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2025

Village News

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VILLAGE NEWS

950 copies published by St Mary's Platt Church for the community and delivered free 10 times a year to all houses in St Mary's Platt, Wrotham Heath, Comp, Crouch, Basted Mill and the Old Sawmill.

Church Address: Long Mill Lane, Platt, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 8NE

See also the church website: stmarysplattchurch.org.uk

Vicar – vacancy

Lay Minister, Pastoral Assistant and Anna Chaplain

Jane Sankey, Orchard House, 71 Sevenoaks Rd, Borough Green, TN15 8AR
email: martinandjane@potters-hill.co.uk 01732 883212

Lay Minister

Jan Martin, Flat 13, Roman Court, Borough Green, TN15 8NY
email: kenjan@btinternet.com 07817 526175

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email: mwick41@gmail.com 07973 520542

Lucilla Mackay, 67 Crouch Lane, Borough Green, TN15 8LU
email: lucilla@themount65.co.uk 07887 518855

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PCC Hon. Secretary – vacancy

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Parish Council website

<https://plattparishcouncil.gov.uk>

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Enquiries to Richard Hughes (see contact details on p1).

Please make all cheques out to **St Mary's Platt PCC**.

If out of local area, please send sae for copy of *Village News* if required

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Rates given are per month / per calendar year (10 issues)

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Copy and Collating dates for *Village News*

The next issue is a combined issue for **December/January**

Copy to the editor by **Wednesday 12th November**

Collating: Friday 28th November

There are hard copies and an online edition of this magazine available.

Articles to be under 600 words except by arrangement with the editor.

For the February issue:

Copy date: Wed. 7th January, collating Fri. 23rd January

Photo for Potash Farm advert taken by Chris Jeffrey, LRPS.

Cover design & photo by Scott Wishart & scarecrow photo on page iii.

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CHURCH REGISTERS

Burial of Ashes

12th October

Sharon Terry

Ashes interred in her parents' grave in Platt churchyard
by Jane Sankey, Lay Minister

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of the above



FLAG DAYS

We will be flying the Union Flag from the church tower on Sunday 9th November which is Remembrance Sunday and also on Tuesday 11th November, which is Remembrance Day.



Chris Jeffrey and David Palmer

PLATT CHURCH CHOIR

The 4-part choir practises at 19.30 on Fridays in the church (though with some weeks' break in the summer). More voices welcome. No auditions!

For more details, please contact Bridgett Jeffrey on 01732 887376.



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NOT THE VICAR'S NEWS LETTER

Hello everyone,

Thinking back to my childhood, November started with the chant: "Remember, remember, the fifth of November; gunpowder treason and plot." Children made guys, being rather like a scarecrow, clothes stuffed with newspaper with a mask for a face. They were pushed around in old pushchairs, their owners begging for a "penny for the guy". It sounds positively Dickensian. Such were our traditions around Firework night, 5th November and Guy Fawkes. Nowadays fireworks are more often confined to organised parties, which are safer too.

November is still a month for remembering, though.

In adult terms we remember in somewhat more sombre terms. Firstly on the 2nd November at 4.30pm, we have an All Souls service in church. This is a gentle service, a time to remember those we have known and loved who have died; to celebrate their lives and hopefully to find some solace and peace as we do so.

Then, of course, we have Remembrance Sunday, this year on the 9th November. We have a wreath laying ceremony outside the Memorial Hall, followed by a service in church. It's a time to think of all who have lost their lives or have been injured in both world wars and also in all the wars and conflicts since,

So November is still a month to remember those we've loved and those who loved us, and their sacrifices.

And, of course, a time as always, to remember and think about loving those still with us. As Jesus taught us, "Love one another as I have loved you!"

God bless,

Jan Martin, Lay Minister, 07817 526175

FLOWERS FOR YOUR SPECIAL SERVICE IN PLATT CHURCH OR IN COMMEMORATION

The Platt Flower Arrangers can create bespoke displays for any occasion. The church flower arrangers also offer a service to those who wish to remember anniversaries of someone special.

A special flower arrangement can be placed for a week on a lovely wooden pedestal in the church porch. A tribute card with your own choice of wording can accompany the arrangement. The cost is from £30 and varies depending on the flowers chosen. For further information and prices please contact:

Deirdre Bunker: 01732 642754 deirdrebunker@hotmail.com **or**
Georgina Atkin-Park: 07811 394101 georginaatkinpark@gmail.com

FROM THE EDITOR

No one wandering through the village at the end of September could have failed to have enjoyed and been amused by the sight of twenty or so scarecrows peering round hedges or centre stage in front gardens. What attitude many of them had! They provided a great deal of entertainment and pleasure and a fair amount of work for Jemima and Katy who had the idea and planned it all. We owe them a very big thank you for all the work and the funds raised for the church. Most of all we thank them because it was not planned to be a one-off event; they hope that it will grow and become an annual event to coincide with Harvest Festival time and so become a tradition. What a draw that will be. Well done to all those who produced these characters and thanks to those who generously donated prizes. Thank you also to the church flower arrangers who entered into the spirit and added some scarecrows to their wonderful arrangements. Grateful thanks to those who gave harvest gifts of non-perishable goods for the Borough Green Food Bank.

Speaking of raising funds for the church, this is the time of year when the church holds a Gift Day, of necessity. Church spires and towers, round and square, are simply part of our heritage. Every blade of grass and paving stone is in a parish, every church part of our heritage. As well as being the building where the worshipping community gathers, visitors are welcome, whether attending weddings, baptisms, blessings or funerals or simply visiting for other reasons. The doors of Platt Church are usually open all day and visitors are very welcome to the church or Garden Room. A warm welcome, companionship and hospitality await visitors.

Many churches are open daily so that visitors may see, free of charge, treasures such as wall paintings or stained glass, especially in older churches. Visitors may just come to enjoy peace and quiet, music being played or a service taking place. Sometimes the building may well be busy with flower arrangers or the sound of a vacuum cleaner or smell of brass polish as volunteers go about their tasks. We strive to keep the building in good order but it is not hard to imagine that it is very costly to maintain it. What a loss it would be if these buildings crumbled and became derelict. There are 38,500 churches in the UK and it is estimated that in the last 10 years 3,500 have closed. It is said that for every £1 invested in a church building, the benefits to society are worth more than £16. This is not hard to understand when you open the door of the Garden Room on a Wednesday morning to the chatter of the visitors to Café Platt or try to find a seat in the church at the 4pm Christingle service on Christmas Eve.

We give a very warm welcome to Bishop Dame Sarah Mullally, currently Bishop of London, on her appointment as Archbishop of Canterbury. As a former nurse she will understand the joy and privilege of accompanying people through the best and hardest of times and recognising the innate dignity of the individual. As a former Director of Nursing and Chief Nursing Officer for England she brings great skill to her new appointment. She

(Continued on page 11)

became the first female Bishop of London and becomes the first female Archbishop of Canterbury.

Jane Sankey, martinandjane@potters-hill.co.uk, 01732 883212

MISSION GIVING FOR NOVEMBER

The Poppy Appeal

On Remembrance Sunday, 9th November, we will gather for the Wreath Laying Ceremony which will take place outside the Memorial Hall at 10.00. This will be followed at 10.30 with the Remembrance Parade Service in church where the collection will be for the Poppy Appeal. Gift Aid envelopes will be available. It will also be possible to donate to the appeal by card.

The British Legion has been supporting the armed forces community since 1921. There are many people who need help for numerous reasons. For some the physical and mental toll of confronting huge challenges like health issues, debt, homelessness and unemployment alone can be overwhelming. The RBL is their lifeline. There are probably very few of us who have a realistic idea of the extent of the work of the Legion which our donations support. Care homes are provided for older veterans, and carers can be supported. There is help for the Armed Forces community living at home. Information and advice are available online, by phone or in person to make sure that support is available for everyone. It may be regarding employment and finances in the transition to civilian life, physical and mental health advice, and rehabilitation. Expert guidance and overseas support or local community connections are available and there is a Veterans' Gateway.

Please support our armed forces community by donating to the Poppy Appeal through the village house-to-house collection or at the Remembrance Service in Platt Church. Gift Aid can only be claimed if the details written on the envelope are legible and complete. Unfortunately, every year Gift Aid cannot be claimed on donations when the envelopes are illegible or have incomplete details.

Jane Sankey, 01732 883212

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Thank you so much to everyone that came along on 26th October to support the Macmillan Coffee Morning; from the bakers, to the helpers and everyone attending. Your generosity went beyond my expectations with in excess of £870 being raised.

A very big THANK YOU again.

MACMILLAN
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CHURCH FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Messy, sensory play

SPLAᵀT and Mini-SPLAᵀT

We aim to make church engaging and relevant for our primary-school-aged children.

Mini-Splaᵀt is for pre-school aged children.

Painting

The next meeting for Splaᵀt and mini-Splaᵀt will be on **Sunday 16th November at 10.30** in the Garden Room.

Stories

Songs

Games

Arts & Crafts

Soul sessions

Gather with us for games, food, discussion, friendship, fun.

We welcome young people from 10 years old and upwards.

Usually held on 1st Sunday of the month, the next session is on second

Sunday: **9th November 17.15-18.15**

in Platt Church's comfy corner.

Pease contact Julie on 07717 308158 if interested.

SOUP AND PUDS SNACK LUNCH

We look forward to seeing our regulars on **Thursday 6th November** and welcoming some newcomers.

This is a dementia-friendly event but all are welcome.

If you might be interested in coming to these light lunches do phone or email me in advance, we'd love to see you.

*Jane Sankey, Anna Chaplain, 01732 883212,
martinandjane@potters-hill.co.uk*



THE CHRISTMAS CARD TREE

Every year there is a Christmas card tree in the church from early December. Anyone is invited to add to the tree a card addressed to their local friends. This one card will be instead of sending many cards to friends in the village. The amount of money saved can be donated to a charity. This year the tree will be supporting Porchlight, a charity which was founded to help people facing the devastating effects of homelessness. Today it also tackles the causes and consequences of poverty. Details of card givers will be in the February *Village News*.

LIGHT UP THE TOWER

There are many people who live in the village, some within sight of the church tower for whom it is a landmark of significance, often as a memorial to loved ones particularly.

Gary and Sarah Earl asked for the tower to be floodlit on

5th November

"In loving memory of our fathers,
David Earl and Ian Brodie.
Always in our hearts."

If you would like to take the opportunity to light up the church tower at some time to mark an anniversary, a celebration or in memory of a loved one, you could do so for £40 a night.

This could also include a dedication in *Village News*.

*Please contact Lucilla Mackay, lucilla@themount65.co.uk or
Jane Sankey, 883212, martinandjane@potters-hill.co.uk*



ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS

Sunday 2nd November

On Sunday 2nd November at 10.30 the theme of the feast day of All Saints service is blessing and sharing of light, readings, music and thanksgiving for the holy ones of God.

In the evening at 16.30 there will be an All Souls service, the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. It has been held in Platt Church for many years and is a service to remember and pray for those we no longer see, those who have died, particularly in the past year, or at any time, however many years before. The dimmed lighting in the church offers a calm and peaceful time in which to find solace and comfort in the grief that many will be feeling. The choral music and readings will be reflective and poignant.

A Book of Remembrance is placed in the porch some days before the service for names of loved ones who have died to be added. They will all be read aloud during the service and all present will be invited to light a candle in their memory. It also represents their enduring place in our hearts.

Following the service tea and cake will be served in the Garden Room for those who wish to come together with others, while some may prefer to remain in the quiet church for a while.



Jane Sankey

Dave Carroll

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PRAYER DIARY



A prayer of commemoration for the fallen

Father of all, remember your holy promise,
and look with love on all your people, living and departed.

On this day we especially ask that you would hold forever
all who have suffered during war, those who returned
scarred by warfare,

those who waited anxiously at home,

and those who returned wounded, and disillusioned;

those who mourned, and those communities that were
diminished and suffered loss.

Remember too those who acted with kindly compassion,

those who bravely risked their own lives for their comrades,

and those who in the aftermath of war, worked tirelessly for
a more peaceful world.

And as you remember them, remember us, O Lord;

grant us peace in our time and a longing for the day when
people of every language, race, and nation will be brought
into the unity of Christ's kingdom.

This we ask in the name of the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

During November we pray to God...

...at All Soul's tide, as we remember those who we love but see no more.

May those who mourn find God's comfort in their sorrow.

...and give great thanks for the historic and significant appointment of
Bishop Sarah Mullally as Archbishop of Canterbury.

...and give thanks for the fragile progress in the Gaza ceasefire deal and
pray for peace.

...for all those living or caught in countries riven with conflict, those who
are held hostage or imprisoned for political reasons, especially where they
are suffering from lack of food, housing or medical care.

...for those who suffer through natural and climatic disasters, and the
damage and loss of life caused by cyclones, storms and floods.

...for those whose lives are seriously affected by the cost-of-living crisis
and those who live in fear of debt and the inability to feed family
members as bills rise.

...in this time of anxiety and uncertainty, to give us strength to comfort
and support the lonely, the anxious and the fearful.

...for all whose livelihoods have suffered through loss of jobs, change of
circumstances, financial hardship, or homelessness.

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...and give thanks for all who tend the sick. Give them skill, sympathy and resilience and keep them safe.

...remembering all the men and women who have died because of war, those on active service, and civilians caught up in the horror of war, we honour their courage and cherish their memories.

...giving thanks for the work of the Royal British Legion as it provides lifelong support for the Armed Forces Community, serving men and women, veterans, and their families.

...for all who continue to suffer because of war, giving thanks for the work of Help for Heroes, Combat Stress and all who work to support the health of current and ex-service men and women.

...giving thanks for all schools, the pupils, those who teach, volunteer, and aid the students' development.

...for our family and friends, asking for God's blessing on them, wherever they are and whatever their needs.

...giving thanks for our woods, fields, and green spaces. May we have respect and care for God's creation.

...for all who seek new opportunities or strength and courage to move forward.

...for those who are unwell or becoming frailer physically or mentally and for all who care for them.

**May God give us light to guide us, courage to support us,
and love to unite us now and evermore**

NEIGHBOURHOOD PRAYERS

During the month of **November**

We will be remembering in our prayers those who live in

St Mary's Close, Captain's Walk, Platt Industrial Estate

For special prayer requests at any time please contact Jane Sankey on 01732 8832 or martinandjane@potters-hill.co.uk or complete a prayer request slip which can be found in the porch of the church and put in the box or on the board there.

The church is usually open every day 10.00–16.00

PLATT STITCHERS

This month, the meeting **will be on Thursday, November 20th** from 10.00 until noon, at 'Wismer', Long Mill Lane, to show some of the work we do. For further details please contact me, Jo Senior, 01732 886245.



ST MARY'S PLATT CHURCH GIFT DAY

1st November 2025

St Mary's annual Gift Day will take place on 1st November this year. The Gift Day is an opportunity to consider a gift to the Church which can either be a one-off donation or a change to regular planned giving.

The Church is very grateful for all contributions which allow us to run many community activities including *Village News*, Dementia-friendly lunches and exercise sessions, Soul Sessions, Café Platt and Health Walks. Your contributions allow us to maintain and heat the building which acts as a focal point for many village activities from Sunday worship and school services to baptisms, funerals and weddings. As many of you will be aware, the running costs of the building have increased in recent years and this has combined with some significant works required to maintain an old listed building so our finances have been stretched.

A successful gift day can often mean the difference between the Church running at a deficit for the year or being able to maintain our reserves to cover ongoing expenses related to the building.

All are welcome to call into the Church between 10am and 1pm on Saturday the 1st where company and refreshments will be available. We have a contactless Payaz machine and the Parish Giving website that can be used.

Alternatively, please feel free to get in touch with the Treasurer (Rallewell@hotmail.com) if you are unable to come on the day but would like to make a donation.

Gift aid forms will be available both in the Church and from the Treasurer.

Thank you for your support.

St Mary's Platt PCC

PLATT PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNORS' 200 CLUB

Entries are currently open to join Platt Primary School's 200 Club where, every month, two prizes of £50/£25 are won by local entrants.

All proceeds go to the school's Governors' Fund and entries are £12 per entry for the whole year.

For more information see the school website, school office or contact Bridgett Jeffrey on chrisjeffrey.photo@btopenworld.com.

James Cooper, Platt School Governor

MEMORIAL HALL ADVANCE NOTICE – 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION EVENT

Join us for an Unforgettable Evening as we celebrate a Decade of Memories at Platt Memorial Hall.

We are delighted to announce an exciting occasion for our local community – an evening to remember as we mark the 10th anniversary of our new Village Hall. Since its opening, our hall has been the heart of the community: a place for gathering, laughter, creativity, and support. Now, a decade on, we invite you to join us in commemorating this milestone with a grand celebration and to help us look forward to many more years of togetherness.

Event Details

Date: September 5th, 2026

Venue: Platt Memorial Hall

Our 10th all-inclusive anniversary celebration promises an evening filled with great entertainment, quality food and wine. Whether you have been a part of our journey from the very start or have only recently joined our community, this event is not to be missed.

The Evening's Programme will include:

Magician: Be amazed by our featured magician, whose astonishing feats of illusion and sleight of hand will leave you questioning the very nature of reality.

Chris Till: Local Singer and entertainer and former West End Performer.

Westend Jersey boys: The highlight of our entertainment will be a spectacular live performance by the Westend Jersey boys. Relive the iconic hits and irresistible harmonies of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, brought to life by this acclaimed act direct from London's West End. Get ready to dance, sing along, and celebrate with show-stopping numbers that will have you on your feet!

Ticket Information

Tickets for this exclusive celebration will be available soon. Due to limited seating and expected high demand, we encourage you to reserve your place as early as possible when tickets go on sale. Further details on ticket sales will be shared in the New Year via our community noticeboard, social media, and *Village News*.

Dress Code

Dress to impress! This is a special occasion, and we invite guests to embrace a sense of festivity and style – think smart-casual with a touch of glamour.

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Looking Back, Moving Forward

Our 10-year anniversary is not just a celebration of the past ten years but a beacon for the future. It will also be a thank you to the many village residents who gave financial support which enabled our hall to exist. Together, we have created a vibrant, inclusive space where friendships flourish and memories are made. With your continued support, imagination, and enthusiasm, we look forward to another decade of growth, laughter and community spirit.

David Vallance, Chair of Trustees, 883422

Borough Green and Platt players present..

The Diary of Anne Frank



Borough Green village hall 7:45pm

Wed 12th Fri 14th Sat 15th Nov

Adults: £15 Children: £12

Tickets on sale now from...

www.ticketsource.co.uk

**Or from Shakti newsagents on
Borough Green high street**

For more information contact:

Deborah - 07786 643740 (after 6pm)

debrudkin@yahoo.co.uk



**The Diary of Anne Frank Dramatized by
Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett**

**This amateur production of "The Diary of Anne Frank"
is presented by arrangement with**

Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.

www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

Borough Green and Platt Players present this production based on Anne Frank's real-life writings. This emotional and deeply moving play highlights the strength of the human spirit in the face of unimaginable hardship. An appropriate play to stage, perhaps, for the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

PLATT PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 2nd September, and the following items were discussed.

Platt School will hold its bonfire and firework event on the allotment field, using some of the wood that is currently stored in the barn.

The Council was updated on the ongoing plans for local government reorganisation. A new authority will replace Tonbridge and Malling Council, which could be a single unitary council covering a wider area. This might involve some assets such as Platt Woods being transferred to Parish Councils.

We considered a number of planning applications, mainly covering various tree works and small building extensions, but also, notably, the upgrades to the Royal Oak at Wrotham Heath. There were no objection to any of these. A list of ongoing applications is available on the parish website.

The barn door is being replaced and the storage is being tidied up, in conjunction with the Church and sports teams. Work continues on clearing the allotments and encouraging holders who are not working their plots to do so. New signage is planned to deal with the problems of dog mess on the sports fields, and dogs out of control off leads.

Further improvements are planned for the equipment at the children's play area, in particular the replacement for the spider climbing frame, which unfortunately had to be removed for safety reasons.

Regular maintenance of Platt Woods is ongoing by the volunteers. An owl box is to be installed. A tree will be planted in memory of a long term village resident at the request of the family.

Next meeting and contact details

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday 4th November at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall**. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. There is always the opportunity at the start of the meeting for members of the public to make comments and ask questions.

If you feel there is anything the Parish Council could help with, please contact the Clerk, Jackie Davies, at clerk@plattparishcouncil.gov.uk, or 01732 886822.

Vacancy

There are currently vacancies for up to three additional Parish Councillors. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact the Clerk, or come along to one of the meetings to observe. No specific experience or expertise is required.

Mark Woodhams, Platt Parish Councillor

MEMORIAL HALL GARDEN

This is the ideal time to transplant shrubs and divide perennials, but not quite all of them. If they are a little tender, it is best to wait until the spring, but if the work can be done now it will make next year so much easier. The plants can get their roots established in soil that is still relatively warm and, if that happens, there won't be so much need to water them and cosset them next year.

There are a few gaps in our beds at the Memorial Hall Garden and so I am earmarking plants that should be moved, and perennials that will benefit from being split. And I am making a list of plants in my garden that I can move into the Memorial Hall Garden.

If you have anything that is surplus, please get in touch with me.

I never cease to be amazed at the resilience plants show to weather that we complain bitterly about; they hunker down, they might look dead, but more often than not a good heavy shower or two and they say, 'Ha - I had you fooled, didn't I?' So don't be in too much of a hurry to throw plants away that appear dead. They may only be sleeping.

Jane Jewitt

CHRISTMAS MARKET SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER 11AM

Saturday 6th December from 11 am until 2pm.

Many of our favourite guest stalls will be returning and some new ones will be joining us.

I will once again be asking for your, always generous, donations of bottles for the bottle tombola and gifts for the raffle hampers in church. I will bring the boxes to church after Remembrance Sunday.

I would be most grateful if someone would come forward to co-ordinate the Kitchen Cupboard stall as Roma has hung up her apron for this stall. I would like someone to set up the stall and collect and price the homemade goodies that you all so generously supply.

The Café will be in the Garden Room selling tea, coffee and cakes (sweet and savoury) and serving lunch from noon.

This will be the last Market that I organise as I feel 3 years is enough and some new ideas are needed.... If you think this may be something you could take on, send me a message and I'd welcome your company doing this Market to see how I do it (then you can decide what to do differently)!

Please come along on the 6th and bring friends and family. Looking forward to seeing you

Janet Hewitt , Hewittjanet@aol.com

Christmas Market
Saturday 6th December
11.00 – 14.00
Platt Church



Stalls selling homemade goods

Cakes, large and small

Also

Invoke Gin and Kentish Cobnuts

Christmas Raffle Book Stall Bottle Tombola

Soft Toy Tombola Children's Games



Refreshments in the Café

from 11.00: Tea, Coffee and Cake

From midday: Lunch

Proceeds to Platt Church Funds



FRIENDS OF KENT CHURCHES RIDE AND STRIDE

On Saturday 13th September Mike Cockle, Andrew Procter, Kathi Leonard and I took part. We walked eight miles and visited nine churches in the area. We would like to thank our sponsors as, through them, we raised £1,345.

As in previous years, half of this sum raised goes to the Friends of Kent Churches charity and half comes to Platt Church. Our church has in the past benefited from grants from the charity towards repairs, etc.



Martin Jeffrey

Thank you, Martin, what a splendid amount you and the others raised between you. Thank you also for all the work and planning that you did. Everyone will be so pleased to see how much was raised. *Ed.*

THE 'SECOND' PLATT WAR MEMORIAL

After the 1918 armistice and before the Treaty of Versailles was signed, many rural communities across the nation, similar to Platt, began discussing ways to remember their fallen soldiers. Quite often, differing opinions on the nature of these memorials split village communities, either along class, religious, or veteran/non-veteran lines. Platt was no exception and, by 1920, had found itself carved in two by those who wanted a memorial in the church, or at the very least in the churchyard, and those who favoured something that would benefit the whole community, such as a memorial hall. As we know, the parish adopted the latter idea with the erection of the Platt War Memorial Hall in 1922.

Still, those who attended the church continued to push for a memorial in St Mary's and on the evening of 3 August 1924, they got their wish when a second Platt War Memorial (pictured on the back cover of this magazine) was unveiled by Major-General Sir Arthur Lynden Bell and dedicated to the memory of the men of the parish who died in the Great War.

It was designed by silversmith H.G. Murphy, who ran a workshop in the village and lived at 'Falhalla' on the Maidstone Road. Murphy had previously produced the tablet at the Memorial Hall, and although the bronze plaque displaying the names is virtually identical to its 1922 counterpart, there are several differences. For example, the church memorial is set within an English oak frame with additional embellishments including four champlevé-style enamelled bosses in each corner, a raised bronze border of oak leaves surrounding the names and at the top, a small panel depicting lilies (symbolic of St Mary the Virgin) and at the bottom, the heraldic badge of the Diocese of Rochester. Underneath the names, which also include Harry Bowen, who died from service-attributed disease in 1923, is the inscription, "Greater love than this hath no man, that he lay down his life for his friends."

The following week, the Sevenoaks Chronicle carried the story of the unveiling in which it reported that the dedication was carried out by the Archdeacon of Tonbridge who, addressing the congregation, said "they would not, if they could, banish the memories of their dead." While the relatives had had to bear a great and bitter sorrow, he thought they should rather encourage a great thankfulness for what we as a people had been saved from.

The article also details Sir Arthur's address in which he said that "Two thoughts were appropriate on that occasion: one, deep sympathy with the relatives of the fallen; the other, great pride in the accomplishments of their valiant man. The men who had returned must also have feelings of admiration for their relatives who, by letters of encouragement and hope, had helped enormously to keep up the spirits of the men who were

(Continued on page 24)

(Continued from page 23)

fighting." He summed up the achievements of those who died in the words of the hymn, "All they had hoped for, all they had they gave, to save mankind; themselves they scorned to save."

After singing "Abide with me" and following the blessing, the "Last Post" and "Reveille" were sounded with floral tributes then placed on the memorial, including those from the Wrotham Lodge, Ancient Order of Foresters; Rev. J. N. Mallinson, on behalf of the Parishioners of Platt; Wrotham Branch, British Legion; Mrs Minter, Mr and Mrs Terry, Mrs Holness and Mrs Ashdown.

Later that year, for the first time on Armistice Day, the names were read out in front of the new memorial by the Vicar before he led the usual procession to the Memorial Hall, which, of course, is the reverse of how procedures occur today. On this occasion, the Kent Messenger recorded that over 300 locals attended, with the Revd Mallinson remarking that they had gathered six years after the Armistice to keep in memory the names and deeds of those who fought a manful fight in the war waged to save the world from cruelty and wrong. The names of the fallen having been read, the Vicar said they had come also to reconsecrate their lives to God in the memory of the great past. The Commonwealth of men and nations could be established only by men, brave in heart and great in soul, who labour not for ambition, fame or riches, but for the Glory of God and our fellow men. He added, "Brothers, in God's service, there are great things to be done. Let us be still for a few moments in His presence and then let us arise in His name and be doing."

Scott Wishart



POPPY APPEAL

The RBL Poppy Appeal will be running door to door collections from 28th October to 9th November.

The collection is dependent on the goodwill and support of volunteers who put in the time to knock on doors to collect funds for this noteworthy charity.

If there is anyone who is able to donate some of their time to take responsibility for a collection route then it would be much appreciated

Please contact Adam Nunn on adamnunn@hotmail.co.uk or 07788 232368 and let me know.



WHAT'S ON IN THE CHURCH & COMMUNITY IN NOVEMBER

1st	Saturday	10.00 – 13.00	Platt Church Gift Day*
2nd	ALL SAINTS and ALL SOULS	10.30	Holy Communion Charity Christmas cards for sale after morning service – GR*
		16.30	All Souls Service of Commemoration – followed by tea – GR*
3rd	Monday	10.00	Health Walk begins from foot of church steps ending with refreshments in the Garden Room*
5th	Wednesday	09.30	Morning Prayer
		10.00	Café Platt – GR*
		19.00	Compline with Prayers for Peace – in church*
6th	Thursday	12.15 for 12.30	Soup and Puds – GR*
8th	Saturday	09.30	Platt Woods Volunteers Day*
		17.45	Platt Bonfire and Fireworks*
9th	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	10.00	Remembrance Ceremony & Laying of Wreaths MH
		10.30	Remembrance Parade Service in church*
		17.15	Soul Sessions in church*
10th	Monday	10.00	Health Walk begins from foot of church steps ending with refreshments in the Garden Room*
11th	Tuesday	14.30	Platt Ladies Group – MH*
12th	Wednesday	09.30	Morning Prayer
		10.00	Café Platt – GR*
		19.00	Copy date for Dec./Jan. 2026 <i>Village News</i>
		09.30	Compline with Prayers for Peace – in church*
15th	Saturday	09.30	Memorial Hall Gardeners*
16th	SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT	10.30	Holy Communion
		10.30	SPLA†T and mini-SPLA†T*
17th	Monday	10.00	Health Walk begins from foot of church steps ending with refreshments in the Garden Room*
19th	Wednesday	09.30	Morning Prayer
		10.00	Café Platt – GR*
		19.00	Compline with Prayers for Peace – in church*
20th	Thursday	10.00	Platt Stitchers at 'Wismer', Long Mill Lane*
23rd	CHRIST THE KING	10.30	Morning Worship
24th	Monday	10.00	Health Walk begins from foot of church steps ending with refreshments in the Garden Room*
26th	Wednesday	09.30	Morning Prayer
		10.00	Café Platt – GR*
		19.00	Compline with Prayers for Peace – in church*
27th	Thursday	08.30	Printing December/January 2026 <i>Village News</i> GR
28th	Friday	from 08.30	Collating <i>Village News</i> – GR*
30th	ADVENT SUNDAY	10.30	Holy Communion
		18.00	Advent Carol Service at COGS

*indicates that further information is available elsewhere in the magazine.

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TONBRIDGE AND MALLING RAMBLERS

Kent Countryside Walks with Tonbridge & Malling Ramblers

We're a vibrant and welcoming group, one of 13 Ramblers groups in Kent, proudly part of the national Ramblers walking charity. We enjoy walks in the Kent countryside and you could too!

Walks usually start mid-morning. There's a short break half-way through (bring refreshments) and we usually finish near a pub. Most walks are dog-friendly (see website).

Non-members are welcome to try up to three free 'taster' walks with us. If you're new to our walks, please contact the walk leader beforehand to check that the walk will suit you.

For full details of all our walks, see

www.tonbridgeandmallingeramblers.org.uk or our Facebook page.

Nicola Brown, Publicity Volunteer for T & M Ramblers, 07709 334 871

Date	Walk Routes in November	Miles
Sun. 2	Leisurely flat walk from the village of Laddingford to the village of Yalding and return. We walk along the Medway Valley path, across the Lees meadow, past the fine church in Yalding, and back across the River Beult. Includes some quiet countryside lanes.	5
Thur. 6	A flat and leisurely walk around Leybourne Lakes, woods and a small section of River Medway. Mainly on well-maintained footpaths but could be muddy by the river. Two stiles.	4
Sun. 9	Vineyards of the North Downs: Kit's Coty. From The Friars at Aylesford along footpaths and quiet roads to join the North Downs Way, including a fairly steep climb to Kit's Coty burial chamber. Return to Aylesford alongside Kit's Coty vineyard. A few stiles; moderate difficulty.	5.5
Thur. 13	A leisurely walk from Lower Upnor, following the Medway as it meanders to join the Thames estuary. The walk climbs through woodland and along higher ground to Hoo St Werburgh giving commanding views of the estuary. We walk back along the shoreline which may be stony and slippery so boots and sticks useful.	5.5
Sun. 16	Leisurely circular walk from Wrotham along the Pilgrim's Way towards the St Clere estate.	4.5
Thur. 20	Coldrum Trail from Trosley Country Park along the North Downs Way and the Pilgrims Way to Coldrum Long Barrow, a neolithic burial site. The route takes us through woodland, farmland and quiet roads. Extensive views of the North Downs. Moderate difficulty – one steep downhill flight of steps and several uphill slopes. No stiles.	6.2 <i>cont. over</i>

Date	Walk Routes in November, cont.	Miles
Thur. 20	Coldrum Trail from Trosley Country Park along the North Downs Way and the Pilgrims Way to Coldrum Long Barrow, a neolithic burial site. The route takes us through woodland, farmland and quiet roads. Extensive views of the North Downs. Moderate difficulty - one steep downhill flight of steps and several uphill slopes. No stiles.	6.2
Sun. 23	Chartwell to Toys Hill following steep woodland paths and bridleways up to The Chart, Scords Wood & Toys Hill. Short break at the site of Weardale Manor where we may have views across four counties. Moderate difficulty: 1000ft of ascent and quite challenging with several sharp inclines. Walking boots and poles are recommended.	6.2
Sun. 30	Two sides of the North Downs - circular walk between the highest points of Botley Hill and Betsom Hill from the Titsey Taproom at Tatsfield. Wonderful views over the Weald when heading west, and over the City heading east. Walking through beech woods, open pasture and quiet lanes. One or two short climbs; moderate difficulty.	5.6

BOROUGH GREEN & WROTHAM U3A



This is just a reminder that Borough Green and Wrotham u3a monthly meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 2 pm in Borough Green Village Hall, with tea, coffee, and biscuits. Parking/disabled access available.

Our speaker on **Monday 10th November** is Jennie Randall, with her talk: 'Not Forgotten – The Crooked Billett'. 80 years ago this year London faced a new and terrifying threat from a completely new weapon, the V2. Find out what happened when a V2 rocket destroyed the Crooked Billett (now a Harvester) in Southborough Lane, Bromley in November 1944 and how those killed and injured are now commemorated on a blue plaque. It's not just a story of history; it's about what one person can do with a great deal of perseverance. (A very apt talk given Remembrance Day is on the 11th).

We look forward to welcoming existing and new members, and guests (£5). Parking is free for village hall users, so please remember to register your car in the village hall lobby when you arrive.

For further information, or to join your local u3a, please contact: info@bgwu3a.org.uk or visit our website <https://bgw.u3asite.uk>

Melita, Secretary, BG&Wu3a

MAIDSTONE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERTS

Saturday 29th November 2025 at 7.30pm

At Mote Hall, Maidstone, ME15 7RN

Mathilde Milwidsky – Violin

Happy Holidays!

Johann Strauss II – Overture, Die Fledermaus

Bruch – Scottish Fantasy

Waldteufel – Skaters' Waltz

Delius – Sleigh Ride

Prokofiev – Lieutenant Kijé Suite

Johann Strauss II – Blue Danube Waltz

Johann Strauss I – Radetzky March

Think 'turn of the year' and it has to be music by the Johann Strausses, father and son. We've the big hits with the Blue Danube Waltz and Radetzky March, but also the brilliance of the Fledermaus Overture. Mathilde Milwidsky brings Bruch's enchanting Scottish Fantasy – a virtuoso concerto in all but name – based on Scottish folk music (but with no sign of 'Auld Lang Syne'). Elsewhere we are keeping warm at the ice rink with Waldteufel, and then going off-piste for sleigh rides with both Delius and Prokofiev. A selection of fun pieces for what, most probably, will be a chilly winter's evening.

Season tickets: £120, £100, £60

HALF PRICE FOR NEW TICKET SUBSCRIBERS

Single concerts: £30, £25, £15, Students: £5, 18s and under FREE!

07817 429143 or on the door

Advance concert bookings by card (booking fees apply): 0333 666 3366 or mso.ticketsource.co.uk

Tickets for individual concerts can be bought online, by phone, or at the door

Steve Migden presents free pre-concert talks from 6.40 until 7.10pm

The MOS is a registered charity number 1163384

PLATT WOODS VOLUNTEERS GROUP

The group will meet on **Saturday 8th November**, from 09.30 to about noon at the Platt Common entrance to the woods and do work clearing paths to keep the woods as a wonderful local amenity. You will need to bring your own refreshments and tools, e.g. loppers, saws, secateurs and gloves. For further information contact David Palmer of the Woods Management Committee on 07554 798982.

IGHTHAM & DISTRICT GARDENERS' CLUB

Held at Ightham Village Hall

We would like to introduce our club to you.

We are a local Gardening Club, which meets once a month in the evening at Ightham Village Hall. We specialise in talks which are all things gardening.

If you have recently taken up gardening as a hobby or have a garden with shrubs and flowers and would like some advice on their care, why not come along and meet us? If you are new to the area and would like to meet up with local gardeners, we welcome you.

We are a friendly, sociable club, with a wide age span, so you would feel at ease at one of our meetings. At each meeting we have a speaker who comes along to entertain us with a wealth of knowledge in the chosen subject. We have a question time at the end of our talks, whilst we have tea and homemade cake.

We meet most months with the exception of January and December. We hold very successful seasonal shows with a variety of classes of Fruit, Vegetables and Flowers with Domestic and Floral classes too, something for everyone.

Our membership fee is £15 per year and our meetings are an entertaining evening out, or just come as a visitor.

We would welcome a visit from you, so come and have a sociable evening out whilst taking home ideas and tips, even a winning raffle prize.

We advertise each month, so keep a watch out to see what's on next year or contact us for more information. Club Secretary: 0779 900 2129.

Coffee and Chat at Café Platt



a 'Place of Welcome'

Wednesdays

10.00–12.00

in the Garden Room of Platt Church

*Lots of **delicious cakes** available, **good company***

*and a **weekly quiz***

All welcome – bring a friend and your dog!

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or contact Borough Green Medical Practice.

Submitted by Sevenoaks Primary Care Network

Hi there! My name is Alex and I am one of the two Health & Wellbeing Coaches working within the Sevenoaks Primary Care Network.

My main passion is supporting others to build up resilience to tackle life's problems and helping them put themselves back in the driving seat.

Within my sessions, my goal is to facilitate an environment where patients feel listened to, understood and encouraged to make changes in a long term capacity. We'll work together to set goals intended on guiding you in the right direction in a way that feels achievable for you.

Working with a Health & Wellbeing Coach could be exactly what you need to turn things around.

This is a FREE NHS service. Please scan the QR code or access the link below to refer yourself to my service.

<https://sevenoakspcn.gpweb.org.uk/services/health-and-wellbeing-coach->



BOROUGH GREEN MEDICAL PRACTICE

Monthly closure

The practice will be closed for training purposes on **Thursday 6th November** from 13.00. If you have an urgent need for medical attention please call 111. In an emergency continue to call 999. Please remember to collect your repeat prescriptions outside of these times.

Glass & Glazing Repairs



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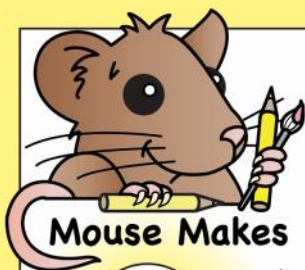
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PRE-PAID FUNERAL PLANS



LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Advent Sunday this year falls on 30th November. ADVENT is a time to celebrate the ARRIVAL of Jesus, God's Son, our Saviour. We look forward with HOPE, we give thanks for God's LOVE and the PEACE and JOY we have in Jesus.



Read:
Isaiah 40:5
What shall be revealed?



Read:
LUKE 2:10-11
Who is 'God's news of great joy' for?



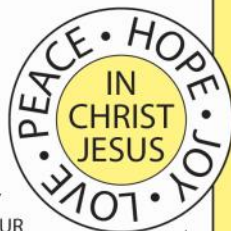
Read:
John 3:16
How did God show He loves us?



Read:
Romans 5:1-2
Through who do we have peace with God?

L G L O R Y E M P R O M I S E
S O K J Y A A R R I V A L W F
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V P L S V L I R P S V P C A R
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R E T U R N J O Y T W D B E D

ADVENT • ARRIVAL • HOPE • JOY • LOVE • PEACE • GOD • GLORY
MESSAGE • PROMISE • PROPHECY • FORETOLD • JESUS • SAVIOUR
CHRIST • GIFT • GOOD NEWS • RETURN • CANDLE • LIGHT



PLATT RECIPE OF THE MONTH



Welcome to another recipe of the month. This dish is comfort food at its best that I hope you will enjoy.

Once again please do send me your recipes so that I can share them with everyone who receives *Village News*.
justroma@hotmail.co.uk or 12 Greenlands, Platt TN15 8LL

Chicken and Squash Gratin

Ingredients

1 tbsp vegetable oil
1 onion, finely sliced
1 leek, roughly sliced
450g (1lb) butternut squash, peeled and cut into 2.5cm (1inch) pieces
3 skinless chicken breasts cut into bite-sized strips
50g (2oz) butter
50g (2oz) plain flour
500ml (17fl oz) milk
100g (3½oz) mascarpone cheese
2tsp dried tarragon
100g (3½oz) ciabatta bread, torn into small pieces

Method

Heat oil in a large pan and gently cook the onion, leek and squash for 15minutes, stirring occasionally, until softened. Set aside.

Meanwhile, put chicken into a separate pan, cover with cold water and bring to the boil. Turn down the heat and simmer for 5 minutes. Drain and add to the vegetable pan.

Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C fan) mark 4.

Melt butter in an empty pan and stir in flour, cook for 1 minute. Take off the heat and gradually whisk in milk to make a smooth sauce. Return to the heat and cook, stirring constantly, until thickened. Stir in mascarpone and tarragon. Check seasoning and stir sauce into the veg and chicken pan.

Empty into a heatproof serving dish and top with the bread. Cook for about 30 minutes or until the bread is golden and filling bubbling.

Serve with a green salad and enjoy.

Roma Churchill



PLATT C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS



Our new academic year has begun and the pupils have all returned to school with enthusiasm! As we have had such a settled start with them, the learning has got underway immediately. Our new starters in our Reception class have also settled in brilliantly. They are such a happy and eager group who are all getting along well and have quickly felt a part of our school family.

Our building is all back to normal following some long-term remedial works and it is lovely to have everyone back under the same roof.

Although we have only just settled in our new year, if you are looking for a school space for September 2026, we have two open sessions that you can attend to find out all about our school and most importantly, see it in action! The dates and times are:

Monday 3rd November 9-10am

Wednesday 19th November 5:30-6:30pm

Please email the school office to register your interest, stating how many spaces you require. We look forward to welcoming you.

Emma Smith, Headteacher, 882596

PLATT PRIMARY SCHOOL ANNUAL BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS NIGHT



Saturday 8th November

Stonehouse Field

Gates open at 5:45pm

Bonfire will be lit at 6:00pm

Fireworks will be 6:40-7:00pm

Music from Platt Boy

BBQ run by the Scouts

Bar selling wine, beer and cider run by the Governors

PTA selling light-up toys

(mostly cash only for all the above)

A huge bonfire and spectacular fireworks



Tickets are available from the Blue Anchor, Shakti News, Platt Primary School Office and online at the following link (booking fee applies):

https://app.tickettailor.com/event/ev_6995521

We've sold out in prior years so please get your tickets early to avoid disappointment!

Proceeds in aid of the school's Governors' Fund

FROM YOUR MP

All of us enjoy the quiet beauty of our countryside – the walks across the Downs/Weald, the still mornings, and the sense of calm that defines our corner of Kent. That's why the Government's decision to approve a second runway at Gatwick Airport will come as such a disappointment to so many of us.

I will continue to stand alongside the many local campaigners who have spent years working to defend our countryside and our communities. Growth in aviation should bring benefits to those who live nearby as well as to the industry itself and, at present, that balance has not been struck.

For us in Platt, you might ask why this matters. The community I represent goes as far south as Penshurst and Hever. These villages, primarily between Tonbridge and Edenbridge, suffer greatly from noise and environmental issues caused by being directly under the flightpath. Much of this area is a designated National Landscape, recognised for its beauty and importance. If this were a motorway on the ground, it would never be approved.

The airport stands to see a major increase in passenger numbers, but there remains no commitment to reinstate the direct rail link from Kent to Gatwick – something I believe should be in place before any expansion is allowed to operate. I made this point clearly at the public inquiry, along with the need for stricter limits on night flights, stronger protections from aircraft noise, and firm commitments to reduce the carbon impact of the airport. These are not unreasonable requests. They are essential safeguards for those of us who live beneath the flight paths and who already feel the strain of existing traffic in our skies.

Despite my concern at the decision, I will continue to work to try to secure a direct rail link. The work to date shows this coming to Tonbridge, which is much easier to get to than Borough Green and Wrotham. This would help ease traffic on the M25 and M23, and allow us to get to the airport more sustainably.

Post – 130 Vale Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1SP

Website – www.tomtugendhat.org

Facebook, Twitter and Instagram – @tomtugendhat

*Tom Tugendhat, MBE, MP, 01732 441563
tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk*



Mince Pies and Mulled Wine for Ghana

(and other seasonal treats)

Friday 5 December 6–8pm

Badgers Rise, Long Mill Lane, Platt

Free! – all donations on the night will go towards rebuilding Old Twomasan School.

We've already sent over £3,000, enough to build the first classroom block.

Come and meet Pastor Isaac, school founder. He's been sponsored to come to the UK for a church event and will then be staying in Platt.

Book: Caroline fiocaroli@tiscali.co.uk 07780 462192

Cantate Choir Christmas Concert

Saturday 13th December 7.30pm

St Mary's Church, Platt

Organist Alex Trigg

This concert promises to be a wonderful opening to the Christmas season.

We will be performing our favourite carols, old and new, from Joys Seven to Willcocks' Angelus ad Virginem. They will span several centuries of sacred music from Victoria to a 2010 piece by Todd. It will include three pieces by Palestrina, to mark the 500th Anniversary of his birth.

There will be audience carols to enjoy as well.

Celebrate the season with us.

Tickets: Adults £15, Students U18 £7.50, U12 £1.

<https://www.cantate-choir.info/category/future-concerts/>

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing the old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

The lady thought for a moment. "Only the Ten Commandments."

Courtesy of Parish Pump

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
Quiz Evening
and Supper
 Saturday 17th January
 Platt Memorial Hall
 More information next month but **SAVE THE DATE!**
 Tables of 8 – preferably in advance for catering purposes
Licensed Bar
 Proceeds shared between Platt Church & BG & Platt Players

PLATT LADIES GROUP

Our November meeting is on **Tuesday 11th November**, at the usual time of 2.30 pm at Platt Memorial Hall. Our speaker is Sara who will talk to us about the brand Temple Spa which is a British privately owned science-led and spa lifestyle brand. Sara will explain the benefits of various products and have all the products to try as well as Christmas gifts. Remember – visitors are always welcome. Your first visit is free and subsequent visits only cost £3 including refreshments.

Pat Darby, 885934 and Marion Cox, 883329

Cheap at the price

A little boy was pestering his parents for a baby brother or sister. They kept telling him 'maybe one day, but we can't afford one yet.'

Then one Sunday the little boy dragged his parents over to the noticeboard at the back of church. It was advertising a coming sale at the church and announced: 'Children: free'.

Courtesy of Parish Pump



BOROUGH GREEN LIBRARY, VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

The library is open for bookshelf browsing and borrowing books. Computers and Wi-Fi are available.

Opening hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10.00-13.00 and 14.00-17.00, Saturday 09.00-13.00.

Ancestry: Monday 10.15 – 12.15. Need to book an appointment

Scrabble: Tuesday 14.15 – 16.15

Coffee and Chat: Thursday 10.15 – 12.15, No need to book

Baby Rhyme time: Friday 10.15 – 10.45. No need to book

Friday 2 Book Club held (second Friday of each month) at 2.00pm.

Hi Kent runs free hearing aid aftercare clinics in towns villages and communities throughout Kent. **Next clinic** at Borough Green Library is **Friday 28th November, 14.00-15.30.**

For more help and advice please call the library on 03000 413131 or email boroughgreenlibrary@kent.gov.uk. Staff will be happy to help.



BOROUGH GREEN FOODBANK

Donations would be very much appreciated because, at present, the stocks of many items continue to be **low** or **very low** as follows:

LOW

Pasta
Rice, spaghetti, noodles
Spag. hoops & Mac Cheese
Chickpeas, lentils, etc
Puddings/tinned fruit
Tinned tomatoes
Baked beans
Tuna and other tinned fish
Cereal
Tinned veg
Biscuits
Crisps
Pasta sauce
Breakfast bars
Tinned meat products
Sweetcorn
Cartons of juice/squash



VERY LOW

Coffee, tea, hot choc.
Long-life milk
Marmite, Peanut butter, Jam
Shopping bags to put the food in for distribution are also needed please.

Donations may be left in the porches of St Mary's Platt Church or the Church of the Good Shepherd, Borough Green; both are open daily from 10.00 until 17.00.

Handyman

All DIY work for reasonable rates

Painting and Decorating,
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Potters Tots Playgroup



Potters Mede, Borough Green, TN15 7RD W3W ///fund.olive.loose

Fridays 9.30-11am Term time only.
£3 first child. 50p per sibling.

For any child before school age - babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers.
A different craft every week. Teas, coffees and snacks are included.
Somewhere for mums/dads/grandparents/caregivers to come and meet,
have adult conversation while the child socialises!

VILLAGE NEWS DIARY – FUTURE DATES, NO DETAILS

Here is a list of village diary dates already arranged for the months ahead. Do let me have any dates where events are already planned, to avoid clashes occurring – just dates, event and contact number, even if they are provisional. Please indicate whether the date is firm or not. I will update this diary monthly.

*denotes information elsewhere in this magazine. *Ed.*

December

Saturday 6th	Christmas Craft Fair in church
Saturday 13th	Cantate Choir Christmas concert in church
Sunday 14th	Splatt Nativity presentation
Sunday 21st	Carol Service

2026 17th January Quiz Night and supper– MH

11th July Vigo Singers Concert in church

5th September Memorial Hall 10th Anniversary Celebration

LOVE TO MOVE EXERCISE CLASSES

Love to Move, developed by the British Gymnastics Foundation, is a scientifically-designed seated movement programme tailored to benefit the physical, emotional, and cognitive health of older adults, including those living with mild to advanced forms of dementia. The exercises are done to music

The classes are held in the Garden Room at Platt Church every Tuesday for about an hour starting at 11.00. They are run by Anita Card who makes a modest charge for those who attend (carers free).

The sessions are inclusive, welcoming, and adapted to suit a wide range of abilities and create a joyful, supportive environment for everyone involved.

If you are interested in joining in, please contact Anita on 07710 657781.

MONDAY BADMINTON CLUB

The club plays at Platt Memorial Hall on Monday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm. If you are interested in joining or finding out more about the group, please contact Jane on jane.pover@gmail.com We have men as well as women, so all are welcome.

PARISH NOTICE BOARD – small ads

PC Matters – For all your computer needs
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Fault-finding repairs/Wire re-routing
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Slimming World Group on
Wednesdays

8am, 9.30am,
5.30pm and 7pm
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HEALTH WALKS

The Monday Health Walks continue as usual, including Bank Holiday Mondays, leaving from the foot of St Mary's Platt church steps at **10am on Mondays**. Please check with your walk leader or Jan Bryce: 01732 885048, jan.bryce1954@gmail.com..

Returning and new walkers are welcome. We walk for about 75 minutes through the woods and along local footpaths with occasional sections on roads. After the walk, refreshments are served in the Garden Room.

Abbreviations and locations:

MH = Memorial Hall, CR = Memorial Hall Committee Room.
The Hall is accessed off the A25 via Platinum Way, TN15 8FH or via the steps (just by the pedestrian lights).
GR = Garden Room (adjoining the church)
Stonehouse Field – signposted from Long Mill Lane.

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MEMORIAL HALL BOOKINGS

The bookings diary can be viewed and bookings may be made online through the Hallmaster diary system at
www.plattmemorialhall.org/scheduler/

The bookings secretary is Rachael Melling, 07490 957060 or
secretary@plattmemorialhall.org

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This publication is produced by St Mary's Platt Church
for the community that includes
St Mary's Platt, Comp, Crouch, Basted Mill,
Wrotham Heath, and the Old Sawmill.



More news on our website:
www.stmarysplattchurch.org.uk