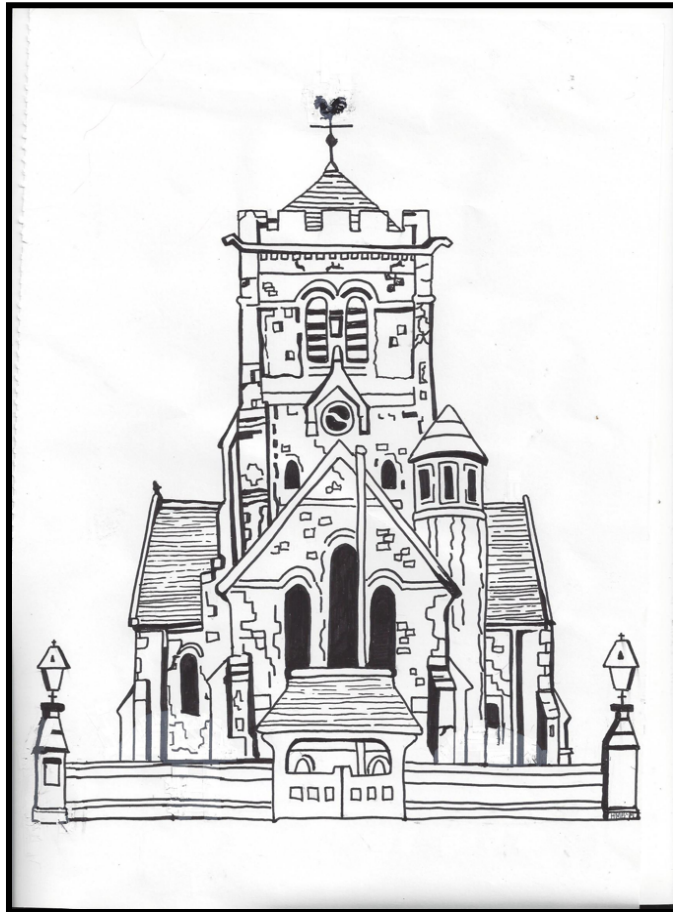


# St Giles' and Shipbourne NEWSLETTER



**June 2023**

## OFFICERS OF ST GILES' AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

### ST GILES

Rector of Shipbourne with Plaxtol:	811081
Rev Dr Peter Hayler	Email: RectorSwP@gmail.com
The Rectory, The Street, Plaxtol TN15 0QG	<a href="http://shipbourne.com/st-giles-church/">http://shipbourne.com/st-giles-church/</a>
Curate	Mr Mark Packer 07970-709006
Lay Reader	Mr P Brewin 810361
Churchwardens:	Ms C Jackson 07729814798
	Mr A Boorman 352597

### PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Secretary:	Mrs C Chambers	382228
Treasurer:	Mr C Keeling	07825 139046
Deanery Synod Rep:	Mr N Ward	810525

### CHURCH OFFICERS

Parish Safeguarding Officers:	Ms C Jackson	07729814798
	Miss G Coates (children)	811432
Choirmaster:	Mr J Young	810289
Electoral Roll:	Mrs H Leach	811144

Flower Guild:	Mrs F Ward	810525
Bell Ringing:	Graham Edwards	07487 729549

### SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk:	Sarah Huseyin	886402	<a href="mailto:shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com">shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com</a>
Chair:	V Redman		
Vice Chair:	J Sheldrick		
Councillors	P Leach	S Oram	A Dagger

VILLAGE WEBSITE	<a href="http://www.shipbourne.com">www.shipbourne.com</a>
SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL	
Head:	Mrs Terri Daters

S Oram A Dagger

TDates@bournepartnership.org

### SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

Chairman:	Curtis Galbraith	763115	<a href="mailto:shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com">shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com</a>
Bookings:	Helen Leach	811144	

### SHIPBOURNE FARMERS' MARKET

Manager:	Bob Taylor	833976
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### SHIPBOURNE WI

President	Barbara Jones	420285	<a href="mailto:b.jones162@btinternet.com">b.jones162@btinternet.com</a>
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### SHIPBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

Secretary:	Mark Fenton
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### PLAXTOL & SHIPBOURNE TENNIS CLUB

Membership:	Cilla Langdon-Down	810338
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### SHIPBOURNE HOUSING TRUST LTD

Chairman:	Alan Bristow		
Hon Secretary	John Playle	810562	<a href="mailto:johnandjanetp@gmail.com">johnandjanetp@gmail.com</a>

### POLICE

Emergency: 999 Non-urgent: 01622 690690 PCSO Mark Thomas: 07772 226006

### ST GILES' AND SHIPBOURNE NEWSLETTER

Editor/Adverts:	Lindsay Miles	810439	<a href="mailto:lindsay_miles@btinternet.com">lindsay_miles@btinternet.com</a>
Copying:	Mary Perry	810797	

**Rector of Shipbourne with Plaxtol**

Rev Dr Peter Hayler  
The Rectory, The Street, Plaxtol TN15 0QG  
Tel: 01732-811081 / E-mail: RectorSwP@gmail.com

**NB: ON SABBATICAL FROM 19 JUNE TO 25 SEPTEMBER 2023**

**PARISH DIARY – JUNE 2023**

Except where indicated below, the main morning service at ST GILES, SHIPBOURNE is at 9.30am. Every weekday at 8.00am Morning Prayer will be said at Plaxtol and every weekday evening (except Friday and Saturday) at 4.30pm Evening Prayer will be said at St Giles, Shipbourne.

St Giles Shipbourne is open for organ practice and private prayer daily except Mondays from 9.00am to 3.00pm <http://shipbourne.com/st-giles-church/>

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
Saturday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	12-4pm	Plaxtol Church Summer Fair, The Rectory Garden
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	4 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
		11.00am	<b>Parish Communion at St Giles Church</b>
		11.00am	Family Service with Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Isaiah 40: 12-17, 27-end; 2 Corinthians 13: 11-end; Matthew 28: 16-end
<b>Thursday</b>	8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9.30-11am</b>	<b>Community Bread Basket in Shipbourne Village Hall</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>1<sup>st</sup> after Trinity</i>	11 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	<b>Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		9.30am	<b>Matins at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		10.00am	“Still Small Voice” at Plaxtol Church
		11.00am	<b>“Still Small Voice” at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11.00am	Parish Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings	Job 29: 11-16; Acts 11: 19-end; John 15: 12-17
<b>Thursday</b>	15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>

<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> after Trinity</i>	18 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
		9.30am	<b>Parish Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11.00am	“Community@11” at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Genesis 18: 1-15; Romans 5: 1-8; Matthew 9: 35-ch 10: 8

<b>Monday</b>	19 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Rev Dr Peter Hayler sabbatical to start (returns 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023)</b>
<b>Thursday</b> Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	9-11am	<b>Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
	24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30-11am	Community Bread Basket at Plaxtol Church
		12 noon	<b>Wedding of Rory and Leonie at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> after Trinity</i>	25 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	<b>Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		9.30am	<b>Family Service at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11.00am	Parish Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Genesis 21: 8-21; Roman 6: 1-11; Matthew 10: 24-39
<b>Thursday</b>	29 <sup>th</sup>	9-11am	<b>Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>



## Community Bread Basket

9:30 - 11:00 on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023

In Plaxtol Parish Church  
*Café style Breakfast*

*All welcome*

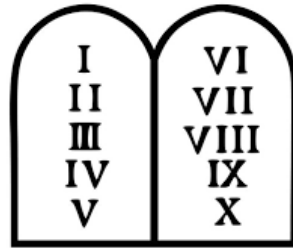
United Benefice of Shipbourne with Plaxtol  
Collections for Chatham Foodbank

*Boxes will be placed in both our churches over the fourth weekend of each month for donations of food and toiletries, to coincide with our Community Bread Basket event.*

## PASTORAL LETTER

### SIX DAYS SHALT THOU LABOUR...

The Ten Commandments (Exodus ch. 20) name the sabbath day as a day of rest – the seventh ‘day’ on which God rested from his work of creation. Accordingly, we have seven days in a week. The Jewish community keep Saturday as their sabbath; for Christians it has become Sunday to align with the day of Resurrection. Using the same root word, a ‘Sabbatical’ is a period of rest that is granted in some professions, sometime as often as every seven years.



Beginning in a couple of weeks’ time, I have been granted a sabbatical by the bishop, after 31 years in full-time ministry, and I will be **strictly ‘off-duty’** for 3 months. During this time, I shall be walking St Cuthbert’s Way from Melrose in the Scottish borders to Lindisfarne off the Northumberland coast. I also have a short trip to Tallinn, Estonia and a retreat/holiday with a community that specializes in the care of clergy near Exeter, in Devon. The main focus, however, will be rest, and a chance to refresh my connection with God in prayer without the distractions of parish administration and ministry.

Our web-pages will give contact details for those who will be ready to field concerns and enquiries, as will my out-of-office reply on email, and the answerphone at the Rectory. There are lots of people ready to help out in my absence, and my thanks go to all who will be helping to make this much needed break possible. Please remember Donna and I in your prayers.

**Peter Hayler, Rector**

### PROGRESS OF THE ST GILES’ CHURCH RESTORATION APPEAL

I am very glad to be able to tell you that our appeal for the restoration of our church has now raised almost £80,000, of which £45,000 is attributable to donations (the rest has come from grants and from the Roux Dinner). This is a tremendous achievement given that we started only at the beginning of March and is a tribute both to the affection in which the church building is held by the people of Shipbourne and to your generosity.

Peter Hayler’s article in the March Newsletter explained that the church needs significant repairs to the roof, stonework, gutters and drainage which will cost about £280,000. The Church’s reserves and a government grant that will be available to cover the cost of VAT will fund the first £150,000 of this sum but we need to raise the rest. There is a display in the church describing what needs to be done.

We still need to raise another £50,000. So, if you have not yet made a donation or pledge, please consider doing so or taking part in our programme of fund-raising events. *Our next fund-raising event has been organised by Pat and Tony Daniels with an invitation to their open garden on two dates in June and July. Please see the box on the next page for further information and how to sign up to attend.*

If you would like to donate, you can do so:

- by bank transfer (sort code 09-01-51, account number 74188307), or
- by cheque made out to ‘St Giles Church Shipbourne’, or
- by placing cash or cheques in the yellow envelopes in Church, or
- by placing cash or cheques in the wall safe in the Church porch entrance.

Please include a reference ‘Appeal’ on bank transfer donations, on the back of cheques and on yellow envelopes so that we can track progress.

If you are a UK taxpayer, you can take advantage of Gift Aid and boost your donation by an extra 25%. To do this simply ask for a gift aid form from the Treasurer, Peter Sandland, or any of the Appeal Committee.

We have set up a CAF Donate page:

URL: <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/23053>  
which can be quickly accessed using the QR code below:



Thank you for your support. We will continue to keep you informed of progress.

**Paul Britton**  
**Chair, Appeal Committee**  
**Tel 365794; email [pauljjbritton@live.co.uk](mailto:pauljjbritton@live.co.uk)**

## **ST GILES' CHURCH RESTORATION APPEAL OPEN GARDEN EVENT**

Pat and Tony Daniels invite members of St Giles' congregation and choir to their garden on **June 24<sup>th</sup> or July 15<sup>th</sup>** - 20 people maximum for each date. Drinks and canapes will be served, and donations towards the Appeal Fund will be welcomed. The newly created garden will be open from 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. on both dates.

If you are able to join us on either date, would you kindly sign the sheet at the back of the church.

Address: 20, Leigh Road, Hildenborough TN11 9AB      Email  
[adaniels912@btinternet.com](mailto:adaniels912@btinternet.com)

## **United Benefice of Shipbourne with Plaxtol Community Bread Basket**



invites you to

**Shipbourne Village Hall**  
**Saturday 10th June 9.30-11am**

*All are welcome!*

Community Bread Basket (CBB) is an initiative set up by the United Benefice of Shipbourne with Plaxtol. Our aim has been to create a community 'hub' where everyone is welcome to share in our monthly café-style breakfast. We aim to create a relaxed, friendly atmosphere where neighbours and friends can spend time together over tea and coffee and food.

*Donations are gratefully accepted.*

## AN EVENING WITH MICHEL ROUX JR

On the evening of **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May**, Shipbourne welcomed Michel Roux Jr and his Le Gavroche team back to his childhood home for a fundraising dinner, cabaret and auction to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Shipbourne Farmers' Market.

The event took place in the garden of the Chaser Inn and the delicious menu was worked around local produce from the Farmers' Market stallholders, accompanied by wines from a selection of local vineyards.

Lara and Hal Cazalet performed a captivating cabaret show and the auction and raffle alone raised over £6,000 thanks to the generosity of the 168 guests who were lucky enough to secure tickets to the event.

All profits from the evening will be split between the St Giles' Church Restoration Appeal and two agricultural charities – The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI) and The Farming Community Network (FCN).

A very special night in Shipbourne!

Photographs from the evening can be viewed and purchased at:  
<https://timhewagephotography.com/roux-charity-dinner-2023/>



**Shipbourne Farmers' Market Manager Bob Taylor with Michel Roux Jr**

## SHIPBOURNE WI

The AGM for Shipbourne WI has taken place. There are a few changes to the Committee, with Helen Leach replacing Sue Streeter as Secretary and Gwen Pankhurst retiring from the Committee. Sue has done a great job for the past few years, and remains a Committee member. Gwen has been a long-standing and supportive Committee member; she will stay as a WI member where her cheerful advice will surely be sought. Barbara Jones remains as President, and Lindsay Creighton as Treasurer.

Members enjoyed the humorous address by the speaker on the subject of "Driving for Older Drivers". The videos were very useful and informative, with details about the current changes to regulations.

Next month's meeting will be on June 14<sup>th</sup>, when it is our Birthday Party, so tea and cake will predominate during the afternoon. It will also mark a start of the new programme of events for the year.

**Glynis Coates**

**PLAXTOL PEST  
AND WILDLIFE  
MANAGEMENT**

**Ciaran Payne**  
**07368 605762**

INFO@PLAXTOLPEST.CO.UK  
WWW.PLAXTOLPEST.CO.UK



**Coming soon to Sevenoaks, surrounding areas and the Eden Valley villages of Hever, Penshurst and Chiddingstone... Starting Friday 2 June until Sunday 18 June. Don't miss it!**  
**ART IN JUNE Open Studios [www.artinjune.org](http://www.artinjune.org)**

**Tour local artistic venues including The Barn at Falconhurst at Mark Beech, Jessops Farm & Chequers Cottages at Bough Beech, The Red House at Hever and The Old Dairy at Penshurst and many more!**  
**[www.artinjune.org](http://www.artinjune.org)**

### **South East Open Studios June Art by Trisha Barton**

This June along with many other artists and craftspeople in the South East I will be exhibiting and selling a range of my paintings, prints, cards and other items from my home, Glengarth, Roughway Lane, TN11 9SH (near the Kentish Rifleman) on **2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 16 & 17 June. 10:00 - 4:00pm**

Tea, coffee and homemade cakes will be served and I will be on hand to answer any questions; you may even catch me working on a painting. So pop in and take a look, Check out other exhibitors in our area in the SEOS guide and support local artists.

[www.seos-art.org/seos-studio-guide-2023](http://www.seos-art.org/seos-studio-guide-2023)  
Follow me on [www.facebook.com/barton.trisha](https://www.facebook.com/barton.trisha)

### **LOCAL ARTISTS WELCOME VISITORS IN JUNE**

South East Open Studios (SEOS), the 17-day event celebrating creative talent, returns this summer from Friday 2nd to Sunday 18th June.

SEOS marks a great opportunity for the art-loving public to engage with their local visual arts community, with many artists demonstrating their craft, offering tuition and selling their work. Visitors can expect to meet artists and makers in their studios and exhibition spaces and hear the story behind their journey. It's a fantastic opportunity to explore everything this part of the world has to offer and build likeminded connections with new people and talented creatives.

The event will host a wealth of artistic talent working across a variety of different media, from painting, printmaking and pottery, to ceramics and sculpture, jewellery making and silversmithing, glass and woodwork, textile art, digital work, illustration, mixed media and more.

Locally, 24 artists in Tonbridge, Hildenborough, Hadlow, Brenchley and Penshurst will be part of an Art Trail to guide visitors from one studio to the next. A special walking trail has been devised in Hadlow, in conjunction with Walk Tonbridge. This year it will lead visitors to four venues in the village featuring 16 artists with refreshment stops along the way - creating an idyllic summer adventure for families and art-lovers alike. Full details can be found at [www.walktonbridge.co.uk/hadlow-art-trail](http://www.walktonbridge.co.uk/hadlow-art-trail). Since 2020, Walk Tonbridge has helped thousands of visitors to discover local walks with easy to follow routes to explore the beautiful countryside and fascinating history in and around Tonbridge.

Look out for the full colour Open Studios brochures giving opening times and more details for each artist, as well as local Art Trail leaflets. Copies will be available at lots of local venues including libraries, tourist offices, cafes, pubs, shops and supermarkets as well as ArtSpring Gallery in Tonbridge High Street.

Offering up something for everyone to enjoy, the initiative has grown to be one of the biggest Open Studios events in the UK over the past 25 years, echoed by support of the public and local artists and makers. To find out more, please visit the SEOS website. [www.seos-art.org](http://www.seos-art.org)



**Summer of Tudors**  
at Ightham Mote

National Trust

With five weeks of exciting Tudor displays, trails, performances and activities, there's something for the whole family to enjoy at Ightham Mote this Summer of Tudors.

We're kicking off with Tudor Festival Weekend on the 29th and 30th July.  
Enjoy some hands-on history demonstrations every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9th August.  
We're finishing off the summer in style on the 2th and 3th of Septmeber with a magnificent weekend of Tudor-inspired archery, falconry, and bird of prey displays.

© National Trust 2019 Registered Charity no. 205846. Photography © Holly Halford

To discover more about our offer, please visit [nationaltrust.org.uk/ightham-mote/whats-on](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/ightham-mote/whats-on) or call 01732 810378

## SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

The contact details for the Parish Council are:

Shipbourne Parish Council  
Clerk – Mrs Sarah Huseyin  
Gable Cottage  
Ismays Road  
Ightham TN15 9BE  
e-mail: [shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 01732 886402

**NEW PARISH COUNCIL - Following an uncontested election, Cllrs Redman, Sheldrick, Dagger, Leach and Oram have been returned to Shipbourne Parish Council. At the Parish meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May, Cllr Redman was elected Chair and Cllr Sheldrick elected Vice Chair. Our new Borough Councillors for Bourne Ward are Councillor Lark and Councillor Crisp.**

## PARISH MEETINGS

The Parish Council meetings *usually* take place on the second Monday of each month (except August) at 7pm and the agenda will be posted a few days beforehand on the noticeboard in the bus shelter opposite The Chaser and on the Parish website. If you have anything that you would like to raise or would like to join the meeting, please email the Parish Clerk [shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com). Please visit our website [www.shipbourne.com](http://www.shipbourne.com) for further details. **Our next meeting will be on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June, Our Annual Parish Meeting this year will be held in September.**

## CLIMATE CHANGE

### Update from Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan Launch

Shipbourne Parish Council officially launched their *Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan* at the Parish Council meeting on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February. Cllr Bate gave a short presentation which was very well attended by around 25 members of the public and representatives from Shipbourne, Plaxtol and Platt Parish Councils.

The *Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan* is now available on our website under Policy or via the Parish Clerk at [shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com)



**Music at the Mote**  
The Dial Band

29 July - 6:30pm  
£15 per ticket

National Trust

To see what other things we have going on at Ightham Mote this year please visit [nationaltrust.org.uk/ightham-mote/whats-on](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/ightham-mote/whats-on) or call 01732 810378

**If you would like to be involved in a Climate Change Action Group, Climate Action Shipbourne (CAS) please contact the Parish Clerk.** If you would like to get involved, please do join us at our next meeting which will be on **Monday 20th June at 7.00pm in Shipbourne Village Hall.**

#### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS – APRIL**

<https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/planning-applications-appeals/planning-view-comment-planning-applications>

*Please note that the Parish Council receives Planning Applications via **List B** each Monday and has a strict 21 day deadline to respond. The deadline may have already passed by the time this newsletter is published. If you would like to receive planning applications for Shipbourne, please sign up to alerts on the TMBC website.*

#### **Planning Applications**

**TM/23/00735/TNCA** - The Chaser, Stumble Hill, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9PE. T1/T2 Large weeping Willow and Apple at either end of outdoor seating area of The Chaser Pub. Prune back overhanging branches by approx 2M to allow space for 21m Marquee to be erected below. Lift remaining crown up to 3M to balance shape where required. "No objection."

**TM/23/00780/LRD** - Shipbourne House- Stumble Hill- Shipbourne Tonbridge Kent TN11 9PE Details of condition 4b (Details of roof tiles) Pursuant to Planning permission TM/22/00853/LB Listed Building Application: Renew front right-hand gate to match existing. Remove existing front bolted on section of garage, renew to match existing and replace it's feather edged roof with tiles. Repair defective pointing in numerous locations and renew some defective brickwork in places where faces have eroded. "No comment"

**TM/23/00839/FL** - Ambleside, Reeds Lane, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9RR. New detached house and garage with new driveway access to replace bungalow previously approved under ref TM/22/02492/FL.

#### **Planning Applications Approved by TMBC**

*Parish Council comments on planning applications are available on the T&M website and on the Shipbourne website in the Minutes. If you do not have access to the internet please contact the Parish Clerk or your local Parish Councillor for a copy.*

**TM/23/00735/TNCA** - T1/T2 Large weeping Willow and Apple at either end of outdoor seating area of The Chaser Pub. Prune back overhanging branches by approx 2M to allow space for 21m Marquee to be erected below. Lift remaining crown up to 3M to balance shape where required. The Chaser, Stumble Hill, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9PE.

#### **Planning Applications Refused by TMBC**

**TM/23/00365/FL**- Part one/ part two storey side extension (Revision to refused application TM/22/00335/FL). 1 Silverhill Cottages, Dunks Green Road, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9RU.

#### **Sign up for news from Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council**

Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council is launching an email newsletter to help keep residents and partner organisations up to date with important news from around the borough. The newsletter will cover things like:

- Local Plan updates and consultations
- Information about leisure, parks and open spaces
- Community events
- Finance and policy changes, including council tax

**Residents wishing to register to receive the newsletter should visit** <https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/council/newsletter>

And a reminder that you can also get real time updates to your phone on issues with bin collections and other important news by signing up for our app and clicking yes to notifications.

**Further details on the app here:**

<https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/council/download-app>





Our friendly group is one of 13 Ramblers groups in Kent and part of the national Ramblers walking organisation. We explore the beautiful countryside of Tonbridge and Malling and surrounding areas.

Walks usually start mid-morning. There's a short break half-way through (bring refreshments) and we usually finish near a pub.

For details of all our mid-week and Sunday walks, start times and locations, and walk leader contacts, see [www.tonbridgeandmallingsramblers.org.uk](http://www.tonbridgeandmallingsramblers.org.uk).

Sunday 4 June	An undulating circular walk over the Greensand Ridge from Westerham to Chartwell and back to French Street. Excellent views of the North Downs. Moderate difficulty.	5.3 miles
Thursday 8 June	Barming to East Malling: mainly flat circular walk through orchards and woodlands with some fine views of the North Downs. Moderate difficulty.	5 miles
Sunday 11 June	From Penshurst we'll descend to the Medway and follow the river to Fordcombe before the climb back. Scenic views of Walter's Green and Stonewall Park. Moderate difficulty.	5.6 miles
Sunday 18 June	Groombridge to Ashurst: circular walk passing Groombridge Place and the Burrswood estate enjoying open farmland and valley views. Includes sections of the Wealdway, Sussex Border Path and the Forest Way. Moderate difficulty; one steep climb and 5 stiles.	7 miles
Sunday 25 June	Circular walk from Yalding with one fairly steep section up to the ridge before dropping down to Wateringbury and following the Medway back to Yalding. Moderate difficulty.	6 miles
Wednesday 28 June	An evening stroll around Yalding. Flat, easy, no stiles.	4 miles



'No Mow May' is a campaign by the charity Plantlife to let your lawn grow throughout May and provide a carpet of flowers for our pollinators to feed on. Even leaving a small patch of your lawn uncut will make a big difference.

Kent's Plan Bee team have been busy working with even more KCC departments to get them to not mow some of the land they manage for May.

Now, we want to know how this links into the wider Kent landscape and see who else is taking part in No Mow May. Whether a garden or allotment, or you're a business or landowner looking to pledge a larger piece of land, we want to hear what you have planned!

For more information, resources and to make your pledge visit [www.kent.gov.uk/nomowmay](http://www.kent.gov.uk/nomowmay)

#### **Kent County Council's Pollinator Action Plan**

Working in partnership between Kent County Council, Kent Wildlife Trust and Bumblebee Conservation Trust

Visit our webpage: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/nature-and-biodiversity/pollinators/kents-plan-bee-pollinator-action-plan>

#### **Tonbridge and Malling Community Development Grant Scheme**

Tonbridge and Malling Community Development Grant Scheme launched today. The scheme (funded from UK Shared Prosperity Fund) will run until **Friday 16 June**. Applications are welcome from voluntary and community groups as well as parish and town councils. Priorities for funding, guidance notes and the online application form are all available via the website: <https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/business/community-development-grant-scheme/1>

If you have any questions about the scheme, please email [communitygrant@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:communitygrant@tmbc.gov.uk)

## THE WEATHER IN APRIL

Weather, the average day temp. was 19.1<sup>o</sup>c, the average night temp. was 4.4<sup>o</sup>c, the highest day was Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> with 24<sup>o</sup>c, the lowest night was Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> with -2.0<sup>o</sup>c, the total rainfall was 149.5mm, this is the highest April rainfall in over 30 years (my records) also higher than last month, the average rainfall over the past 30 years was 52.48mm, the highest month being April this year (149.5mm) and the lowest being April 2021 with 3.0mm, on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> we had 35mm of rain (nearly 1.5 inches), with 25mm (1.0 inches) falling in just over an hour.

**Lionel Stielow**

## JULY NEWSLETTER

Please send any articles and adverts for the July Newsletter by **15th June 2023.**

A digital version of the Newsletter is also uploaded on [www.shipbourne.com](http://www.shipbourne.com).

Please email articles to [lindsay\\_miles@btinternet.com](mailto:lindsay_miles@btinternet.com) or call 01732 810439.

## USED STAMPS FOR THE R.N.I.B

I would like to thank everyone who has left used postage stamps at the back of the Church. It has taken over a year to collect sufficient stamps to weigh a total in excess of 1 kilo, but I have now managed to achieve this. 1 kilo of stamps should raise £20 for the RNIB, so I think it is a worthwhile thing to do.

So please keep collecting for me.

**Jenny Porter**

## JUNE AT SHIPBOURNE FARMERS MARKET

We celebrated our 20th anniversary of our Farmers Market last month with a meal prepared by a well known chef who was born in Shipbourne and spent his first 6 years in Shipbourne - Michel Roux Jr. Michel's father, Albert, was the chef at the Fairlawne Estate and Michel grew up exploring the area around the village and spending a year at Shipbourne school until they left to open up their restaurant in London.



Our objective was for Michel to prepare a memorable meal using produce from the Farmers Market which gave our producers a chance to display the quality and variety of the local produce they sell at the Farmers Market week in week out and, we hope, it will persuade you to buy more from the market. Another benefit of the meal is that it enables us to earn funds to both give to agricultural charities and help pay for urgent renovations in St Giles.

With such a slow start this year growers and producers are now at full stretch as we lead up to the summer solstice in the latter half of June. The benefits of buying locally at a market are wide ranging, not only will you get the chance to taste before you buy but by going directly to the source you can find out at first hand how the produce was grown or made. Our producers will be able to give you storing and cooking tips so you can really make the most of your purchase. Remember that when you are buying locally and seasonally, you will find quality and fresher produce than you find at supermarkets and often cheaper so don't fall for the idea that markets are an expensive luxury.

Asparagus is now at its finest but picking finishes by the end of the month to allow the plants to generate growth for next year so make the most of the green spears while they are around now. Eat your local asparagus traditionally, steamed and served with melted butter, or brush with olive oil and griddle the spears on the barbecue until tender then scattered with shavings of a sharp hard cheese.

Other veg to look out for are crisp radishes, spring onions, spinach, and of course **new potatoes**. There are also **early cucumbers, runner beans, spinach and courgettes**, alongside all kinds of salad leaves now in season.

The long days and the warmth also herald the start of the great English soft fruit season with **strawberries** – one of the great advantages of local markets is the chance to try some of the finer flavoured varieties, rather than the more robust berries grown to withstand the rigours of the supermarket supply chain. **Cherries** are also available now (Kentish cherries are justifiably world famous), as are gooseberries and early **raspberries**. A favourite way to serve raspberries, cherries and strawberries is to crush them slightly, sprinkle with a little cherry brandy and sugar, then leave to macerate for an hour. Serve spooned over vanilla ice cream.

**Spring lamb** is now at its very finest now and a boned-out shoulder or leg is perfect on the barbecue or simply roasted and served with baby new potatoes and minted broad beans and peas.

On the fish front it really has to be **mackerel** – and cooked the same day to enjoy at its very best. Try it the traditional way for the month – grilled and served with a tart **gooseberry** sauce.

Mussels are also available to order at the market. If you have never cooked them please try Rosemary Williams version (from her 'Prep That Fish' recipe book).

## COOKERY CORNER

### MUSSELS

*Serves 4 adults as a meal*

- 4lb/2kg live mussels, cleaned, prepared (all shells closed)
- 4fl oz/100ml white wine
- 4 sticks of celery
- 1 pint/½ litre vegetable stock
- 3oz/85 grams unsalted butter
- 2 or 3 cloves of garlic
- ½ handful fresh chopped parsley
- ¼ teaspoon ground white pepper
- lemon
- 1 loaf fresh, crusty e.g. sourdough bread

### Method

1. Gently melt butter at medium heat in a large saucepan, crush the garlic, add to the butter and gently cook.
2. Clean and thinly slice the celery across the stems.
3. Add the stock to the butter and garlic, then add celery and pepper
4. Allow to simmer for 7 minutes with the lid off.
5. Add the closed mussels, allow to cook for about 2-3 minutes with the lid on.
6. Add wine to the saucepan, return to simmer with the lid off.
7. When all or most of the mussels are open, it is ready. Discard any mussels not open. Gently mix in some of the chopped parsley
8. Ladle into the warm serving bowls sprinkle some of the parsley on the top
9. Serve each bowl immediately with a lemon quarter and some bread

*Rosemary Williams: Author of 'Prep That Fish': [www.prepthatfish.co.uk](http://www.prepthatfish.co.uk)  
Rosemary grew up with a family background in a seafood environment.*



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## FROM YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

It has been an incredibly busy couple of months with the Kings Coronation and the Local Elections.

Firstly, it was an honour and a privilege to attend the Coronation, it was a moment that will no doubt go down in history and I hope that I represented everybody across Tonbridge & Malling.

It was also fantastic to see so many people across our community exercise their right to vote in the Local Elections. Having a say at election time gives us the opportunity to influence how we want our communities to thrive and it is always a positive to see us turn out in our numbers.

It is incredibly important that we all have a say in how our communities are run and I am looking forward to working with the new administrations at both Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and Sevenoaks District Council. I am confident that they will both deliver what is best for us and I will ensure that I am there at all stages to assist them in my role as your local MP.

It is also worth remembering the many councillors, from all parties, that were unsuccessful in seeking re-election. I know many of them have done some excellent work for our local communities and we will be worse off without them.

However, it is now time to look ahead to deliver for everybody, I am looking forward to seeing what both TMBC and SDC bring forward over the coming months and years.

Best wishes  
Tom

**Tom Tugendhat**  
**Member of Parliament for Tonbridge and Malling**



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For Village Hall **enquiries and bookings** please call 01732 811144 or

07762 241720 or email [shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com](mailto:shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com)

Further details can be found on the Shipbourne website

[www.shipbourne.com](http://www.shipbourne.com)

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All revenue raised from Shipbourne Classifieds goes towards St Giles and the printing costs of the Newsletter.

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