St Giles' and Shipbourne

NEWSLETTER



November 2024

OFFICERS OF ST GILES' AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

ST GILES

Rector of Shipbourne with Plaxtol: 811081

Rev Dr Peter Hayler Email: RectorSwP@gmail.com

http://shipbourne.com/st-giles-church/ The Rectory, The Street, Plaxtol TN15 0QG

Mr Mark Packer 07970-709006 Curate

Lay Reader Mr P Brewin 810361

07762 241720 Churchwardens: Mrs H Leach Mr A Boorman 07795 182966

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Mrs C Chambers 382228 Secretary:

Mr C Keeling 07825 139046 Treasurer:

Sir P Britton 365794 Deanery Synod Rep:

CHURCH OFFICERS

Parish Safeguarding

Officers: Ms C Jackson 07729814798

> Miss G Coates (children) 811432

> > 886402 shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com

Choirmaster: Mr J Young 810289

Electoral Roll: Mrs H Leach 07762 241720 Flower Guild: Mrs F Ward 810525

Bell Ringing: **Graham Edwards** 07487 729549

SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Sarah Husevin Chair:

V Redman

Vice Chair: P Leach

Councillors I Bond, S Oram, A Dagger, S Davis

VILLAGE WEBSITE www.shipbourne.com

SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL

Mrs Terri Daters Head: TDaters@bournepartnership.org

SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com

Chairman: Peter Leach 07889 362462 07762 241720 Bookings: **Helen Leach**

SHIPBOURNE FARMERS' MARKET

Bob Taylor 833976 Manager:

SHIPBOURNE WI

810731 President Sue Streeter

SHIPBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

Secretary: **Mark Fenton**

PLAXTOL & SHIPBOURNE TENNIS CLUB

Membership: Cilla Langdon-Down 810338

POLICE

Emergency: 999 Non-urgent: 01622 690690

ST GILES' AND SHIPBOURNE NEWSLETTER

Editor/Adverts: **Lindsay Miles** 810439 lindsay_miles@btinternet.com

Mary Perry 810797 Copying:

Rector of Shipbourne with Plaxtol

Rev Dr Peter Hayler The Rectory, The Street, Plaxtol TN15 0QG

PARISH DIARY - NOVEMBER 2024

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/

SUNDAY	3rd	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
All Saints Sunday		9.30am	Parish Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne
_		11.00am	Family Service with Communion at Plaxtol Church
		6.00pm	All Souls' Day – Benefice Choral Evensong at St Giles, Shipbourne with Memory of the Faithful Departed
		Readings:	Isaiah 25:6-9 Revelation 21:1-6ª John 11:32-44
Thursday	7th	9-11am	Farmers' Market at St Giles, Shipbourne
SUNDAY	10th	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne
3rd Sunday before Advent		10.50am	Act of remembrance at St Giles, Shipbourne War Memorial followed by Service in Church
& Remembrance		10.50am	Act of remembrance at Plaxtol War Memorial followed by Service in Church
		Readings	Micah 4:1-5
Thursday	14th	9-11am	Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne
SUNDAY	17th	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
Safeguarding Sunday		9.30am	Parish Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne
		11.00am	Community@11 at Plaxtol Church (Refreshments from 10.30am)
		Readings:	Daniel 12:1-3 Hebrews 10:11-25 Mark 13:1-8
Thursday	21st	9-11am	Farmers' Market at St Giles, Shipbourne
Saturday	23rd	9.30- 11am	Community Bread Basket at Plaxtol Church
SUNDAY	24th	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne
Christ the King		9.30am	Family Service at St Giles, Shipbourne
		11.00am	Parish Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Revelation 1: 4b-8 John 18:33-37
Thursday	28th	9-11am	Farmers' Market at St Giles, Shipbourne



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Fast, Efficient and Reliable Tonbridge & surrounding area TN9, TN10, TN11

02/25)





The Kentish Rifleman Dunk's Green, TN11 9RU 01732 810727

Born in the 1500s, our traditional family run pub is open daily from 11.30am. By the cosy fire or out in the beer garden, we offer homemade food, local beers, a lovely selection of wines and spirits and a friendly atmosphere. Please book your table on 01732 810727 or on our website.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

www.thekentishrifleman.co.uk

02/25)

AUTUMN THOUGHTS

After a pretty wet September and October, we're left with no doubt that autumn is with us, and the swirls of falling golden leaves are perhaps one of the most beautiful signs of this. Some people love the autumn while other find it quite difficult. I sometimes wonder if I share some genetic code with the hedgehog,



because it feels like hibernation would be a jolly good thing! The light also changes, as do the clocks, and we're forced to re-learn how to live with the darkness.

Light and darkness sometimes offer themselves as a metaphor for life and death. Perhaps that's why some people find the autumn difficult. Nature seems to die right back, and where leaves have fallen, trees stand bare. But we know that, without autumn and winter, the fresh new growth of spring cannot take place. Botanists tell us that the trees are quite clever at working out that it's just not worth their while maintaining leaves. So they shed them, and wait for the new light of Spring.

In spiritual writing, and I'm thinking in particular of St John of the Cross and his famous 'Dark Night of the Soul', the metaphor of darkness is sometimes used as a time for waiting, silence and stillness. But the waiting element is always about waiting for new birth, new growth, new life, even if that's in the life hereafter. With all of this, it's hardly surprising that, within the Christian calendar, November is a month of remembrance, building to the climax of Christ the King (Sun 24th Nov) to end the Church's year. This year, in the midst of autumn darkness, the Church's New Year begins on Dec 1st with Advent Sunday. But before we jump the gun, you may like to note the following:

- Evensong for All Souls' Sunday 3rd Nov 6pm at Shipbourne; lists in church for the names of those we've loved but see no more.
- Remembrance Sunday 10th Nov 10.50am at both War Memorials, going on into church after the silence, 'Last Post' and laying or wreaths.

Peter Hayler, Rector

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU FROM THE HARVEST SUPPER TEAM

On Friday 27th September, the Forrester's Barn at Fairlawne's Home Farm once again provided the perfect setting for the Benefice Harvest Supper, with trestle tables adorned with apples and other harvest bounty from the estate and straw bales as rustic seating!

The melodic harmonies of The Abbey Capers playing English folk tunes greeted the guests as they arrived. Pre-supper drinks were purchased from the bar and guest mingled and chatted before taking their seats at eight o'clock for homemade Shepherd's Pie followed by Apple Crumble. As someone remarked on the night, it was truly a very special event.

Our thanks go, as ever, to the Fairlawne Estate for the generous loan and preparation of the barn for the occasion and for the supply of estate apples, bottled water and table decorations - and to our Rector, Peter Hayler, for acting as our Master of Ceremonies. huge "thank you" to all of the local business and individuals who so generously donated the raffle prizes, and to Lindsay Miles for running the raffle on the night! To Plaxtol Village Stores for selling the tickets - and for providing all the wines and other bar essentials, all on a sale or return basis, which helps us enormously. Our thanks to all those who helped to set up and serve and those who cleared away on the night and of course our special thanks to our many skilled and generous cooks for their delicious offerings. without which there would have been no supper. And finally, a thank you, of course, to all of those who brought tickets and came along to make it such a special evening. Some £1,400 was raised for the Benefice. Although run by the two churches this is very much a community event. If you didn't make it this year, do not miss out in 2025.

Viv Packer & Andy Doughty

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Please send any articles and adverts for the December Newsletter by **15**th **November.** A digital version of the Newsletter is also uploaded on www.shipbourne.com. Please email articles to lindsay_miles@btinternet.com or call 01732 810439.

Shipbourne Village Hall News

Remember, remember 30th November, 6.30 for 7.00 pm start, a **Christmas Themed Quiz Night** to be held at the hall. Spaces are limited with only 6 tables of 8 being accommodated, so an early booking is essential.

Full details of the event are given in this Newsletter and you can book a table, or let us know if you want to come along and join a table, by either emailing Sarah on shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com or contacting Peter by text or WhatsApp or by calling 07889 362462. A chilli supper is being provided, vegetarian option available, but bring your own drinks and nibbles. Prizes for the winning and losing tables, and a prize for the best Christmas jumper.

Remember, book promptly to avoid disappointment.

With grateful thanks to Jane and Martyn Williams, the hall can now offer hirers the additional benefit of a marquee in the garden. Jane and Willy have generously donated their marquee, which for many years has made appearances at the St Giles Fayre. A thank you donation will be made to the **Prader Willi Syndrome** charity which is supported by Jane and Willy.

The size of the village hall is challenging, and alongside the use of the 4 existing gazebos, the marquee is a further great addition to the facilities, and one which we hope will generate extra interest from potential hirers. It will be available throughout the year but will be subject to weather on the day as it cannot be used when conditions are too windy or when snow is forecast or has fallen.

Regular hirers of the hall include:

Dog Scent Training Classes –Tuesday & Thursday mornings - Martina Ramage

Pilates – Wednesday mornings and evenings – Emma Foyle

Yoga – Thursday evenings – Isabelle Khellafi

Full details available on request - 07762 241720 - Helen

If you would like to be kept up to date with future events or wish to make a suggestion for a possible event or activity, please email your details to:

shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com



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

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. Please visit our website www.shipbourne.com for further details.

Shipbourne Parish Council is pleased to welcome Cllr Louis Hollobon who was co-opted at the Parish Council meeting on 7^{th} October.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

KENT POLICE

Our new beat officer is **Thomas Mead PC 46014468**, based at Tonbridge Police Station. For non-urgent matters, please call 101, for emergencies please call 999



Ramblers

	Markbeech meander - an undulating circular walk in the Weald. Moderate difficulty.	
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Thursday 7 November	North Pole circular: from Teston Lane through Oaken Wood and past Kiln Barn Farm towards East Malling. Then returning towards East Malling Heath and the playing fields near Kings Hill. A mix of country paths and some road walking. Moderate difficulty; no stiles.	5.3 miles
Thursday 14 November	Kings Hill Sculpture Walk to see the 10 sculptures on Kings Hill. This leisurely pavement walk will pause at each sculpture for a brief description of the artwork. The walk finishes near the Control Tower with time to read the RAF roundels and find the 12 brass reliefs set in the pavement.	5.5 miles
Sunday 17 November	Circular walk from Otford around the solar system and back! Moderate difficulty.	5 miles
Thursday 21 November	Mereworth circular walk with a long gentle climb through the woods and back to St Leonards Church. Moderate difficulty; one stile and some road walking on quiet country lanes.	5.5 miles
Sunday 24 November	A Weald and Woodland Walk from Cranbrook along tracks and paths, with shelter from wind in the woodland. Short stretch of busy road, and some quiet lane walking, but few stiles. We return along the High Weald Landscape Trail. Moderate difficulty.	5 miles
Thursday 28 November	Circular walk from Ide Hill through Goathurst Common and Dibden Woods, returning with views of Bough Beech Reservoir. Moderate difficulty; no stiles; one long upward path.	5.5 miles

SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

We held our first garden party on Saturday 21st September. The weather was lovely and we were able to have the event in the garden. We estimate around 100 parishioners attended for an evening of food, drink and music and a photo competition. Thank you to everyone who attended and submitted photographs. The winner of the photo competition was Hannah Buchanan; the prize was a bottle of Champagne. Photographs will be used on the new Shipbourne Parish website and will be displayed in the hall. Viv Packer was presented with the KALC Award for services to the local community and Bob Taylor was celebrated for his recent award of BEM.

We hope to make it an annual event!

NEXT DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES - SHIPBOURNE CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Saturday 30th November 6.30pm for 7pm £15 per ticket includes Quiz entry and Chilli Supper (Veg option will also be available). BYO drinks and nibbles. Please contact shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com to book your table

PCC LAUNCHES CONSULTATION ON THE NEW POLICE AND CRIME PLAN FOR KENT

Every year at this time of year Kent Police publish their Policing Survey. It measures how safe people feel where they live, whether they trust the police and how seriously things like antisocial behaviour affects them.

The quickest way for people to take the (anonymous) short survey is to go to this link:

https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/PoliceandCrimePlan2024/

CLIMATE ACTION SHIPBOURNE & PLAXTOL - CASP

CASP hosted a successful presentation and workshop on Saturday 14th September at Plaxtol Memorial Hall where 80 parishioners attended from Shipbourne, Plaxtol and neighbouring villages to hear speakers talking about alternative heating systems.



We had speakers from Tonbridge & Malling talking about their thermal imaging camera which is available to loan, solar panel

experts talking about PV panels and batteries and a presentation on heat pumps. We talked about what we can do as individuals and as a community.

We had a workshop where we split into groups and talked about concerns and barriers to making the transition to renewables; the top 3 concerns were: the upfront costs, finding competent installers and lack of information about the options available.

CASP are in the process of applying for grant funding to enable us to set up a Community Hub where we can share information.

We have now built a mailing list of those who are interested in finding out more about what CASP are doing and future events, if you would like to be added to it, please email: shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com

BOOK YOUR FRAUD PROTECT PRESENTATION

The Fraud Prevention Co-ordinator for the West within Kent Police is keen to give presentations to organisations and community groups on how to protect themselves from the threat of Scams and avoid criminals stealing your money



These can be adapted for the needs and requirements of any group and can be booked for anytime in the future.

Some of the areas covered includes fake calls, emails and text messages, Romance Scams, Rogue Traders, Gift card scams, Impersonation and investment scams and ways to protect yourself against fraud.

If you are part of or in charge of any groups that would benefit from this input, then please contact Emily Jenner at KFAS@ecis.police.uk

SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

Situated on the Green in the heart of Shipbourne, our village hall, with its enclosed and safe garden, is the perfect venue for children's parties, family celebrations, pilates, yoga, exhibitions or fundraising events. It has a main hall and an adjoining side room ideal for meetings, wheelchair access through the rear door, a well-equipped kitchen, baby changing facilities and disabled toilet.

For hall rates, enquiries and bookings, please call Helen Leach on 07762 241720 or email shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com

TALES FROM NIGHTINGALE COTTAGE

Nightingale Cottage is a 'learning hub' where home-educated pupils socialise and learn together. In our English lessons, we often refer to 'purpose' and 'audience' when writing. The children were thrilled when they discovered they had been reserved a spot in the Shipbourne newsletter - suddenly they had a real-life purpose and audience!

The following is a poem about Autumn, written by our youngest pupil, George, aged 7. He wrote this poem after a wander through the beautiful woods, here in Shipbourne.

Orange leaves rush across the ground,
Big, fluffy clouds drift across the sky,
Hot fire steaming,
The scent of woodsmoke is in the air.
A brisk breeze whistles through the trees,

The crisp air makes my hair cold and cozy sweaters make me warm.

George, aged 7
www.nightingale-cottage.com



02/25)

Community Bread Basket

9:30 - 11:00 on Saturday 23rd November

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.

THE MAGPIE CENTRE, CHATHAM

We are committed to helping the Magpie Centre connected to our link parish – All Saint's Church, Chatham.

COLLECTIONS WILL START AGAIN IN FEBRUARY 2025

Collection points will be in both churches on the 4^{th} Saturday of each month

Thank you for your support
Any queries ring Carol Crossley on 810801

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

SHIPBOURNE WI

The meeting on Wednesday 9th October was very much a "hands on" occasion with members acquiring new craft skills, with thanks to Jill George and Sue Streeter, who both showed infinite patience! Members learned to fold paper using pages from old paperbacks, with the end results being small Christmas angels, similar to the magnificent ones Jill displayed in St Giles Church last Christmas.

Sue taught us how to do marbling to make cards for Christmas, the marbling being the messier of the two, but both requiring some dexterity! The afternoon was very enjoyable and finished with a well deserved tea.

The next full meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th November, when the Speaker will be Helen Kendall - Tobias on the subject of "Wrinkles Don't Matter", which is questionable!

Arrangements for our Christmas activities are being made, with change to our usual party format, details yet to be confirmed.

Glynis Coates

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2024

This year's appeal is from 24 October to 11 November. Every poppy counts, and your contribution will make a real difference to the lives of the Armed Forces community who have given so much for their country. If you can spare an hour or two to help with house-to-house collections in Shipbourne, please contact Sean on 01732 850048.

Sean & Anne Waddingham

Joint Poppy Appeal Organisers, Hadlow District (SDM07)

THE WEATHER IN SEPTEMBER

The average day temp. was 23.4°c, the average night temp was 11.2°c, the highest day was Sunday 1st with 30°c, the lowest night was Friday 15th with 1.5°c, the total rainfall was 216mm the highest for September for 35 years (my records) I think possibly since records began, the average rainfall over the last 30 years for September was 67.9mm, with the highest year being this year with 216mm, the lowest year was September 1997 with 9.5mm.

Lionel Stielow

WEST PECKHAM CHRISTMAS ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION & SALE

Saturday and Sunday 23rd and 24th November 10 - 4pm

Painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, glass, ceramics, carpentry, jewellery, & more all by local artists and craftspeople. Perfect place to pick up some unique Christmas gifts and enjoy some lovely homemade cakes with tea and coffee.

West Peckham Village Hall ME18 5JJ Free entry: over 10 exhibitors - dog friendly

For more information follow Facebook page: West Peckham online



FROM YOUR LOCAL MP

I have a strong desire for more buses serving our rural villages, and for us in Shipbourne securing a more reliable bus into Tonbridge.

One of the ways you can help ensure our bus services are as good as they can be is by letting me know any issues or concerns you may have. I am always interested to hear the experiences of anyone who uses our local bus routes, including our children

That's why I run a School Bus Survey each year. Since the new academic year started in September I have run my 2024 survey to find out which services are working well, and which need improvement over the first few weeks of term. If you, or someone you know, has children of secondary school age, please ask them to complete my annual survey so they can have their say.

The school term between September and Christmas is always a tricky time for any parent, with our children going into a new school year and sometimes a new school entirely. It can often take a number of weeks for the best travel arrangement to become clear. This brings a change to the routine and travel plans too. It impacts on how our roads are congested at peak times every working day.

With this being the case it's more important than ever to let me know your thoughts so that I can raise these with the relevant operators and Kent County Council. I meet regularly with our local bus companies and I am able to raise these issues with them directly.

If you would like to complete my survey, or share it with any neighbours, please send me an e-mail to tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk and I would be delighted to share it with you. Please do share this with any friends and neighbours who have children who get the bus to school, or who might with to use one of our local bus services but hasn't yet.

Tom Tugendhat

E-mail: tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk

Phone: 01732 441563

Address: 130 Vale Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1SP

A TIME TO REMEMBER

In November, when we in Plaxtol and Shipbourne stand in front of our War Memorials to honour the fallen on Remembrance Sunday, we naturally think of the events and aftermath of the First and Second World War – with the addition of the Afghan and Falkland wars - but sadly it seems that almost the whole world is now at war. Somewhere - whether it is in Africa, the Middle East region or Ukraine - there are people suffering and dying for, among other things, the political beliefs of a government or militant group they do not necessarily support.

As we are all aware, WWI had a profound affect of the whole of British society – not only were the lives of young men cut short and whole families suffered but many soldiers were left severely disabled with little financial support. The losses were horrendous and the impact of war devastating, any beneficial social changes that came about as a result paling in comparison.

To read newspaper reports of the time is to see just how much all communities in the country pulled together to support the war effort. Many of the young men of Plaxtol and Shipbourne went willingly off to war – a more exciting and financially rewarding prospect than working the land – local schoolchildren collected eggs for soldiers, conkers for the Ministry of Munitions, helped with manual work and made small charity donations.

Wives and mothers of the agricultural workers in our villages held the fort, made jam and knitted socks for soldiers; young women helped on the land, drove buses and worked in factories; church leaders and officers' wives dispensed aid to injured servicemen and raised funds for troops on active service.

Everyone 'pulled together' because all social classes were affected by the war and to read the names on our local war memorials is to see clearly how many families suffered because of it. Many names feature only once although the impact of every single life lost would ripple through the whole family – the heartbreaking loss of a son, a brother, an uncle or a cousin – the financial impact of which could be devastating.

But other names feature several times sadly reflecting how many of our local families suffered multiple loss. Brothers who died were Sidney & William Beeching; Plowright & William Dicks; Edward Cecil & Frederick Fielder: Charles & Frederick Heskett: Richard & William Knowles; Charles, James & George Wood; Frederick & William Wraight. Cousins George & James Deering and George & Percy Larkin were also killed and some of those who died – including some not mentioned here – were also related to others by marriage.

There are fewer names of military personnel killed in WWII on our memorials. Because there was a heavier toll on the infrastructure of the country than in WWI - aircraft and improved weaponry meant mass destruction of towns, transport links, houses and buildings – there was also a corresponding increase in civilian deaths than in WWI, although fewer military ones. But every death – military or civilian - was a terrible blow and family life often fractured beyond repair.

Rarely, if ever, can society claim that war is anything but an horrific and destructive act. Sometimes, however, it happens to preserve freedom and democracy, and we will remember that when we stand at our war memorials to honour those that died for the liberty that we now enjoy.

Libby Cohen



02/25)

NOVEMBER AT SHIPBOURNE FARMERS MARKET (Local produce made/grown by Local producers)

Clocks have now gone back and Autumn moves towards the depths of Winter, appetites change as, with the shortening days, we all crave a little comfort. Slow-cooked casseroles, satisfyingly starchy creamy mashes, rich flavoured roasts and warming puds all fit the bill perfectly so



wrap up and head out for a trip to the market for inspiration.

It's the time to take it slow with meat for great eating, so look out for the cheaper cuts of locally produced beef, lamb and pork this month to use in casseroles. Shin of beef, belly pork, lamb neck or lamb shanks all cook down to meltingly wonderful mouthfuls of flavour, perfect for creating contentment on colder days. Game is also the meat of choice for cooks in November as the season is well under way for birds such as pheasant, partridge and wild duck as well as venison and rabbit are available. Try a game mix for adding to a pie.

Root vegetables are at their tastiest now and perfect for mashes, gratins and soups – they improve with the cold and you will notice a marked difference in flavour compared to supermarket specimens. Look out for parsnips, Jerusalem artichokes, swede and turnips. Main crop potatoes are full of texture and flavour and the varieties available locally are worth exploring. Brassicas really come into their own this month too – kale, Spring greens and all kinds of cabbages are wonderful in stir-fries, soups, and hashes or just steamed with grated nutmeg and more butter! And red cabbage cooked with apple, spices and red wine is another seasonal treat to go with rich pork, or maybe a roasted wild duck.

Colder waters make for high quality fish and seafood, and as the temperature drops the range available just gets better. At the luxury end of the scale Dover sole, turbot and halibut are rightly considered the very finest eating. But also this month why not try some of the lower cost alternatives which are at their best. Brill is a real discovery if you haven't tried it before – a firm white flesh full of clean flavour that only needs simple cooking. Or opt for healthy mackerel and herring, full of valuable Omega 3 fish oils.

Apples- Bramleys are perfect for using in mincemeat and Christmas pudding so buy them ready for stir up Sunday at the end of the month. The eating varieties can be used in tarts and cakes.

To find out more about Farmers Markets in Kent go to www.kfma.org.uk

COOKERY CORNER

RIVER COTTAGE THREE ROOT MASH

Serves 6 / Preparation: 10 minutes

Ingredients:

- 500g carrots, peeled and cut into chunks
- 500g parsnips, peeled and cut into chunks
- 500g floury potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks
- 50g unsalted butter or 50ml rapeseed oil
- 100ml milk (or half milk and half double cream)
- Freshly grated nutmeg (optional)
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method:

- 1. Cook the carrots and parsnips in a pan of boiling salted water until tender.
- 2. Cook the potatoes in a separate pan.
- 3. Drain the vegetables and let them steam dry for a minute or two.
- 4. Put the carrots and parsnips in a food processor, with half the butter or oil, and blend to a creamy puree.
- 5. Heat the milk and the remaining butter or oil in the pan in which the potatoes were cooked, then add the potatoes and mash until smooth.
- 6. Combine the mashed vegetables, adding plenty of seasoning, including nutmeg if you like, to make a creamy, golden mash.
- 7. Serve steaming hot, with sausages or roast lamb or venison.

Taken from River Cottage www.rivercottage.net

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY TO BE BETTER PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES

Parish and town councils urged to share new '5-steps' campaign with residents

Are you prepared? This is the question we are encouraging parish and town councils to share with their communities to kick start a new campaign coinciding with National Preparedness Month this September.

Kent and Medway Resilience Forum (KMRF) has produced a 5-step guide with simple actions that residents can take to be better prepared for emergencies that may impact them, such as severe weather, flooding or a utility outage.

Many local parish and town councils are creating community resilience plans to help support a voluntary community response to the local impacts of emergencies.

The new campaign, supported by the Kent Association of local Councils (KALC) is designed to help parishes get the message out to residents about the ways that they can help themselves become more self-resilient too.

Please do your bit to help spread the word

The 5-steps guide has been created to share with local residents. You can do this is any of the following ways:

- Download and print the 5-steps poster to display on your notice board and around your community from www.kentprepared.org.uk/5-steps
- Include the 5-steps guide in your resident newsletter
- Use details of the 5-steps on your parish/town council websites
- Link to the Kent Prepared 5-steps campaign web page.
- Organise a leaflet drop in your area with the 5-steps flyer

Share on your community's social media channels, including any Facebook, Nextdoor or WhatsApp groups.

KMRF Community Resilience Group Chair, Leanne McMahon, said: "There are simple steps that everyone can take to be better prepared, from signing up to receive weather warnings and flood alerts, to checking whether you, a loved-one, or neighbour are eligible to receive priority services from your utility company in the event of a supply outage.

"Proactive measures, like checking your home's flood risk, packing a grab bag should you need to leave home at short notice, and developing an emergency plan, can increase your family's safety and resilience should the unexpected happen."

She added: "Local councils are ideally placed at the heart of their communities to get behind this campaign and their assistance to share these important, practical tips with residents is very much appreciated. We all have a role in helping to build more resilient, better prepared communities, so we urge other community groups to get involved too."

Residents can learn more about each step by scanning the QR codes on the campaign posters or by visiting the web page www.kentprepared.org.uk/5-steps.

Find out more information the campaign visit www.kentprepared.org.uk/5-steps

Learn more about writing a parish community resilience plan: www.kentprepared.org.uk/community-resilience

Thank you, in anticipation.

Alison Stevens Deputy Chief Executive, Kent Association of Local Councils

steps to become better prepared

Make an emergency grab bag - consider:

Keys

Toiletries

- · Important documents
 - Radio and batteries
- Medication Money and credit cards First aid kit Clothing and blankets
 - · Mobile phone and charger
- · Food and water





Make a 'Household Emergency Plan'

Make an emergency plan for your home and practice it with your household. Your plan should include: contact numbers, how to turn off your gas, electricity and water, and sources of information and advice.



Sign up for weather and flood alerts

 Sign up for Met Office weather alerts: www.metoffice.gov.uk



· Get Environment Agency Flood Warnings: www.gov.uk/ sign-up-for-flood-warnings



Check your flood risk

Check your home's flood risk by visiting the Environment Agency website at www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk



Join the Priority Services Register

The Priority Services Register is for customers who may need additional support in a utility outage. Find out if you or a relative is eligible to sign up for this free service by visiting www.thepsr.co.uk



Scan the QR codes for more information or visit www.kentprepared.org.uk/5-steps





SHIPBOURNE CLASSIFIEDS

<u>Simple Domestic and Personal Advertisements</u>, 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.

<u>Business Advertisements</u> 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.

<u>Disclaimer:</u> 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.

FOR SALE DUE TO SELLING HOUSE:

- Pale blue covered chaise longue
- 6 John Lewis dining chairs with cream linen seats
- Reupholstered fireside chair (blue fabric)
- Reupholstered fireside chair and small sofa (light maroon/stone linen floral print)
- Set of white bathroom furniture (small cupboards, shelves, etc)

All items in excellent condition. Please text 07881 621036 for photos (12/24)

JOANNE LOUISE BEAUTY - Offering Gel Nails, builder gel, ELIM pedicures and LVL lashes from my home studio in Shipbourne. I am fully insured and accredited, offering evening and Sunday appointments. Keep an eye on my Instagram for updates @joannelouisebeauty_ For any questions or to book an appointment I can be contacted on 07894054015 or email joanne@joannelouisebeauty.co.uk (02/25)

FOOT CARE PODIATRIST/CHIROPODIST at my clinic in central Hildenborough. Gentle and effective care for your feet. Alice Neale MRCPod BSC Hons HCPC registered. Contact telephone $01732\ 832524$ or text $07951949015\ (02/25)$

HAIR BY SHARON - Mobile hairdresser, for prices or to make an appointment please call $01732\ 773043\ (02/25)$

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 (02/25)

DAVID ROWE Plumbing & Heating, a reliable engineer for all your domestic requirements including: boiler installation, servicing and repairs, full heating systems, radiators, hot water cylinders, power-flushing, gas fires, gas cookers, bathrooms. Please contact David, 07715266311 or email droweph@virginmedia.com (02/25)

LOCAL WASP NEST TREATMENT: Fast, efficient, reliable. Andy Wasp 07833 558773 02/25)



FOLLOW SHIPBOURNE ON FACEBOOK FOR VILLAGE NEWS, INFORMATION AND EVENTS

@shipbournevillage