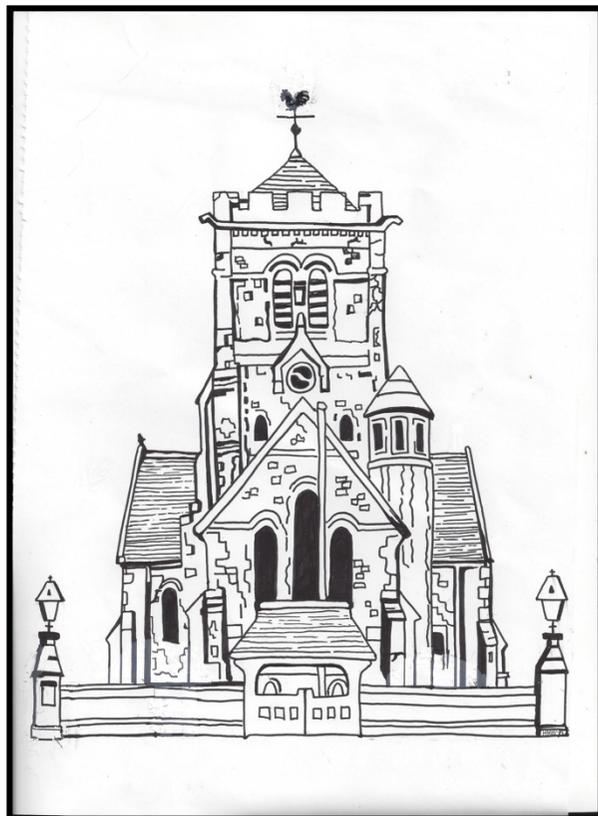


✦ *St Giles and Shipbourne* ✦  
**NEWSLETTER**



✦ *December 2022* ✦

**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 http://shipbourne.com/st-giles-church/  
 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 P Sandland 07866 588856  
 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 shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com  
 Chair: Nick Tyler 811079  
 Councillors: S Oram V Redman P Leach  
 J Sheldrick, J Bate A Dagger

**VILLAGE WEBSITE** www.shipbourne.com

**SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL**

Head: Mrs Terri Daters TDaters@bournepartnership.org

**SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL**

Chairman: Curtis Galbraith 763115 shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com  
 Bookings: Helen Leach 811144

**SHIPBOURNE FARMERS' MARKET**

Manager: Bob Taylor 833976

**SHIPBOURNE WI**

President Barbara Jones 811152 b.jones162@btinternet.com

**SHIPBOURNE CRICKET CLUB**

Secretary: Mark Fenton

**PLAXTOL & SHIPBOURNE TENNIS CLUB**

Membership: Cilla Langdon-Down 810338

**SHIPBOURNE HOUSING TRUST LTD**

Chairman: Alan Bristow  
 Hon Secretary John Playle 810562 johndanjanetp@gmail.com

**ST GILES' AND SHIPBOURNE NEWSLETTER**

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

### PARISH DIARY – DECEMBER 2022

**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>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>		<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11.00am	Family Service with Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Isaiah 11: 1-10; Romans 15: 4-13; Matthew 3: 1-12
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne, with carols by Shipbourne School choir</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>		<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Matins at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11.00am	Parish Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings	Isaiah 35: 1-10; James 5: 7-10; Matthew 11: 2-11
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne, with carols by Tonbridge Community Singers</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30-11am	Community Bread Basket "Potter for Christmas" in Plaxtol Church
		3pm for 3.15pm	"Bethlehem Live" from Fairlawne Gate on School Lane to Rectory
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>		<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Family Nativity Service at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11.00am	Community@11 "Build your own Christingle" at Plaxtol Church with refreshments at 10.30am
		<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>Carol Service at Plaxtol Church</b>
		Readings:	Isaiah 7: 10-16; Romans 1: 1-7; Matthew 1: 18-end

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>"Carols and Sketches" at the Kentish Rifleman</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Christmas "Pick Up" Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>Carol Service at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>Christmas Eve</b>		<b>11.30pm</b>	<b>Midnight Choral Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		Readings:	Isaiah 52: 7-10; Hebrews 1: 1-4; John 1: 1-14
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>Christmas Day</b>		<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Family Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11.00am	Family Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Luke 2: 1-20
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>NO FARMERS MARKET</b> <b>Market reopens on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023</b>

## Gardens of England

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[www.gardens-of-england.co.uk](http://www.gardens-of-england.co.uk)

## PASTORAL LETTER

### Advent and Christmas

This year Christmas day falls on a Sunday, which means that Advent is longest it can be, beginning on **27<sup>th</sup> Nov**. As well as our usual morning services there will be an **Advent Carol Service** to really get us in the mood for our preparations. This year it's at **Shipbourne at 6pm**.



The Christmas story, or 'Nativity', can be told in different ways and in many different places. Our **'Bethlehem Live!'** event will have a slightly different twist this year, beginning at the gate to the Fairlawne Estate on School Lane (the one by their Lime Tree Avenue) at **3.15 on Sat 17<sup>th</sup>**, and walking to the church, with songs, a story, Sonny the Donkey and refreshments to finish. Come in costume if you like: angels, shepherds, wise men (and women) welcome! The morning service at Shipbourne on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> at 9.30pm will be a Nativity, too**.

Many people enjoy a **Christingle** Service (that the one where you're given an orange with a ribbon round it, a candle on the top and sweets on cocktail sticks). It's a tradition of the Moravian Church that was adopted by the Children's Society and another way of telling the good news of Christmas. **Plaxtol will be holding a Christingle on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> at 11am**.

Carol Services are a real 'staple' – if rather more formal. We've struggled a bit with how to hold these safely, the last couple of years having been rather dominated by Covid. We plan to go ahead this year, but who can tell where we'll be in three weeks' time? Nevertheless: **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> at Plaxtol, 5pm; Christmas Eve (Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>) at Shipbourne, 5pm**.

Last year we tried a new venue for telling the Christmas story, namely the **Kentish Rifleman**, and we've been welcomed back: Carol and Sketches at **5pm on Tues 20<sup>th</sup>** (Book with the pub if you want to stay for 'Pie and a Pint'.

The **midnight service** is always a 'golden' moment. This year it will be at **Shipbourne, beginning at 11.30pm**. Mark, our Curate will be preaching and celebrating in this his first year as a priest. On **Christmas morning**, since it falls on a Sunday, there will be a 'said' service at **8am at Shipbourne**, and Family Communion at the usual times: **9.30 at Shipbourne and 11.00am at Plaxtol**.

*Every blessing for a happy Christmas  
Peter & Donna*

# *Bethlehem Live!*

*A fresh telling of the Christmas Nativity  
with songs, a story, Sonny the Donkey, and a baby.  
Come in costume - angels, stars, shepherds, magi...  
All Welcome!*

*We will begin at Fairlawne Gate, on School Lane,  
and finish at Plaxtol Parish Church with refreshments.*

*Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December - 3.15pm*

Community Bread Basket...

invites you to

'Potter for Christmas'

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec - 9:30-11:00

at Plaxtol Church



- Chocolate Yule Log and Mince Pies
- Singalong to Christmas Carols
- Write a Christmas message to remember loved ones and put it on our parish Christmas tree
- Watch local groups decorate church window scenes

#### **FOODBANK COLLECTIONS FOR ALL SAINTS' COMMUNITY PROJECT, CHATHAM**

Due to lockdown restrictions it has been difficult to support our link church All Saints', Chatham with food products. However, we are now able to resume our support and, now more than ever, our help is needed.

The All Saints' Community Project helps individuals and families who have an urgent need for food. They also have ongoing projects, groups and a café through which they support people. For more information on the project please visit their website: [www.allsaintscommunityproject.org.uk](http://www.allsaintscommunityproject.org.uk)

#### **Here's how we can help:**

- Each month: with Community Bread Basket (CBB), we will have boxes out in both Shipbourne and Plaxtol Churches for the collection of food items.
- The money raised by the sale of books at CBB will go into a fund that provides a free hot breakfast to those who otherwise couldn't afford it.

Thank you for your help

**Donna Hayler**

#### **ROUX RETURNS TO SHIPBOURNE AGAIN**

**16<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023 – SAVE THE DATE!**

We are very excited to announce that Michel Roux Jr and his culinary team will be returning to Shipbourne on **16<sup>th</sup> May 2023** to cook up another culinary experience evening in the grounds of The Chaser Inn. The evening will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> birthday of Shipbourne Farmers' Market and will focus on produce from the stallholders to create the menu.

In the past we have been lucky enough to run much of the event on the goodwill of local firms donating key items such as the marquee hire and furniture. If you are able to help in any way with the supply of such items, know a local firm who would be happy to supply or indeed are a local business who would be willing to sponsor the event, in exchange for advertising and branding, then please contact Bob Taylor on 07768 643614. Likewise, if you are able to donate any lots for the popular silent auction which takes place during the evening please let the team know.

And finally, if you are able to volunteer some time to help with the organising of this event, please step forward.

Further details of the evening, including ticket applications, will feature in the next Newsletter. In the meantime, please save the date!

#### ***The Roux Dinner Team***

***Bob Taylor, Viv Packer, Lindsay Miles***

***Email: [rouxdinner@gmail.com](mailto:rouxdinner@gmail.com)***

#### **A MESSAGE FROM SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL PTA**

It's been a few days since the annual firework event that we host to raise funds for the school, and we wanted to extend our deepest gratitude to all of the Shipbourne residents. We know that our event causes the village to become very crowded for 2-3 hours, we really do appreciate your support and tolerance during this time.

This year the event raised over £7,000 which will impact the school substantially! Sorry again for the disruption caused and thank you for supporting such a worthy cause.

***Shipbourne School PTA***

## SHIPBOURNE WI

Our Bookworms' Bonanza proved to be a considerable success, and we were delighted that it was so well supported. Great thanks must go to the members who worked so hard and contributed cakes and time, and particular thanks to Peter Leach who designed and created the hanging bookshelves.

Members at the monthly meeting were hugely entertained by Maurice Chittenden, who gave a talk on The Great Train Robbers, the robbery having happened 60 years ago next year. It was a Royal Mail Train, with approximately two and a half million pounds stolen. The robbery caught Maurice's imagination and inspired him to become a journalist. During his career he had spoken to some of the robbers, and although only one tenth of the money was recovered, it wasn't obvious that anyone really profited from the crime.

Book Club meets before Christmas, when we shall discuss a moving book by Ian McEwan called The Children Act.

Two social events are planned for December. There will be a lunch at The View in Tonbridge, and a party on 14th December.

The next Committee Meeting will be on 4th January, and the main meeting at 2.00pm on 11th January, when the speaker will be Dee Larcombe who will talk about her five years living and nursing in India.

On behalf of Shipbourne WI, may I wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a joyful New Year.

**Glynis Coates**



**FOLLOW SHIPBOURNE ON FACEBOOK FOR VILLAGE  
NEWS, INFORMATION AND EVENTS**

@shipbournevillage



**Get together this  
Christmas**

# Tudor Christmas at Ightham Mote

*26th November - 8th January*

Celebrate the festive season at Ightham Mote with a magnificent Tudor Christmas.

Explore the rich history of our 700-year-old moated manor house. With a roaring fire, wandering Tudor musicians, traditional carols in our courtyard and crafting workshops, there's plenty for the whole family to discover and enjoy.

Marvel at our stunning hand-painted Tudor Chapel, fully adorned with the sights, scents and sounds of a festive Tudor mass for the first time in 500 years.

To discover more about our christmas offer, please visit  
<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ightham-mote>  
Or call 01732 810378 to find out more

Scan me!



## TMBC GARDEN WASTE COLLECTIONS WITH EFFECT FROM 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER ONWARDS

If you haven't already been contacted by Tonbridge and Malling please note that with effect from the week beginning 28<sup>th</sup> November the days on which your **BROWN BIN - GARDEN WASTE** is collected may change. If you have not already been contacted, please check with the local authority either by phone or through the website, [Changes to garden waste collections – Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council](#) to verify how this will affect you.

For those in the Village that have their collections on a Thursday your BROWN BIN will be collected on the same day (EVERY OTHER THURSDAY) as your general waste BLACK BIN.

On the days when your GREEN BIN is collected it will only be the recycling ie GREEN BIN, PAPER & CARDBOARD.

Could we also ask ALL residents to please **NOT** leave your bins out for longer than absolutely necessary. We are all very lucky to live in an AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY and waste bins left out at the side of the road for days on end is not at all attractive. Please therefore take your bins inside as soon as

**Peter Leach**

**SAMARITANS**  
Sevenoaks

# Volunteer with us

There are many ways you can help  
We're known for our listening volunteers, but our unique service is delivered by a wider team. We value the skills that each volunteer brings and have a range of opportunities available.

We will train, mentor and support you all the way  
To find out more and apply, visit [samaritans.org/volunteer](http://samaritans.org/volunteer)

Email [sevenoaks.recruitment@samaritans.org](mailto:sevenoaks.recruitment@samaritans.org)  
Sevenoaks Samaritans is part of Samaritans, a registered charity.

The poster features a central circular diagram divided into six segments, each with an icon and a label: Administration and finance (pencil), Recruitment and training (umbrella), IT and web support (globe), Marketing (megaphone), Fundraising (piggy bank), and Listening (mobile phone).

## 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

## 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. **Please note the December meeting will be held a week later on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm**

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS – NOVEMBER

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

## CLIMATE CHANGE

Shipbourne Parish Council declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 and are working towards net Zero by 2030. The Parish Council are putting together an audit and have found that our carbon footprint is low. Milage for Parish business is minimal as most Councillors walk to the meetings or only travel a short distance. Many external meeting and training sessions are now held virtually which had reduced the milage considerably. We only meet 11 times a year so use a minimal amount of electricity in the village hall. Councillors have been encouraged to view meeting papers online so we have also reduced the amount of paper and printing ink that we use. If you want to work out your carbon footprint, there are many resources online.

**At our October meeting, we adopted a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan and this will be available on our website or via Parish Clerk [shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com)**

## SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL – TRUSTEES NEEDED

We are still looking for Trustees for Shipbourne Village Hall, please contact [shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com](mailto:shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com) or [shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com).



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.

You don't have to be a Ramblers member to try out a couple of walks with us, to help you decide if you'd like to join. Advance booking is not required; you can just turn up on the day. If you are new to our walks, it's a good idea to contact the walk leader beforehand to check that their walk will suit you. Always check our website for latest details, including any late changes due to weather or other conditions.

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

For full details of our walks and walk leader contacts, see [www.tonbridgeandmallinghamblers.org.uk](http://www.tonbridgeandmallinghamblers.org.uk) or email [info@tonbridgeandmallinghamblers.org.uk](mailto:info@tonbridgeandmallinghamblers.org.uk)

Thursday 8 December	Leisurely circular walk from Shipbourne Common to Underriver. Includes 17 stiles!	5.6 miles
Thursday 15 December	Leisurely circular walk from Wrotham to Trottiscliffe; mainly flat with some road walking.	6 miles

Sunday 18 December	A circular walk in beautiful countryside around Plaxtol. Moderate difficulty	5 miles
Wednesday 28 December	Leisurely circular walk from West Peckham along the Greensand Way and Oxon Hoath estate with fine views of Hadlow Tower. Return via farmland, orchards and the Wealdway.	6.7 miles

## KENT COUNTRY PARKS DRAFT STRATEGY 2023-2028



Kent Country Parks

Hello,

Today, we launch a consultation on the new Kent Country Parks Strategy.

We are privileged to own and manage a range of Country Parks and countryside sites which contain some of the highest quality natural habitats and landscapes that Kent has to offer.

The draft five-year strategy sets out how we intend to protect and manage these natural environments at the same time as providing high quality opportunities for individuals, families and communities to play, learn and relax.

We would like to hear your views to ensure that we do all we can to meet the needs and expectations of Kent residents.

Visit <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/countryparksstrategy> before the 12 December to find out more.

Kind regards,  
**KCC's Engagement and Consultation Team**  
[consultation@kent.gov.uk](mailto:consultation@kent.gov.uk)

## **TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (LOCAL PLANNING) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012**

Update to the Kent Mineral Sites Plan 2020  
Call for Sites – Hard Rock

An update to the Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan is being undertaken which would extend the Plan period to 2038. Following review of data on mineral reserves and sales across the county, a need has arisen to identify an additional site(s) for the working of hard rock, in order that the Plan can make adequate mineral provision over this period.

Therefore, an update to the Kent Mineral Sites Plan is proposed with the intention to allocate a site(s) for the extraction of hard rock. At this time, only additional capacity is needed for hard rock and there is no requirement for any other mineral sites to be provided. No changes are proposed to the existing site allocations in the Kent Minerals Sites Plan. These allocations are still required to meet aggregate needs for the plan period.

The County Council is now giving relevant stakeholders and interested parties an opportunity to propose sites for the allocation of a hard rock quarry to meet the identified need. This part of the local plan preparation is known as a 'Call for Sites'.

Details how to submit a site for consideration and how sites are to be assessed are available on the County Council's website: [www.kent.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste](http://www.kent.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste).

The Call for Sites runs from Monday 24th October 2022 until midnight on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

Submissions can be made via our website [www.kent.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste](http://www.kent.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste), via email to [mwlp@kent.gov.uk](mailto:mwlp@kent.gov.uk) or by post to Minerals and Waste Planning Policy, 1st Floor, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Minerals and Waste Planning Policy team via 03000 422370 or [mwlp@kent.gov.uk](mailto:mwlp@kent.gov.uk)

## **GARDEN WASTE COLLECTIONS**

In November there will be changes to the garden waste collection rounds.

In the current fortnightly cycle, collections are carried out in Tunbridge Wells on the alternate week. Across Tonbridge and Malling, the crews empty nearly 30,000 garden waste bins in each week that the current schedule operates in our area. As the service has grown in popularity, some areas and days of the week have seen much bigger increases than others in the number of bins which have to be emptied and as more people sign up for the service the imbalance is likely to become worse. This imbalance has led to some crews being unable to complete rounds on the busiest days. Catching up on incomplete rounds has then caused further delays to other collections.

The proposed changes to the existing collection rounds will make them more balanced and spread the workload more evenly across the week. In addition, a change we are making with Tunbridge Wells BC is that garden waste crews will now work exclusively in one borough, meaning they will have a smaller area to collect from and so should gain a better understanding of the intricacies of the rounds and where bins are collected from each property.

Subscribers may have a change of collection day for their garden waste collections, but not everyone will be affected. TMBC will be sending an email or letter to every subscriber to explain the change. This will inform them when their new collection day will be, and the first collection under the new rounds.

These changes begin from w/c Monday 21 November 2022, and will only affect garden waste collections. There will be no changes to the existing collection days for recycling, food waste & refuse. TMBC will begin sending emails & letters to subscribers from Tuesday 1 November 2022.

## **£500,000 BUSINESS BOOST TO COMBAT SLOWDOWN Grants to be offered to rural businesses and retail centres**

Rural businesses and retail centres across Tonbridge and Malling are set to benefit from more than £500,000 of investment being planned by the borough council.

The cash will come in the form of two types of grant which will support innovation and help traders survive the economic slowdown. One will focus on backing rural businesses and community projects while the other will help fund improvements to shop fronts in towns and villages. The schemes are due to launch in 2023 and are in addition to a previously announced **£1m in funding for borough improvements.**

Cabinet members last night approved proposals to access £447,450 earmarked for Tonbridge and Malling in the government's Rural England Prosperity Fund. The council is proposing to offer grants of up to £25,000 to rural enterprises which are developing new products and services, including farms looking to diversify income streams. The grants will generally be available to fund up to 50 per cent of project costs, rising to 80 per cent in exceptional circumstances for community projects.

The shop front improvement scheme will have a budget of £102,000 drawn from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and business rates. It builds on the success of a similar initiative run from 2019 to 2021 which saw 31 independent businesses supported. Under the new scheme, retailers will be able to apply for a grant to meet 60 per cent of improvement costs, up to a maximum of £3,500.

Cllr Vivian Branson, cabinet member for economic regeneration, said: 'The tough economic outlook is affecting businesses everywhere but rural enterprises and smaller independent retail outlets are particularly vulnerable when people reduce their spending.'

'These grants will help support innovation, stimulate our rural communities and keep our high streets looking attractive for shoppers. I very much look forward to launching these schemes next year and seeing them deliver benefits which will be felt right across the local economy.'

## **FROM KENT POLICE**

### **Telephone fraudsters target Tonbridge pensioners**

Tonbridge residents are reminded to be vigilant after phone fraudsters posing as police officers made attempts to trick pensioners into revealing their bank details.

On Friday 18 November 2022, three older people living in the town centre area were contacted by a person, who falsely claimed they worked for the Metropolitan Police.

Two victims were told someone had been arrested trying to use a cloned bank card in their name and the third was advised a criminal was trying to use a cloned card in a jewellers in London.

All became suspicious, refused to pass any bank details over the phone and terminated the calls.

A fourth pensioner was called on Monday 20 November by a criminal with a similar account, saying a person was in custody at Hammersmith police station. Once again, the victim was alert to the attempted fraud and ended the call.

Detective Chief Inspector Rik Spicer said: 'These conmen will often try and alarm you by saying there has been fraudulent activity on your bank account, or they have arrested someone using a cloned card in your name.'

'In these cases, the victims correctly became suspicious, and the calls were ended before any information was passed to the fraudsters. A police force will never ask a member of the public for their bank details or money over the phone, and if you receive one of these calls I would advise you hang up immediately.'

### **Further advice**

- If you are not confident a person claiming to be a police officer is genuine, ask to take their details and then end the call.
- Wait for at least five minutes for the call to clear and then contact 101, or 999 in an emergency. A call handler will be able to verify whether your caller was genuine
- Never hand over any money, or other items, to a courier after receiving this type of call.

Anybody with information regarding these incidents is urged to call Kent Police on 01622 604100, quoting reference 20-1077.

You can also contact Action Fraud on 0300 1232040, or report suspicious activity online by visiting their website.

The matter can also be reported to Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555111 or by using the online form on their website.

## **222 BUS SERVICE From KCC Public Transport**

Dear 222 Parishes

As you will be aware Bus Service 222 is provided on a largely commercial basis by Autocar who operate the majority of the service outside of any contract with KCC and without any subsidy. KCC currently fund later journeys on a Monday to Friday and the Saturday service and these cease in February as you will be aware.

The privatised bus industry in the UK continues to face an unprecedented set of challenges in the form of reduced bus usage, increased costs and an acute lack of skilled drivers and engineers. Like other areas of the Country this has led to a number of services in Kent being reduced or cancelled which are decisions that in a deregulated industry, operators can make by filing the necessary forms and sending them to the Department for Transport.

Autocar have recently approached KCC to advise that because of driver shortage and reduced levels of use since the pandemic, they are unable to continue to operate some of their services which they intend to cancel with the DfT. This includes the off-peak Monday to Friday journeys on service 222 not paid for by KCC. Journeys at School times are not at risk and Autocar have advised that they would continue to provide these.

Although the Council understands why Autocar are needing to make these decisions, we are concerned about the impacts that this has on communities and the users of the service. As we have with all other changes made since the start of the year, we have been working to see if there is a way that we can use funding made available by government to sustain a service even in the short term.

In this instance, we have managed to find a way that Autocar can retain some of the off-peak Monday to Friday service at least until July 2023. However, Autocar have advised that regardless of use and funding, they can only operate one vehicle on the service as like most other operators they do not have sufficient drivers and are struggling to recruit. Unfortunately, this means that the frequency of the service on Mondays to Fridays will reduce from hourly to operate every two hours from January. In addition to the service at school times, journeys will operate from Borough Green at 1000, 1200 and 1400 and from Tonbridge at 0915, 1115 and 1315 before the afternoon schools service.

It might also be helpful to bring your attention to our Community Transport Grant which we expect to launch later this week. This is funding which Parishes or other groups can apply for in order to kick start locally provided transport solutions in their area. More information will be sent to all Parishes alongside a wider press release but should this be something that is of interest then we will be happy to support and answer questions

Although the changes are not being made by KCC, we are sorry for the impact and the concern that you will have about the future of the service. Unfortunately, these circumstances are not restricted to this area or to Kent and the network faces an ongoing challenge to continue at its current level. We expect that operators will review all of their services again in the new year and we may see further changes across the County at the end of the School Year.

**Steve Pay**  
**Planning and Operations Manager, Public Transport, KCC**  
**Email: [Public.Transport@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Public.Transport@kent.gov.uk)**



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Further details can be found on the Shipbourne website  
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## SHIPBOURNE FARMERS MARKET 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

### **NOTE THE DATE 16<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023** (just after the Coronation!)

The venue will be held in a special marquee at the Chaser Inn and will be prepared by one of the sons of Shipbourne, Michel Roux Jr! He and his chefs will create a meal using seasonal produce from the Farmers Market.

Once again, all proceeds will be given to Agricultural charities.

There will be a window for ticket applications early next year and details will appear in both the magazine and our weekly Farmers Market newsletter. (To receive our newsletter please log onto [www.shipbourne.co.uk](http://www.shipbourne.co.uk) and click on the blue **REMINDER** tab)

PS We are hoping to attract sponsors to help us fulfil our charity aims. Please email [Bob@lodgeoast.co.uk](mailto:Bob@lodgeoast.co.uk) to help



***Chef Michel Roux Jr***

Unfortunately we cannot guarantee that 'Coronation chicken' will be served!

## DECEMBER AT SHIPBOURNE FARMERS MARKET

### **GETTING INTO THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT**

The market will be open every Thursday as usual to the run up to Christmas and then re-start. on **January 19<sup>th</sup> January. 2023.**

**Thursday 22nd December** will also act as our 'Pick Up' market.

On **December 8<sup>th</sup>** we shall be visited by Shipbourne School choir to sing **Christmas carols** and on **December 15<sup>th</sup>** the Tonbridge Community Singers will entertain us with more carols.

**What's New for Christmas:** Locally produced **Christmas wreaths** are already available as are our new Christmas cards designed and printed by '**Arty Bee Designs**' (**Beth**) These will be sold in aid of the St Giles Fabric fund. **Patisserie Lingaud** with her chocolates, **Tea 23**, specialising in premium loose teas and craft infusions and **Moma and Paws Handcraft**, who specialises in unique Christmas tree decorations.

**Turkey:** Annabelle has turkeys but as obviously they now have to be kept indoors. **We recommend you order DIRECTLY** rather than through our Click and Collect system as she will be able to respond quicker if there are any supply problems.

**Other meats are fine** How about a haunch of venison from Kieron, or magnificent roast of beef on the bone, pork, or lamb?

**For fish lovers** smoked salmon, fresh turbot or halibut are available (please order directly with Mikey in advance).

Whatever you choose, buying locally means you are supporting small local producers and have the satisfaction of caring for the environment too.

You can use our on-line system Click and Collect system to order now and pick up any Thursday in December, this not only enables our small producers to organize their future workload but also ensures you won't be disappointed. See Debra's list of **Christmas cakes, Christmas puddings and mince pies**, go to [www.shipbournfm.co.uk](http://www.shipbournfm.co.uk) and click on **On-line**.

You will also find all sorts of **cheeses, nuts and oils** (for cooking and dressings) vital to make the perfect party.

We also have locally made quality **Christmas presents** such as mittens, scarves and head gear made by Rosemary from wool provided by her herd of **alpacas, Paula** not only makes soaps for every occasion but are created as works of art. Or how about one or two of the variety of drinks made by our own local **Greensand Distillery** (we have created a present pack containing smaller bottles of sprits plus mixers and other items from the Co-operative stall). Don't forget sparkling wine to rival the best in the UK, created by **Sanden Vinyard** or the **many varieties of Apple Juice** made by Tom (Cannon Fruit farm). To improve your leftovers once Christmas day is over, add chutneys made by Jayne (Winsford House Produce).

Stock up with breads and confectionary (not forgetting his 'foccacia' (sharing and dipping bread) made by Pierre. They all freeze extremely well so make sure you have enough to last you through Christmas (to go with turkey sandwiches or a bowl of soup!).

However, you should **ORDER IN GOOD TIME** to avoid disappointment. If you are still stuck for ideas have a word directly with our stallholders, you can find their contact details on our web site [www.shipbournefm.co.uk](http://www.shipbournefm.co.uk)

**Please note the market will re-open after Christmas on January 19th**

## SEASONAL COOKERY CORNER

### MARMALADE GLAZED HAM

Couldn't resist this either with the main dish or better still on Boxing Day.

*Serves 8-10 (Thanks to James Martin)*

- 5kg/5lb 8oz gammon
  - Half lemon, orange, apple, onion (only 1 half)
  - 1 cinnamon stick, 5 star anise, 1 tsp cloves
  - 375g/13oz marmalade
  - 1kg/2lb 4oz new potatoes
  - Chopped Parsley
  - 50g/1¾oz butter
1. Place the gammon into a large, heavy-based, lidded saucepan with the lemon, orange, apple, cinnamon stick, onion and star anise. Pour in enough cold water to cover the gammon.
  2. Cover the pan with the lid, place onto the heat, bring the water to the boil, then turn the heat down and simmer for 2 hours, or until the meat is tender, then set aside to cool in the cooking liquid.
  3. Preheat the oven to 230C/210C Fan/Gas 7.
  4. Transfer the cooled ham from the cooking liquid to a roasting tin.
  5. Carve the layer of fat on top of the ham in a criss-cross pattern, then spread the marmalade over the top.
  6. Stud with cloves and return to the oven for a further 20 minutes, basting with the glaze every 5-8 minutes, until the surface of the gammon is golden-brown and just starting to blacken at the edge.
  7. Boil potatoes in a saucepan of salted water with the parsley for 10-15 minutes, drain and return to the pan. Stir in the butter to coat, then season, to taste, with salt and freshly ground black pepper.
  8. To serve, pile the buttered potatoes onto a serving platter and place slices of gammon on top.



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### **FROM YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**

As we quickly approach the Christmas period I hope everybody has an enjoyable time and take a well-earned rest.

At the time of writing I am working hard both in Government and in Tonbridge and Malling to deliver for residents across Shipbourne.

Since I became an MP in 2015 I have campaigned tirelessly to deliver a better train service from Maidstone East, through West Malling and Borough Green to London Bridge and Charing Cross. I am delighted that we will finally achieve this before Christmas, with regular trains to London Bridge and Charing Cross from (West Malling/Borough Green). The service will operate 6 days a week and will be more frequent than every hour in peak times. The journey time will also be under an hour, a significant improvement on what we have at the moment. The service will start on Monday 12 December.

It will provide a frequent and fast service directly into the heart of London. This makes it easier for people visiting London as well as those travelling daily for work.

It was much needed and I am proud that we have delivered this vital service. Since 2009 when the city services were taken away we have been without this level of service. I am very pleased to have helped deliver this.

I will continue to work to deliver service such as this for our community and I hope that everybody has an enjoyable Christmas, I know I certainly will be enjoying the time with my family.

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

### **THE WEATHER IN OCTOBER**

The average day temp. was 21.0°C, the average night temp. was 9.0°C, the highest day was Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> with 25.0°C, and the lowest night was Monday 10<sup>th</sup> with 1.0°C, the total rainfall was 91.5mm, the average for the last 30 years was 92.85mm, the highest year was October 2000 with 218mm, the lowest was October 1995 with 20mm.

**Lionel Stielow**



***We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who contributes articles to the newsletter and those who help with the printing and distribution – your help is very much appreciated.***

***Sending very best wishes to all our readers for Christmas and 2023.***

## SHIPBOURNE CLASSIFIEDS

**Simple Domestic and Personal Advertisements**, up to four lines, are free to Newsletter readers. This free category includes items for sale or wanted, baby-sitting, dog walking, domestic needs etc. **To ensure Shipbourne Classifieds is kept up to date, each domestic/personal advertisement will be published in the Newsletter for three months and then removed unless requested otherwise.**

**Business Advertisements** up to four lines are charged at £1 per monthly issue or £10 for a whole year of 12 issues Also available are up to half-page display advertisements, charged at £10 per monthly issue, or £100 for a full year of 12 issues.

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

**Disclaimer:** Please note that the St Giles and Shipbourne Newsletter cannot be held responsible for the quality of the goods or services advertised in the Newsletter.

**STRESSED PARENTS LOOKING FOR SOME AFTER SCHOOL CARE HELP** Mum and Dad working full time and struggling to juggle the school pick ups, after school clubs, homework and supper/bedtime routine. We're looking for some help looking after our lovely 2 children (7 and 9 yr olds) from September onwards. Ideally 2-4 days a week but flexible. Pick up from school in North Tonbridge to home in South Tonbridge from c4-7.30pm but flexible on hours. Would suit student or parent/grandparent. If you think you can help, drop us a line at [katieshowe@hotmail.com](mailto:katieshowe@hotmail.com) (11/22)

**LOCKSMITH SERVICES BASED IN SHIPBOURNE:** Hello local residents, my name is Paul. I can help if you have locked yourself out of your home or workplace or lost your keys. I can do lock changes, lock upgrades, new lock fittings. I can repair or replace any door or window mechanisms inc handles, hinges and letterboxes. Please call for a free quote or advice on 07795 254834 or email me on [foxylocks kent@gmail.com](mailto:foxylocks kent@gmail.com) (02/23)

**YOGA:** For Active Seniors or Complete Beginners. More information available on Alison's Booking Website at [bookwhen.com/alisonsyogaandfitness](http://bookwhen.com/alisonsyogaandfitness) or any questions please contact [fitalison1@aol.com](mailto:fitalison1@aol.com) / Facebook: Alisons Yoga & Well-being / Instagram: Alisons\_Yoga\_Wellbeing (02/23)

**ORIGINALS IN PENCIL:** Local artist applying bespoke art to interior design for homes and businesses. I love to create the unique, the unusual, the talking piece of any room and the best gifts. Visit [www.originalsinpencil.co.uk](http://www.originalsinpencil.co.uk) to see a selection of my recent projects or contact me on [victoria@originalsinpencil.co.uk](mailto:victoria@originalsinpencil.co.uk) or 07711 038484. (02/23)

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**SALLY OSBORNE - ELECTRICIAN:** NAPIT Part P approved. All domestic electrical work undertaken. To arrange a free quote please contact me on 07710 443079 or email [salvioz@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:salvioz@blueyonder.co.uk) (02/23)

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