 9th Dec	Finland	Sat, 12th Dec	France	Fri, 18th Dec
Germany	Wed, 16th Dec	Greece	Fri, 11th Dec	Iceland	Wed, 16th Dec
Ireland	Fri, 18th Dec	Italy	Sat, 12th Dec	Luxembourg	Fri, 18th Dec
Malta	Thurs, 10th Dec	Middle East	Wed, 9th Dec	Netherlands	Wed, 16th Dec
New Zealand	Fri, 4th Dec	Norway	Wed, 16th Dec	Poland	Sat, 12th Dec
Portugal	Fri, 11th Dec	Slovakia	Wed, 16th Dec	S.America	Wed, 9th Dec
Spain	Wed, 16th Dec	Switzerland	Wed, 16th Dec	Turkey	Fri, 11th Dec
		USA	Sat, 12th Dec		

Please be aware that due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, there are few flights taking mail abroad.

The dates above are subject to change.

Look at www.royalmail.co.uk for the latest dates for posting.

TALES FROM THE RIVERBANK



December and January - the bleak midwinter!....

It's very cold out there and the river is staying high and very muddy...not the best times for us water voles. I'm staying deep in my multi floor nest until spring. I have several chambers in my home so hopefully I can be safe, warm and dry for the whole winter however high the water rises, and boy does it rise around Yalding and Laddingford from time to time!

Just a word of warning to drivers - don't drive through flood waters, especially if you cannot see where they end. Lots of drivers have been stranded waiting for help and worse, been swept away like that. Your life is worth far more than getting to where you probably can't get to anyway. Also, leave a pair of wellies in your car - although sometimes it can mean waders are needed instead! Flood waters can kill - it just isn't worth the risk. Stay safe.

For my fishy mates it's not so cosy this time of year. The river runs much faster so they have to use more energy to stop being swept away, or seek out slack water areas to rest up. Unfortunately, that is precisely where the predators also like to be...not so safe. Less food to go round. So not in the best condition. Often the only fish you noble worm dangles can catch in the river at the moment are chub. They don't seem to mind the cold weather and are always hungry. Mind you a gold fish was found in the Riverside flood skirt trench after the last floods. After being caught, it was lucky enough to find a new home in next doors fish pond - although it didn't come from there initially. If only he could talk about his adventure!

Bill the River Bailiff has been busy walking around checking that everything is in order. There have been lots of people taking advantage of being outdoors and there are always dog walkers. As long as everyone takes their rubbish and poo bags home, Bill will be happy.

Nestboxes have now gone up for owls and kestrels - I'll definitely keep out of the way of them! They need all the help they can get in the cold weather. Did you know that owls are not waterproof, so give them a thought when its dark and rainy, as they will go hungry. I must admit, they do look lovely should you catch sight of one hunting across the Lees.

Roll on Spring and the warmer weather...hope to see you then..

Nighty-night. Love Ratty.

Yalding Parish Council

EXTRACTS FROM RECENT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

LADDINGFORD – NAMING THE ROAD BETWEEN LEES ROAD AND CLAYGATE/DARMAN LANE

There have been some objections to the name itself, several people wanting to have Lees Road. This is not an option. Lees Road stops are Woodfalls and the primary objective of this exercise is to make it easier for emergency services to locate a property. Having Lees Road continue into Laddingford will cause confusion as to whether to turn left or right at Woodfalls. Claygate Road starts sooner than we thought so we have mistakenly included a couple of properties in the consultation.

INTERNET AND FIBRE OPTIC CONNECTIVITY KENWARD ROAD

We have no further news on this but Open Reach's contractors have been extending the cable along Lees Road, over Twyford Bridge and into Parsonage and Hampstead Lanes. It would therefore appear that the service is being extended beyond the village centre.

COUNTRYSIDE USE OF THE CAR PARK AT THE KINTONS

We continue to pursue for the installation of the path. An online petition has been started by one of the residents from the new development whose property is seriously impacted by the removal of the pathway.

THE YALDING CONSERVATION AREA REVIEW

A physical meeting was held with the MBC Conservation Officer by way of a walk around the area. It is proposed to redraw the line to include Yalding School (no additional houses) within the boundary.

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

The inspectors ceased the enquiry after the first three days based on being open to a legal challenge due to failure of the duty to cooperate.

FLOODING

LEIGH FLOOD STORAGE AREA – INCREASE CAPACITY

The application to amend the Medway Flood Relief Act was made by the Environment Agency in June. The Act states that if there are any objections, the matter has to go to a public inquiry but it does not say how a public inquiry shall be conducted. Unfortunately, there were eleven objectors from the area around the storage area, all with similar objections, and DEFRA are investigating how a public inquiry should be convened and managed.

PROPERTY FLOOD RESISTANCE UPDATE

Testing and snagging ongoing.

SUBSTATION UPDATE

UKPN have written to the owners of Curleys old site asking to purchase a piece of land to erect a new substation but have not received a response. The Chairman will check if Lyngs Close can now proceed. Burgess Bank fully operational.

TO AGREE TO RELEASE THE GRANTS FOR 2020/21 AS PER BUDGET

It was agreed to release the following grants:

- Medway Valley Railway £500
- Parish Magazine £300 (the budget of £800 included £500 for colour photos of the VE Day street party that has been deferred)
- Village Hall £1,000
- Churchyard £500

CONSULTATIONS

No consultation has been received this month. The National Highways & Transport Network - Public Satisfaction Surveys – 21 February 2021- The Chairman will send this out on Parish News.

18. HERITAGE FINGER POSTS AND VILLAGE NAMEPLATES

Quotes were circulated in advance.

Yalding Parish Council

There is unspent money in the 2020/21 budget due to activities not complete due to Covid restrictions. This money can be re-directed to this project. All agreed. It was nominated JC, seconded DS and agreed by all to go ahead with the following:

- To agree to repair/refurbish the two Laddingford village nameplates
- To agree to replace the four missing village nameplates, at Lees Road, Kenward Road, Vicarage Road and Darman Lane, all in keeping with the Laddingford Invicta nameplates.
- To agree to replace the two existing KCC, Yalding village nameplates, at Benover Road and Yalding Hill as above
- To agree to replace the finger post on Yalding Village Green (and possibly move) as per the design of the recently replace posts at Woodfalls and Lees Corner. A grant has been applied for from our County Member.

YALDING & LADDINGFORD SPORTS ASSOCIATION (YALSA)

A well-attended YALSA Annual General Meeting took place on 27 October. All groups were represented.

TO NOMINATE PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES (2) TO YALSA

It was agreed by all that David Law and Deeann Stead would be YPC's representatives to YALSA. SG has agreed to be acting treasurer for the relaunch. DL has already been appointed Chairman.

TO AGREE TO A SMALL, RE-START GRANT

The Chairman proposed, JC seconded and all agreed that YPC provide a grant of £500 to ensure bills paid prior to agreement of contributions from clubs.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Due to lockdown this has been rearranged for 6th December 2020. A core group of volunteers will be used in teams of 6, they will be asked to socially distance and will be provided with gloves and masks. An extra section of lights has been purchased for Laddingford. The lights, including the tree on the village green in Yalding and the Christmas tree at Laddingford, will be lit at 4pm on the same day by Santa's Elves as usual but remotely from the North Pole to allow for social distancing.

INCREASE IN HGV'S

There is a Kent Association of Local Council's initiative for a proposal for a pilot scheme banning HGVs (except for true access or dispensation) from Yalding to Langley, this southern route already having a number of 7.5 ton restrictions. KCC has agreed to support this and it has been confirmed by the Police Crime Commissioner and Assistant Chief Constable (PCC and ACC) that Kent police will also support the project. This will mean active lorry watch sessions and enforcement. The next step is to seek approval from the Department of Transport; application has been made but Brexit is stalling it moving forward at the moment but this is being chased. At a meeting with the PCC and ACC last week it was confirmed that this would be a subject for the agenda for the next meeting.

SPEEDING BENOVER ROAD

It was agreed that it was sensible if Collier Street PC joined forces with Yalding PC to carry out Speedwatch sessions at the same times as this would carry more weight in seeking follow-up/prosecution by the police if vehicles appear on both watches' records. Lockdown would be a good time to get this set-up, get more recruits, find a new co-ordinator and apply for another check point. The Chairman will talk to Collier Street PC.

CLOCKHOUSE FARM TRAFFIC

YPC have received no complaints from Yalding residents and no requests for support from neighbouring parishes. It was pointed out that this is a food production, rural industry.

COMPASSIONATE AWARDS

Yalding Volunteers were nominated and won a Compassionate Community award sponsored by the Kent Messenger, MBC and The Heart of Kent Hospice for the help provided during the first lock down.

PUBLIC SPEAKING AT MEETINGS

There is no right of public speaking at meetings. It was agreed, for the duration of virtual meetings, to ask members of the public to send in written statements.

Yalding Parish Council

NEXT MEETINGS OF YALDING PARISH COUNCIL

Will be held via Zoom Conferencing on Tuesdays 1 December 2020 and 19 January 2021 at 6.30pm. Members of the public are able to address the Council by sending a written statement to the Clerk at clerk@yaldingparishcouncil.gov.uk at least forty eight hours in advance of the meeting. You may still attend the meeting but not speak and you will need to be able to sign into the Zoom meeting via the internet. The Clerk will advise you of the procedure.

FLOOD WARDENS

Due to house moves, we have lost several of our flood wardens.

We have three types of warden; those with designated areas to look after and ensure vulnerable people are safe, those who are willing to don a hi-viz and man a road closure and those who are willing to man the emergency centre in the church.

We are also keen to keep a note of those people who might be able to offer some temporary accommodation (such as a bed for the night).

Please email me if you are willing and able to help; training will be given where needed. chairman@yaldingparishcouncil.gov.uk

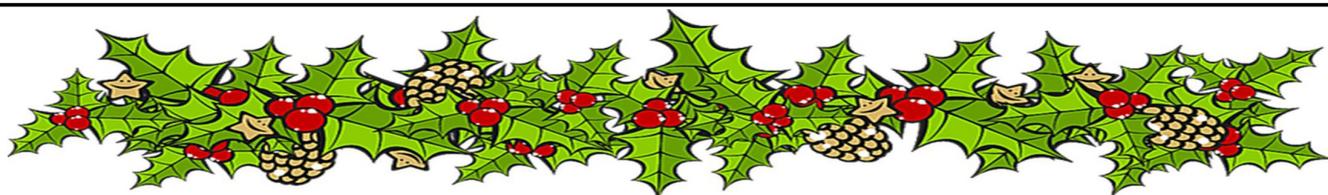
We are also looking for Flood Buddies to assist those with Property Flood Resistance measures to install their equipment before the flood arrives.

PARISH NEWS - PARISH DATABASE

To receive news on flooding, road closures, lost and found and any other important news and information, please send your details to chairman@yaldingparishcouncil.gov.uk with a request to be included on the database. All information is stored in accordance with GDPR Regulations.

Have you not been receiving bulletins; maybe it's because you have changed your email address and forgotten to tell us.

Are you new to the Parish, please let us know.



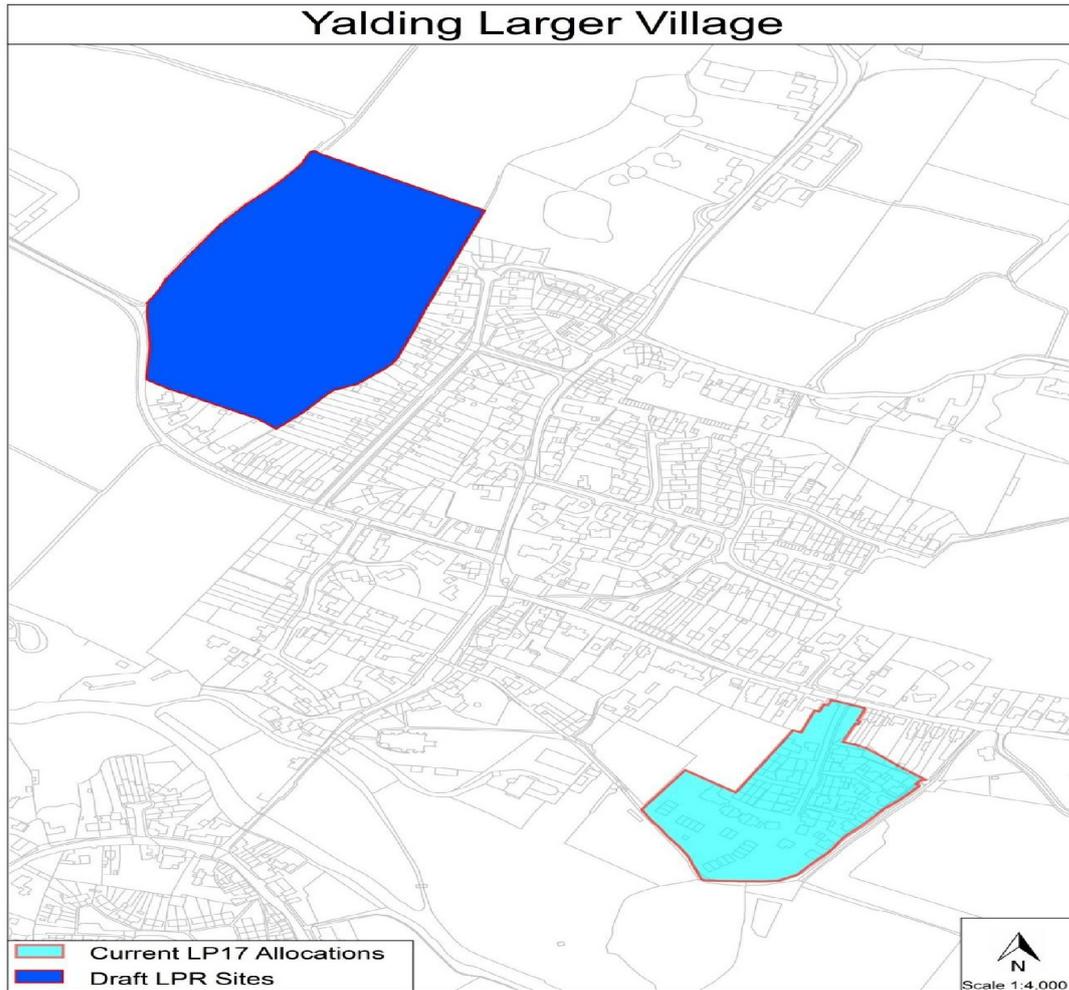
*Who knows what this Christmas may bring
but let's hope you will be able to enjoy it with your family
here's wishing all our Residents
a happy and peaceful
Christmas and New Year
and looking forward to a better 2021*

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN REVIEW CALL FOR SITES

YALDING SITE ALLOCATION

Policy LPRSA248 – Land North of Kenward Road, Yalding

Land North of Kenward Road is included as a draft allocation for the development of approximately 100 dwellings at an average density of 30 dwellings per hectare. Also shown is the current allocation of 65 dwellings on Vicarage Road.



PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The consultation runs for three weeks from 1st December until 22nd December 2020.

Please do not comment until we receive the consultation pack and the address for response.

The link to the consultation will be sent out on Parish News.

If you have already commented, you will need to do so again to the consultation response address.

FRIENDS OF YALDING SURGERY

Friends of Yalding Surgery are very pleased to announce that a total of £1720 has been raised since the start of the first lockdown and we would like to thank everyone who has supported us by buying our handmade items in the Post Office. It has been more than we could have dreamt of and all the money raised will be used wisely to support patients and the hardworking staff of Yalding Surgery.

Thanks to Sharon and now Janet, items for sale are bags, aprons, tea towels, pet Christmas stockings and Christmas themed masks. The book cushions have been a great success and there are also tooth fairy cushions and I hear dog coats are in the pipeline - we could have a corporate look for all the dogs coming into the Post Office!

We are always up for ideas and have also made one tea cosy - our sewers study YouTube and come up trumps every time! Now Christmas is looming, please look on Yalding Post Office facebook page for all new items available for sale. ALL monies go directly to supporting Yalding Surgery. This money enables the Surgery to then in turn support Yalding. THANKYOU

Yalding Baptist Church Sunday Worship Services

If possible, we will be in the building as well as on Zoom.

If we are in the building, we aim to have Junior Church every Sunday
except when it is an All Age service

If we are in lockdown, these services will be on Zoom only

Every Sunday 10.30 a.m.

EVERYONE WELCOME

Zoom Meeting ID: 857 4184 1757

6th December	Usual Service
13th December	All Age Carol Service
20th December	Usual Service
27th December	To Be Confirmed

Any services in the building will follow all the government Covid guidance
(e.g. NO CONGREGATIONAL SINGING) and a register will be taken of attendees for Test and Trace.

Most Mondays 10-11.15 a.m. Praise and prayer- via Zoom

Alternate Wednesdays 8.15pm Home Group fortnightly

(via Zoom until further notice)

Contact James and Rachel Bushnell for further information/dates:

01622 817337 or rachbush75@hotmail.co.uk

yaldingbaptistchurch.my-free.website

www.facebook.com/yaldingbaptistchurch

Yalding Baptist Church wishes you a Blessed Christmas & a Peaceful 2021!

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it"

John 1:5



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Hello! - I'm Sarah

I've been walking dogs locally for almost five years, but working with dogs for over 20 years.

I've lived in Yalding since 2008 with my husband Steve, two children, 2 Chihuahas, a very sassy cat and a bearded dragon. I'm always happy to talk dogs with anyone! I'm friendly, professional and reliable. I'm fully insured and canine first aid trained.... and if you are worried about the security of the dogs I walk, my main hobbies are Krav Maga and Jujitsu! Say hello as you see me walking around the village with my canine chums.
Sarah

NEWS FROM LITTLE VENICE

There are several new faces at Little Venice and I would like to say hi and welcome to you all. If you are not aware, there are a substantial supply of books you may borrow in the mail room. Please help yourself and add to the pile if you wish. Little Venice Club opened and then closed due to lockdown 2 - however, when it opens again, come and meet some of the other owners. Hot food is available to eat or takeaway in normal times!

Things have been very quiet here - not surprisingly. However, despite the Corona virus regulations and threatening bad weather, we managed to hold a very successful outdoor MacMillan Coffee Morning. The sun actually made an appearance despite the previous weather warnings. Many thanks to Jackie for the loan of her garden and to Doreen and Ann for their help. Mostly though, my thanks go to those who came along, those who had delivery service and those who did not come along, but generously donated to such a good cause. The final total was a little over £300 - so well done!

Talking about fund raising, the joint total for my Brave the Shave plus the MacMillan coffee morning amounted just £20 short of £1000. My huge thanks go to you all who supported - even in times of such hardship as now, there are kind hearts and generous people.

Whilst I am handing out thanks, most of you know that I work at the Co-op petrol station in East Peckham. We have been fundraising for Mind and so many of you at Little Venice and Yalding village have donated. A big thankyou from all the staff at the Co-op.

As I write this month's article, we are again back into lockdown and hopefully, when this magazine is out, we will be out again... so please take care and stay safe. We will all come out the other side of this.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all xxx

Sally

Laddingford C of E School
Darman Lane
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Kent
ME18 6BL

www.laddingfordschool.kent.sch.uk
Tel: 01622 871270

Email: office@laddingford.kent.sch.uk



Join our Laddingford Family!

Is your child due to start school in September 2021?

Thank you to everyone who attended our virtual open events in November, if you missed these but would still like to know more about the school please get in touch with us via the school office email address below. We would be happy to have a chat with you, via phone or video call and to share some videos with you to give you a flavour of our school.

Have you ever thought about being a school governor?

Being a school governor is a great way to support your local community. We have several vacancies on our governing body and would love to hear from you if you think you might be interested.

Headteacher:

Mrs Gemma Hitch

Laddingford St Mary's Primary
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ME186BL

01622 871270

office@laddingford.kent.sch.uk

Find Us on Social Media



@LaddingfordCEP

Laddingford Primary School News

Hello!

I can't quite believe it is already time for the December article – I know this is a hugely overused phrase, but what a very strange year it is been! As I write this we are still in the November lockdown, and school is providing a much needed slice of normality for the community, we always think Laddingford is a special place, but right now with all that is going on in the world, the little bubble of calm we have created, and something close to normality (although we miss singing!) in our class bubbles, is like a port in a storm.

As we head into the festive season, we are excited about all the usual things, Christmas dinner, Christmas jumper day, and some Covid safe alternatives to regular features such as the Christingle service, nativity play and Christmas Fair. The Christmas Fair in particular is a wonderful community event which will be much missed this year, but the FLS have a few things up their sleeve to get us in the festive spirit and help to raise money for the school – I would encourage you to pop over to our facebook pages @LaddingfordCEP and @FriendsofLaddingford to keep up to date with what we're doing, to share in our festive joy and maybe lend us your support as well.

Among the glitter and sparkle of Christmas there is still lots of learning going on too, from Maths, English, RE and science to geography, history, art and music, we have a full and exciting curriculum underway once again. If you walked or drove past the school last month hopefully you will have seen our beautiful display of poppies on the fence, a beautiful collective tribute to the fallen, and a showcase of some impressive artistic talent too.

I have included some pictures of last years Christmas events, whilst December 2020 will undoubtedly look different, hopefully by next year we will all be back together again. From all of us at Laddingford School I wish you every blessing this Christmas time, I hope whatever this Christmas looks like for your family, it is filled with peace, love and joy.





As we continue to explore the book 'The Tree that's Meant to be' by Yuval Zommer, we will be learning about the different forest animals, making forest animal masks, and making bird feeders for our gardens.

This term the children will also be making their own Christmas tree decorations using natural resources, and decorating our pre-school tree (unsupervised!!), so parents beware they may like to decorate yours at home!

Unfortunately it is looking unlikely that we will be able to visit Teston Church this Christmas which is such a shame for the children, but we are hopeful that we will be able to visit them sometime in the spring.

Due to Government guidelines we are also unable to perform our biggest fundraiser of the year, our well attended children's Christmas concert in the normal way. We have therefore decided to record our concert this year at the pre-school within our safe bubbles for all our families to enjoy at home.

We are very fortunate that one of our Grandmas has again offered to supply us with one of her delightful Christmas cakes for us to raffle off in our Christmas raffle. We would like to thank everyone for their continued support.

We have started our phonics group this term for our older children to start preparing them for big school, while our younger children are enjoying the many clever finger activities we have put together to help develop their fine motor skills.

I must also mention a big thank you to Teston Farm Shop who kindly supports our preschool by donating fresh fruit for our children's café which runs throughout the morning playtime. Our children enjoy choosing a fantastic range of seasonal fruits we receive every week.

On behalf of all the staff and children, we would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas. We will return on Monday 4th January 2021.

If you are interested in joining our preschool please contact Tina Driver on 07805 796353 or email on tandwngroup@gmail.com

YALDING ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Yalding Allotments: Plots Available Now!

If you have ever fancied growing your own produce, now is a great time to get started. You'll benefit from fresh air, gentle exercise and the joy of eating something you have grown yourself; perhaps these things are more important to you now than ever before.

There are currently whole and half plots available at Yalding Allotments, Vicarage Road. Please contact the Secretary at yaldingallotmentassociation@outlook.com

Virtual Xmas Draw to win a Luxury Hamper



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PRESERVATION SOCIETY

From December 1st until December 22nd we will be holding a prize draw to win a luxury hamper full of tasty goodies perfect for the festive period

The funds raised will be split 50/50 with the "Community Food Bank" as a one off contribution from the YCPS trustees as we all work our way through this COVID Pandemic

**Donate just £1 to get your name in the virtual hat
£5 will mean 5 times, £10 will be 10 times
Please go to to make your donation**

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Xmasdraw2020>

**Alternatively you can make
a donation at Yalding Post Office**

The hamper winner will be notified & can then collect on 23rd December from the post office

www.ycps.org.uk



YALDING LIBRARY

With Yalding Library due to remain closed at least until April 2021 (that doleful sound you can hear in the background is me sobbing into my hands), here is a list of other local libraries that are now open to customers

Allington

The Kent History and Library Centre in Maidstone

Larkfield Southborough

Tonbridge

Winter is here and the evenings are dark. For those of us who love long, hot summer days, that's all the excuse needed to snuggle up with a nice hot cuppa and a good book – and maybe even throw in some CDM for good measure (That's code for Cadbury's Dairy Milk in case you didn't know – other chocolate is available.) Here then, to get you through the season, are some Winter Warmers for your literary nourishment.

Winter Pilgrims by Toby Clements

In the bitter cold of a winter's dawn in 1460, a young monk and nun are forced to flee their priory after a shocking act of betrayal. But the land through which Thomas and Katherine must travel is gripped by the savagery of the War of the Roses. Soon they are caught between the warring factions of the houses of Lancaster and York, and as brother faces brother in bloody civil war, Thomas and Katherine must also fight to stay alive. "An enthralling adventure story, honest and powerful. The War of the Roses are imagined here with energy, with ferocity, with hunger to engage the reader." Hilary Mantel

The Winter Children by Lulu Taylor

Olivia and Dan Felbeck are blissfully happy when their longed-for twins arrive after years of IVF. At the same time, they make the move to Renniston Hall, a huge Elizabethan house that belongs to absent friends. Living rent-free in a small part of the unmodernised house, once a boarding school, they can begin to enjoy the family life they've always wanted. But there is a secret at the heart of their family, one that Olivia does not yet know. And the house, too, holds its own dark mysteries deep within. "Utterly compelling. A really excellent winter's story." Lucy Diamond

Minds of Winter by Ed O'Loughlin

Fay Morgan and Nelson Nilsson have each arrived in Inuvik, Canada. A chance encounter at the top of the world – 120 miles north of the Arctic Circle – brings them together. Both are searching for answers about a family member: Nelson for his estranged older brother, Fay for her disappeared grandfather. They soon learn that these two men have an unexpected link – a hidden share in one of the greatest enduring mysteries of polar exploration. "Ed O'Loughlin is a skilled cartographer of both the Arctic and the human heart. What a magnificent novel."

A Spell of Winter by Helen Dunmore

In the years just before the First World War, Cathy and her brother Rob find themselves alone in a decaying English mansion with their distant, stern grandfather. Abandoned by their mother while their distraught father is confined to an asylum, they roam the grounds freely, lost in their own private world and finding new lines to cross. But as the war draws closer, crimes both big and small threaten the delicate refuge they have built. Cathy will do anything to protect their dark Eden from anything or anyone. "Electrifying and original."

The Winter Agent by Gareth Rubin

February 1944. A bitter winter grips occupied France where Marc Reece is leading a circuit of British agents who are risking their lives to sabotage the German war effort from within. But Reece has a second mission, secret even from his fellow agents – including the woman he has ill-advisedly fallen in love with. He must secure a document identifying a German spy at the heart of British intelligence. With the risk of a traitor within his ranks, the fate of the Allied forces on D-Day is in Reece's hands. "A gripping and atmospheric thriller inspired by true events."

Whatever Christmas brings for you in this, the most disrupted of years, I hope that it is happy and peaceful. And I hope too that the new year will be a happy and healthy one for us all. I really look forward to opening the door of our library and welcoming you all back as soon as possible.

Roll on 2021 and Seasons Readings to you all!



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My name is Des McElroy and I run DessoMech Bike Repairs from my workshop in Laddingford.

I've lived in the village for nearly 35 years - it's where my family grew up and were schooled - and have been involved in the local community in many ways over the years.

Although a long time road runner, I've always enjoyed cycling, but it was a charity ride that a group of us organised back in 2010 that really grew my passion for bikes.

We cycled from Laddingford to Paris, raising an incredible £35,000 for The Kent Cancer Trust, and it really kicked off my desire for more cycling adventures, especially overseas.

Since then I've ticked off a few decent mountains in France and Spain, and last September I cycled from Lands End to John O' Groats over an epic 9 days!

I've always enjoyed tinkering and the geeky side of bike tech, and with time, I've grown my experience and skill. This culminated in a 2 week training course back in January to formalise my knowledge and gain my IMI Level 2 Certificate in Cycle Maintenance and Repair.

So for all your bike repair needs, from Sturmey Archer and cotterless cranks to carbon frames and electronic Di2 (and everything else in between!) please get in touch - you can find me on the usual social media platforms or through the advert in this magazine!

Thank you. Des

New advertiser feature

Editor's Thoughts

At the beginning of lockdown, I along with lots of other people, dusted down my bike. Tim had bought me a foldup bike some years earlier and it had remained in the little shed thereafter. After being spruced up, I then spent the first lockdown cycling from Yalding to Laddingford to see my son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren. I often had treats in the little basket and I had a special chair in the front garden so I could rest on before riding the very flat journey back home again. Those cycle rides were wonderful. When lockdown eased a little, I was often joined by Philip and Amelia, although Logan is still trying to master the art of balancing on two wheels. Maybe he will crack it in 2021!

I had been a very keen cyclist, but as the years roll on, the bike sometimes gets forgotten. It really is the best exercise and Yalding is on the official cycle route for many groups of cyclists who enjoy the beautiful Kent countryside. I am very pleased we now have our own bike repairman! I'm sure I'll be contacting Des in the Spring to give my bike a look over before I start again. I'm only going a short distance, but at least I am getting on my bike and enjoying it and as with all forms of exercise, that is the main thing. See you out there!

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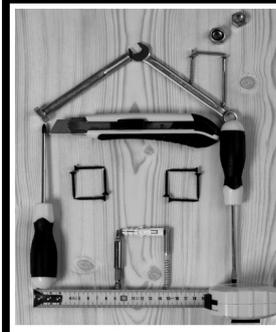
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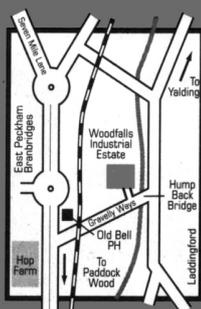
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Yalding Surgery PPG

Due to the pandemic the PPG have been unable to meet, we arranged a zoom meeting in October to kick start us back into action. The Minutes of this meeting can be seen on the Surgery's website for you to read. As we expressed our huge thanks and gratitude to Wendy our departing Chair, Dr Scott welcomed and thanked James as our new Chair.

Appointments

Appointments with the GPs or the Paramedic will be telephone consultations initially, only then and if the clinician deems it necessary for a physical examination can a face to face appointment be booked. This is following guidance to all General Practice Surgeries on how to operate.

Flu Season

Flu vaccines for healthy patients between the ages 50-64 will be released mid-November. The Surgery cannot give these vaccines sooner as they are held centrally by NHS England and will not be released sooner; this is despite local pharmacies being able to give the flu vaccine to this age group.

The date of our next meeting will be 19th January 2021 at 1pm via zoom. If you would like to join, please contact Jacqui via the PPG link on the Yalding Surgery's website.

DIARY

December 2020

Tuesday	3rd	18.30	Yalding Parish Council meeting on Zoom
Friday	4th	3-5pm	Collection & deliver of Christmas Trees / Laddingford School
Saturday	5th	09.00	Churchyard Working Party
Sunday	6th		Friends of Yalding Church 100 Club Draw
Sunday	6th	10.00	Christmas Lights working party (subject to lockdown regs)
Saturday	12th	10.30	Christmas Stall at Court Lodge Garage

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Watch Yalding Post Office facebook page for further updates news & pictures

Fri-Mon 25th to 28th Yalding Surgery **CLOSED** for Christmas

January 2021

Friday	1st		Yalding Surgery CLOSED
Saturday	2nd	09.00	Churchyard Working Party
Tuesday	19th	13.00	Surgery PPG Meeting via zoom

Yalding Ladies' Group of ex WI members is hoping to start monthly meetings in January 2021 depending on Covid regulations.

Please submit any diary items for February to Jenny Scott - jscott@callflow.uk by January 10th 2021. You are welcome to call 01892 459041 to check for diary clashes before arranging your event.

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The charity that supports Yalding Basic Cycle school for 3-16 year olds in the village of Farato, in The Gambia, has had a challenging year so far. Two days before lockdown in March, Trustees Karen and Tony Di Marco were packed and ready to go for their regular visit to the school, accompanied by donated materials for the school. However, they were advised by the Headteacher in Farato to stay in UK and the following day the first case of Covid-19 was identified in The Gambia and all schools were closed. At first the cases in The Gambia were low and the country was effective in dealing with the pandemic. Unfortunately, in July/August cases began to soar to over 3,600 with 122 deaths. Happily the situation improved and schools finally opened in mid-October.

NEWS FROM SCHOOLGAMBIA

SchoolGambia Trustees and the senior management of the school have been in close and frequent contact throughout the lockdown and a dedicated team of teachers spent weeks preparing and organising the school buildings and the pupils to provide a safe learning space for 640 pupils. Meetings with the PTA, staff and the Board of Directors in Farato resulted in a plan to halve each class, arrange them at a safe distance at desks and create new time tables to provide a 3-day week for each class. In order to catch up on the 6 months of missed schooling, teachers work a longer day on Fridays and a full day on Saturday. The pupils and teachers had no facilities at all for online learning or home schooling, so there is a colossal amount of lost ground to cover. Setting up hand washing facilities, social distance at break times and the wearing of masks has only been possible through the whole community pulling together.



Back in Yalding SchoolGambia has been obliged to postpone two major events (Scones and Songs planned for August, and a big Art Exhibition in November). Obviously this has been a blow to our fundraising plans and has repercussions for our plans for next year: refurbishing the Nursery School, building a library and developing the reading scheme. Nonetheless, we have been highly encouraged by support we have had from our loyal sponsors, one-off donors and just recently, the benefits we have had from the Baptist Church quiz that raised over £100 for us. Innovation and imagination have certainly stimulated ideas for rising above the problems. Keep Saturday 18th April free for a Pop Up event that we hope to host.

We have set up an appeal to support our very own Gambian First Readers scheme - a set of individual reading books written and illustrated by one of our Trustees, a Kent primary school teacher and a teacher in Farato. We have nearly finished writing this the first ever Gambian reading scheme, and now we need to set about publishing it and preparing our Farato teachers to train their colleagues so that this extremely effective scheme will go into Gambian schools. If you would like to support us in this unique venture, go to <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/KarenDiMarco>

If you use Amazon, you can also help us by signing up to Amazon Smile UK and nominating SchoolGambia. And you can recycle your inkjet printer cartridges (£1 each goes to the charity). For envelopes, just contact Karen Di Marco (814267) or schoolgambiauk@gmail.com

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Apologies to Valerie Lovett who took such lovely photographs of Victoria Oyler & Rob Short's wedding in September - credit where it is due and I have taken this opportunity to share the group photo again. Such a lovely day and a ray of sunshine for Yalding in 2020. Editor.



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ST.PETER & ST.PAUL'S, YALDING & ST.MARY'S, LADDINGFORD

Vicar - Father Kish	01622 814182
Church Office	01622 814182 or leave a message on office@yaldingchurches.co.uk
Churchwardens	01892 730910 Jeremy Tenison-Smith
PCC Treasurer	01622 817919 or email treasurer@yaldingchurches.co.uk
Stewardship	01622 814509 Joy & Jonathan Virden
Junior Church	01622 814159 Rachel Curley
Men's Breakfast	01892 730910 Jeremy Tenison-Smith
Little Fishes	01622 817337 Rachel Curley or email jnfloresster@googlemcom
Bellringers	01732 669782 Richard Young
Choir	01892 723884 Daniel Sharman
Churchyard Working Party	01622 814420 Paul Mahoney
Yalding Church Rooms	Bookings - Clare Hudson 01622 814027
Laddingford Church Hall	Bookings - Digby Danvers 01622 873450
Yalding Church Preservation Society	Peter Chapman 07973 839266

PARISH MAGAZINE

Editor June Chapman: mag@yaldingchurches.co.uk

Diary	01892 459041 Jenny Scott 07785974951
Treasurer	Graham Spillman 01622 8134555
Distribution	Martin Williams 01622 815403
RC Church of St.Francis	01622 756217
Yalding Baptist Church	Rachel Bushnell 01622 817337 Carol Featherstone 01622 812838
Yalding Youth & Community Centre	Bookings 01622 815498

HELPING HANDS

Volunteer transport for medical appointments

Jenny G	01622 817439	Jane	01622 814002
Jenny S	01892 459041	Barbara	814038

GOVT & LOCAL COUNCIL REPS

MP: Helen.grant.mp@parliament.gov.uk	
KCC: Paulina.stockell@kent.gov.uk	
Paulina Stockell	01622 842508
Cllr: David Burton	07590 229910
Cllr: Annabelle Blackmore	01622 833299

PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Geraldine Brown	01622 814222
chairman@yaldingparishcouncil.gov.uk	
Clerk: Angela Gent	01622 814134
clerk@yaldingparishcouncil.gov.uk	

DOCTOR (NHS 111 non-emergency)

Burgess Bank Surgery	01622 814380
Friends of Yalding Surgery	
Elaine Andrews	01622 816951
PPG - Wendy Thurston	01622 814251

EDUCATION

Yalding School Head	
Mrs Sarah Friend	01622 814298
PTA: Emma Peskett	
chair@yaldingpta.co.uk	
Laddingford School Head	
Mrs Gemma Hitch	01622 871270
Yalding Pre-School	01622 814024
or email admin@yaldingpreschool.co.uk	
Yalding Parent & Toddler Playgroup	
Sophie O'Donnell	07807 242904

YALDING VILLAGE HALL

Bookings	01622 814163
Yalding Library	01622 817735
Yalding Post Office	01622 814327

POLICE

Emergency	999
Maidstone Rural	101
RSPCA Cruelty Line	0300 1234 999

RIVER BAILIFF

Bill Bird	07568183185
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CLUBS & ASSOCIATIONS

Allotments: Susanna Barnwell	01622 813309
Garden Society: Joy Virden	01622 814509
Rifle Range: Dave Woodger	01732 843813
Art Group: June Chapman	01622 817324
Bee Keepers: Chris Morris	07855 464667
Village Voices: Karen di Marco	01622 814267
Table Tennis: Peter Camrass	01622 720985
Relative Minors: H.Haddesley	01622 749284
Football Club: Steve Faulkner	01892 263907
Cricket Club: Martin Tripp	
martin.tripp.cricket@gmail.com	

SCOUTS

Beavers (6-8), Cubs (8-10.5), Scouts (10.5-140)	
Sandra Grace	01622 727040
Explorer Scouts (14-18)	
Chris Haigh	01622 814227



Good news...Christmas isn't cancelled!

Crafty Christmas at Court Lodge

SATURDAY DECEMBER 12th

Yalding Church flower arrangers and crafters invite you to their pop up Christmas shop in the Court Lodge garage just off the High Street

Christmas decorations, stockings, robins
Plants & preserves

Fresh seasonal arrangements

Upcycled book crafts

Lavender trees and dried flower bunches

Small gifts & cards

Book a time slot starting from 10:30

Telephone Joy, 01622 814509

All proceeds to The Heart of Kent Hospice

COVID SAFE

