THE VOICE
April 2020

faith
hope
love

A COMMUNITY MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGE OF BOROUGH GREEN
SPONSORED BY THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
DELIVERED FREE TO OVER 1900 HOMES AND BUSINESSES
It was the best of times, it was the worst of times…

The coronavirus outbreak has produced an amazing community response. Friends, family and neighbours have been helping and supporting each other. Community groups have been established and are working out ways to care for the vulnerable among us. There have been offers of help with shopping, collecting prescriptions, donations to food banks and phoning the isolated.

On the flip side, there have been stories of hoarding, profiteering, racist attacks and exploitation of the vulnerable. Many people have been driven by panic and some have taken advantage of that.

Easter is about the best and worst of times.

It’s a story of betrayal (by Judas) and denial by a friend (Peter). Of powerful people buying someone for money (30 pieces of silver). A tale of torture, abuse, cowardice, and state-sanctioned murder.

It’s also a tale of service (Jesus washing the disciples’ feet), bravery (Nicodemus and Joseph taking Jesus’ body to be buried) and female empowerment (Mary Magdalene being the first witness of the resurrection). It’s ultimately a story of self-sacrificing love as Jesus gave Himself on the cross.

Easter is also a story of hope. It may seem, with the constantly updating news about coronavirus, that everything is bleak and for many around the world these are the worst of times. Jesus’ friends and family saw no hope on Good Friday. When the stone was rolled over the entrance to the tomb with Jesus dead and buried they all thought that was the end. The hope that Easter Sunday brought, with Jesus’ resurrection, was unbelievable. Even when Mary told them what she had seen they couldn’t comprehend it.

The Easter hope is still real today. When all we can see is the cross, the pain, the hurt, the fear and the loss it is easy to feel hopeless. However, Jesus Christ is risen today. Hold on to that hope and live the resurrection life that is offered to all.

Have a blessed and hope-filled Easter.

Chris Turner
Church of the Good Shepherd - Coronavirus Update
Following national guidelines we are suspending all public worship and social events in the church until further notice

Meanwhile…

Morning prayer will be said each day in the church at 9:30.
If you would like prayers said for anyone, then please message.
If you would like to pray at the same time (or another time) then you can find morning prayer here:
https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer

The church will also be open during the day if you want to come in for some quiet, say a prayer or light a candle.

God bless
Revd. Chris Turner

Helping those in need

Between friends, family and neighbours we hope all the vulnerable and isolated in our community, as a result of the coronavirus outbreak, are given help at this difficult time. However, if there is someone you are aware of in need (even if it's yourself) then please get in touch.
Revd. Chris Turner (01732) 882447 vicar.cogs@gmail.com
Vicar of the Church of the Good Shepherd

Foodbank
at the Church of the Good Shepherd

The foodbank is currently running. There are some shortages of items (particularly pasta, long-life milk, breakfast bars and cereals) so if you can help in any way to provide those items (or others) then we would be grateful.
Items may be delivered to the Church between 9am and 10am on Mondays weekly (Tuesday when Monday is a bank holiday).
For any enquiries regarding our Foodbank please contact Nigel Ralph 882408.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS
FUNERAL
Dorothy Douglas

We offer our condolences to all those recently bereaved.

WANTED
Double knitting yarn - donations gratefully received, please contact Pam on 886150.
Are you self-isolating?
You might need the support of Borough Green Helpers
We are a team of 20+ volunteers from the local community who are happy to help you. This might be with:
  Shopping/supplies
  Posting letters/parcels
  Collecting prescriptions
  A friendly phone call

Please feel free to contact either:
Katherine Keen: 07533 794 431
Jessica Stupple: 07801 187 029
Siobhan Hurll: 07595 622 993

We can then put you in touch with one of our helpers. You are not alone and as a community let’s all help each other at this time.

WOODLANDS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Dear Residents
It has been brought to our attention that there are some unscrupulous individuals going around Borough Green offering help to do your shopping but just disappearing with your money! Please be very careful. To that end we have the following plan :-

In the event of a lockdown, self-isolation etc, help is available! Please make contact by telephone if you are in need of help. This is just in case you need some Shopping, Posting of mail, Urgent supplies or just a friendly phone call. Medical help should be found on the internet or telephone - 111.

  Point of first contact  Steve Hayman  885557
  9 Crowhurst Road
  stephenhayman@hotmail.co.uk
Or contact your road rep who will be glad to help.

Editor’s note - The above is an example of what one residents association is doing. If there are other examples I would be pleased to include them in future editions of the magazine.
Notes from Borough Green Parish Council

The Parish Council met at 7.30pm on Monday 9 March 2020 in the Annexe to The Church of the Good Shepherd. Matters discussed and reports received included:

- As a result of Hazel's resignation as Parish Clerk after 37 years due to ill-health, the Council advertised and received 11 applicants, shortlisted to 4. A small interview panel made a recommendation to the Council, and Mr Bernie Galopin was appointed and takes post on 1 April. Wrotham Parish Clerk and Hazel will work with the new Clerk until he settles in.

- By the time you read this the Corona Virus epidemic may have escalated, with the Government imposing bans on Public Meetings, so the Parish voted the authority to operate in the short term on-line, and updates will be posted at www.boroughgreen.gov.uk

- On 9 March the purchase of the land between the surgery and Harrison Rd was completed, and you are all now the proud owners of a new piece of green amenity space. We are also talking to Cooper Estates about the possibility of a gift of the boundary land on Harrison Rd. Crest Nicholson also advise they are speeding up the transfer of Isles Quarry East to the Parish.

- The Revamp Project for the Children's Play did not get the hoped for £50k grant, only £25k, so it was decided to obtain 3 quotes for a complete replacement, raising the price to allow a Lottery Grant application. The Parish have also begun seeking a Public Works Loan Board Facility for a further £100k to ensure we have the margin to carry out this project properly, bearing in mind the impact of the Surgery Land purchase on our reserves.

- We are talking to the Church of the Good Shepherd about the installation of another public defibrillator outside the Church. It will be jointly funded.

- The Waste & Recycling fiasco seems to be slowly resolving, but please continue to report failures to TMBC and the Borough Councillors, Tim, Wendy and myself.

- As a result of Tonbridge & Malling failing to even discuss a new fairer BMPOS Constitution, Borough Green and Platt Parish Councils are joining Plaxtol PC and are resigning from the Basted Mill Open Space Committee. The land will still remain a public open space, we won't lose it. Hopefully TMBC will see sense and work with us before the resignations take effect in March 2021

- The Parish Council is responsible for all street lighting in the Parish, apart from the Main A25 and A227, and Quarry Hill Road. If you see a light out or day burning, please report to the contacts below.

- The April meeting of the Parish Council and the opportunity to meet the parish councillors have been cancelled. Appointments can be arranged to meet the Clerk, queries raised or ideas exchanged using the contact details below.

Contact the Chairman  mike.taylor@boroughgreen.gov.uk  01732 882880
Full minutes are posted at  www.boroughgreen.gov.uk
JUST A REMINDER - ARTICLES FOR THE VOICE

Just a reminder that the Voice relies on the people of Borough Green to make the magazine as successful as possible. The editorial team is most grateful to all those who already provide articles (regularly or one off) but would also encourage other organisations, clubs and individuals to do so - to help produce more complete coverage of the activities and interests of our community.

So come on all you budding writers of all ages - put pen or pencil to paper (or type an email) and submit an article.

Advertising

Any commercial bodies or people offering services who wish to advertise should contact Chris Atkins on 01732 366615 or email chris.atkins1952@gmail.com about rates and availability of spaces.

If you have something you want to sell, a caravan or cottage you want to let for holidays etc then contact Margaret Jeffery. The cost of such personal notices are just £2 per issue. Cheques should be made payable to The Church of the Good Shepherd.

The views expressed in the articles are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team. The Editorial Team cannot accept responsibility for wrong information received, or mistakes that occur in publication. The Editorial Team cannot accept responsibility for any delay in distribution. Publication of advertisements does not imply any form of recommendation. All articles in this magazine are covered by copyright, and permission must be obtained before reproducing them in any format.

Articles for the next magazine

The deadline for articles for the next magazine will be Wednesday 15 April and these should be sent to the address below. The next magazine will cover May so if you have any events planned for that month and you would like them to appear in the diary section please send to:-

m-jeffery@talktalk.net
01732 883978

Margaret Jeffery
7 Lendon Road
Borough Green
TN15 8SE
Borough Green Medical Practice (received 11 March)

Prevent coronavirus spreading
Things we can all do to help stop viruses like coronavirus spreading:

• cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
• put used tissues in the bin immediately
• wash your hands with soap and water often – use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
• try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell
• do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.

If you are worried about your symptoms…

use the online NHS 111 coronavirus service or call NHS 111

Do not go directly to your GP, pharmacy, hospital or other healthcare setting.


Stay at home: guidance for people with confirmed or possible coronavirus (COVID-19) infection

Symptoms
The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

• new continuous cough and/or
• high temperature

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild infection.

Main messages

• if you live alone and you have symptoms of coronavirus illness (COVID-19), however mild, stay at home for 7 days from when your symptoms started.
• if you live with others and you or one of them have symptoms of coronavirus, then all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill
• it is likely that people living within a household will infect each other or be infected already. Staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community
• for anyone in the household who starts displaying symptoms, they need to stay at home for 7 days from when the symptoms appeared, regardless of what day they are on in the original 14 day isolation period.
• if you can, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period
• if you cannot move vulnerable people out of your home, stay away from them as much as possible
  • if you have coronavirus symptoms:
  • do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital
  • you do not need to contact 111 to tell them you’re staying at home
  • testing for coronavirus is not needed if you’re staying at home (ctd)
• plan ahead and ask others for help to ensure that you can successfully stay at home and consider what can be done for vulnerable people in the household
• ask your employer, friends and family to help you to get the things you need to stay at home
• wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water, or use hand sanitiser
• if you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home, or your condition gets worse, or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days, then use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service. If you do not have internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999

Guidance on social distancing for everyone in the UK and protecting older people and vulnerable adults
We are advising those who are at increased risk of severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19) to be particularly stringent in following social distancing measures.
This group includes those who are:
aged 70 or older (regardless of medical conditions)
under 70 with an underlying health condition (ie anyone instructed to get a flu jab as an adult each year on medical grounds)
those who are pregnant
Note: there are some clinical conditions which put people at even higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19. If you are in this category, next week the NHS in England will directly contact you with advice the more stringent measures you should take in order to keep yourself and others safe.
What is social distancing?
Social distancing measures are steps you can take to reduce the social interaction between people. This will help reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). They are:
• Avoid contact with someone who is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). These symptoms include high temperature and/or new and continuous cough;
• Avoid non-essential use of public transport, varying your travel times to avoid rush hour, when possible;
• Work from home, where possible. Your employer should support you to do this. Please refer to employer guidance for more information;
• Avoid large gatherings, and gatherings in smaller public spaces such as pubs, cinemas, restaurants, theatres, bars, clubs
• Avoid gatherings with friends and family. Keep in touch using remote technology such as phone, internet, and social media.
• Use telephone or online services to contact your GP or other essential services.

Everyone should be trying to follow these measures as much as is pragmatic. For those who are over 70, have an underlying health condition or are pregnant, we strongly advise you to follow the above measures as much as you can, and to significantly limit your face-to-face interaction with friends and family if possible. This advice is likely to be in place for some weeks.
The Planning Inspectors have now provided more details on the arrangements for the Hearings sessions on T&MBC’s Local Plan. Full details of the Inspectors’ Matters and Issues for Stage 1, the Stage 1 Hearing sessions Timetable and Inspectors’ Guidance Notes for the Examination can be viewed at www.tmbc.gov.uk/lpexamcontents.

In short, the examination will take place in two stages.

**Stage 1** will solely cover legal and procedural matters, duty to cooperate, the spatial strategy, settlement hierarchy and development strategy the approach to the Green Belt and Objectively Assessed Needs for Housing and Employment Land. If following the Stage 1 hearing sessions, the Inspectors are satisfied that the relevant legal duty has been met and consider the Plan is legally compliant and capable of being found sound on the matters considered at Stage 1 the examination will move on to Stage 2 on a date yet to be set.

**Stage 2** will consider all matters not considered in Stage 1, including the site allocations, housing land supply and delivery and development management type policies. A list of matters, issues and questions for Stage 2 will be issued in due course.

The Stage 1 hearing sessions will start at 10am on Tuesday 19 May at The Orchards, New Road, East Malling, ME19 6BJ. It is now anticipated that the Stage 1 hearings will last for 5 days (19 – 21 May and 24 - 25 June).

It is open for representors to submit an additional statement in advance of the hearings provided the content of further submissions seeks to address the questions the Inspectors have raised, and the subject matter directly relates to the issues raised in original representations. Representors should not seek to repeat comments already submitted or introduce new areas of objection to the Plan at this stage. However, the submission of further written material is not a requirement and respondents may rely on their original submissions. Only those parties seeking specific changes to the Plan are entitled to participate in the hearing sessions of the examination, and there is no need for those supporting or merely making comments on the Plan to attend. Anyone wishing to take part in a hearing session should confirm their participation with the Programme Officer by 5.00pm on Thursday 9 April. The Inspectors will only be hearing those parties who have made such arrangements

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*Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council has taken the decision to cancel forthcoming committee meetings until further notice. They also recommend that where possible any residents who need to pay bills, renew licences or get advice should avoid travelling to their offices and instead access services via their website, email or telephone.*

*It remains to be seen if the dates for the Hearing sessions are subject to change.*

_Margaret Jeffery_
BOROUGH GREEN
WAR MEMORIAL

Those associated with Borough Green who lost their lives during the Second World War.

David John Summers

David John Summers was born on 24 September 1924 and is the son of Frederick Charles and Mabel Summers (née Russell) who were married in 1923.

In 1939 David Summers was living with his parents, Charles and Mabel, at 25 Spencer's Cottages, Station Road, Borough Green. David was a general agricultural worker working with horses and his father is also listed as a general agricultural worker. David's father is also listed as being part of a demolition and rescue team, part of the preparations for WW2.

Unfortunately, I am unable to find much information on David John Summers (CH/X 112514) but I do know that he was a Royal Marine on LCS (M) 902 (Landing Craft Support). He died on 12 February 1945 at the age of 21 and is buried in the Wissenkerke General Cemetery, Zeeland, Netherlands.

Landing Craft Support - LCS (M)

© Public Domain

A Landing Craft Support (Medium) in South West Holland
The Landing Craft Support was used to provide heavy machine gun firepower close in. The Landing Craft Support (Medium) (LCS (M)), Mark 2 and Mark 3 were used by the British forces at Normandy. The crew was Royal Navy, with Royal Marines to operate the weapons: two 0.5 inch Vickers machine guns and a 4-inch mortar to fire smoke shells.

Suzanne Young
Village Directory

The Church of the Good Shepherd

VICAR  Chris Turner  882447
LICENSED LAY MINISTER  Elaine Almond, 5 Stone Court  886440
READER  Chris Almond, 5 Stone Court  886440
CHURCHWARDENS  Dominick Pearce, 20 Annetts Hall  490116
                        Julie Sweeting, 3 High Street  885437
PCC SEC  Sally Metcalf  845549
PCC TREASURER  Mark Sweeting, 3, High Street  885437
PARISH CHURCH HALL
  CHAIRMAN  Alan Williams, 4 Rock Road  886557
  BOOKING SEC  Jenny Cant  883405

Other Borough Green Contacts

BAPTIST CHURCH (BG)  882624
  Contact – Mr E Porter  780077
  WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP  Mrs A Heren  883305
BADMINTON CLUB (BG)  Mr P Sales  884405
                     LADIES  Mrs Pauline Deards  884755
BADMINTON CLUB (Ightham)  Mr N Dennis  882078
BOWLS (BG)  Ray Fuller  884621
BORODARA  Mrs S Brown  884539
BOROGRADS SEC  Lucilla Mackay, 65 Crouch Lane  882045
BRIGHT START PRE-SCHOOL  Nicky Thompson  07858 188 867
CAMPAIGN TO
  PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND  Mr M Taylor  882880
  CAROLINE CLARE DANCE  Caroline Madden  07944 332 275
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS (BG)
  COMMITTEE - ORGANISER  Mrs S Gould  884336
  TREASURER  Mrs M Vick  884101
CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU  440488
COMMUNITY WARDEN  Ms Jess Jarrett  07811 271 307
DOCTORS’ SURGERY
  Surgery hours  885555
  NHS (helpline)  111
FAIRSEAT RESIDENTS  Mrs H Tornbom  07710 156 150
FIRE BRIGADE (BG)  Non emergency calls only  882581
GIRL GUIDES (BG)  Jennifer Elliott  boroughgreenguides@gmail.com
IGHTHAM & DISTRICT  Dee Samways  07799 002 129
GARDENERS CLUB
J5 SLIPS ORGANISATION  Tim Shaw  883375
KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR  Mr H Rayner  03000 421 606
LIBRARY (BG)  Village Hall Car Park  03000 413 131
NETBALL (BG & W)  Carley Compaan  07841 574 156
PARISH COUNCIL (BG)
  CHAIRMAN  Mr M Taylor  882880
  VICE CHAIR  Mr T Shaw  883375
  CLERK  Mr B Galopin  clerk@boroughgreen.gov.uk
POLICE CONTACT NUMBER  Non-emergency calls only  101
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION  Mrs M Vick  884101
SCHOOL PA (BG)  Borough Green School  883459
SCOUT GROUP  bgscoutmembers@hotmail.co.uk
SEVENOAKS CHRONICLE  Emma Holdsworth  emmaholdsworth@yahoo.co.uk
No Diary for April as so many events have been cancelled including the following

COGS - All public worship and social events
BG Baptist Church - All Services and events
SJCC - All Masses and social events
Parish Council - April Meeting and Meet the Councillors
Library - All events
Village Hall - Friday Lunch Club, Tuesday Ladies Club meeting and coffee morning (and a number of commercial bookings)
Wrotham Historical Society
Basted Mill Open Space AGM
Ightham Gardeners—Spring Show

75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe
For some months there has been planning of a Celebration for 8 May. However, in the light of updates from Downing Street and with increasing concerns for peoples’ well-being, it has been decided to postpone the event until life returns to normality. We shall then have a double reason to celebrate both the Corona end of threat and the VE Day anniversary.

Chris Hurl

BOROGRADS NEWS
After our extremely well-received Pantomime in February, we were looking forward to our Spring production at Platt in April. Due to the Coronavirus outbreak in the country, the committee made the decision that it would be unwise to proceed with our Spring production. A regrettable conclusion, but a necessary and responsible one.
We intend to postpone the production until Spring 2021. Depending on the situation at the time, we plan to hold our AGM in June and a members’ evening in October.
Roger Thorpe, Chair
Bid to create carbon neutral borough launched

(Extracts from press release issued 2 March)

Consultation launched to make Tonbridge and Malling a 'cleaner, greener borough'. Residents and businesses across Tonbridge and Malling are being invited to help shape plans to combat climate change.

A consultation by Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council is seeking views on a 10 year strategy to reduce carbon emissions, cut pollution and protect the environment. The draft strategy, which highlights the council’s ‘pivotal role’ in leading change and promoting more sustainable approaches for homes and businesses, also sets out the scale of the challenge. Quoting Tyndall Centre research, it says the borough’s carbon emissions need to reduce significantly from present levels to hit global targets for keeping temperature rises below two degrees Centigrade. Government figures show that Tonbridge and Malling’s biggest source of carbon emissions is transport which accounts for approximately 450 kilotonnes a year. Domestic energy releases nearly 250 kilotonnes and industry around 150 kilotonnes.

The council has published an action plan alongside its strategy to kick-start a drive to become a carbon neutral borough by 2030. The proposals being put forward cover areas such as home building, transport, recycling, energy conservation and air quality. Action plan ideas include:

- **Policy** – commission research to map the existing carbon footprint of the borough and develop a programme of activities to reduce emissions; develop new policy-making approaches which embed climate change and biodiversity in council decision-making
- **Transport** – work with Kent County Council to ensure that planning permissions promote sustainable development and transport links; develop campaigns to crack down on drivers who leave car engines idling; support take-up of electric vehicles by expanding the network of charging points
- **Housing and energy** – launch campaigns to help residents and landlords insulate homes; support group purchasing schemes to reduce the cost for homeowners to install solar panels
- **Biodiversity** – develop a Tree Charter for the borough and wildflower meadows; promote public awareness of environmental issues through 20 public events at council-owned parks and public spaces

The council’s recently introduced household collections of waste have already seen a sharp increase in recycling rates across the borough, passing 50% for the first time. Non-recyclable material is incinerated and food waste processed to generate electricity for residents’ homes. These and other measures mean no rubbish from Tonbridge and Malling is sent to land-fill sites.

The action plan also commits the council to reducing its own carbon emissions by switching to electric vehicles, using more energy efficient technology, reducing use of paper and converting car park ticket machines to solar power.

The consultation runs from 2 March to 1 May 2020 and can be found at: www.tmbc.gov.uk/services/council-and-democracy/consultations/climate-change
Potter FC’s league form has picked up in the last couple of months and they now stand in 5th place (out of 10) after winning their last three matches. Results during the period were a 4-3 win and 0-2 loss against Hall AFC Reserves, a 2-0 win and 1-1 draw against Blackham & Ashurst, a 1-3 loss to Nomads, a 0-0 draw with FC Revo and a 3-1 win over Tonbridge Invicta.

For the latest information go to www.pottersfc.co.uk.

On 12 March Sandra Edmunds (Dementia Champion) and I carried out a key stage 1 and 2 Dementia Assembly for all the students of Borough Green Primary school. We shared some ideas, thoughts and feelings with the children on Dementia awareness which links in well with their PSHE programme and raises awareness of a community issue which may have already touched many of our lives. By working together and raising awareness of Dementia we begin to educate and ensure that people who are living with Dementia can eventually feel more supported living in their own communities. The programme we carried out is set up through Alzheimer’s UK, and allows the children to make their own pledges to support people they may know in their own families/communities who are living with Dementia. They are currently making their own pledges at this time and once all is done they will all receive a Dementia Friendly badge to wear on their uniform to inform the residents that they are aware of Dementia and they are there to help when someone is in need.

I would like to thank Mrs Sandberg (Head teacher), Mrs Jeffery (Assistant Head Teacher) and all the staff at Borough Green Primary school for allowing us to educate all the students.

Jessica Jarrett
Kent County Council Community Warden
Tuesday Ladies’ Club.

Tuesday Ladies’ Club held their AGM on Tuesday 3 March. We have had a very successful first year since the start of TLC, The table flowers number was drawn. The February minutes were signed. Following the business, members then enjoyed two fun games “Guess Who is in the Wedding Picture” and “Human Bingo”, both of which provided an entertaining and amusing end to the evening.

The Programme Planning Committee 2021 is now up and running and members are asked to pass any suggestions to this group.

Due to the COVID 19 virus, along with many other community organisations, we are cancelling all our forthcoming events through to the summer.

On a more positive note plans for the 2021 January Party on the 19th are underway. The venue and entertainment have been booked and is something for members to look forward to at this gloomy time.

Could the person who mistakenly took Tony Hurll’s white stick from the village hall after the BoroDARA meeting please return it ASAP. It is actually on long-term loan from Kent Association for the Blind. Tony has already had one near-miss with a car he did not see and the car driver did not see any reason to take avoiding action! Please contact Chris Hurll 07518 044 486.

Borough Green Primary School PTA presents:

The Summer Fair

Saturday 16th May
12-3pm

Amazing prizes raffle Coconut Shy Retail stalls Licensed bar BBQ Inflatables Ice creams Welly Wanging Teacher Hoopla Barrow of beer Splat the Rat Archery and much much more!

Entrance:
Adults 50p
Children free
From your County Councillor

Last month I invited a ‘guest writer’ to this column. That was my friend Cllr Robin Betts, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Councillor (TMBC) for Wrotham, Ightham and Stansted and the TMBC Cabinet Member for Streetscene, Waste and Recycling. His contribution brought by far the largest number of emails to my ‘inbox’ and telephone calls since I commenced these articles in 2017. I am still in the process of replying to some correspondents, so if I have not replied to you yet, you may rest assured that I will shortly.

This column is entirely my own work, or as Robin so kindly put it “Harry Rayner writes rubbish”. This month my subject is how KCC processes your waste and recycling, where it goes and how it gets there. Kent County Council is the Waste and Recycling Disposal Authority and is obliged to ensure that it safely and economically disposes of, or recycles, all household waste. I have been thinking about writing this article for some time and have decided that now, with the greatly increased recycling collection arrangements in TMBC and Tunbridge Wells since last October, this is the appropriate time.

Black bin waste, that is the non-recyclable element of domestic waste, is, for most of my Division (Hildenborough being the exception) taken by TMBC’s contractors domestic waste freighter to the Kent Enviropower waste to energy plant, located on the 20/20 Business Park, just to the west of Maidstone. Here the waste is burned to produce electricity - enough to power around 50,000 homes annually. Hildenborough’s black bin waste is transferred to the North Farm Waste Transfer Station, where it is loaded together with Tunbridge Wells waste and transferred by bulk tipping vehicles to the above mentioned Kent Enviropower plant.

Food waste when collected separately is carried directly to the Panda Group composting facility at Blaise Farm, located just to the north west of Kings Hill. Here food waste is mixed with brown bin garden waste, whereafter it is composted. Currently, the mixed material is composted within an enclosed environment, which allows temperature levels to be carefully monitored, allowing natural bacteria to rot to compost. The resulting fertiliser is then sold for horticultural and agricultural use. During the latter part of this year, KCC are planning to commission a new high capacity anaerobic digestion plant at Blaise Farm to compost food waste only. Through this means, it is hoped to extract gas from this process to be used for power generation, as well as to continue the recovery of fertiliser as mentioned previously. Brown bin garden waste is taken by TMBC contractor’s freighter, to the existing Panda Group composting facility at Blaise Farm.

The recyclable material collected through the green lidded bins, is taken to The Kent Enviropower facility, (North Farm for Hildenborough residents) by T&MBC contractors refuse freighter. This facility also has a waste transfer station where all the material collected is loaded on to bulk tippers or walking floor vehicles for transfer to Veola Environmental Services at Rainham Essex (formerly Cory
Tom Tugendhat  MP’s Column
The fight for Thameslink services on the Maidstone East Line continues. The reliability of the rail service has been poor over the past few weeks and even one train not operating properly has a significant effect on the ability of us all to get around.

It’s why we need Thameslink to be introduced urgently. It would give us better options from Borough Green station, not just to cope with the days when Southeastern have problems, but also to give us better connections in to central London.

Last month I’ve been busy making sure that those who can deliver this make sure it happens. I’ve met with GTR and Network Rail. It’s disappointing that much of the work that needs to happen to make it possible hasn’t been finished yet – after all, this service should have been running for many years now. I’ve also asked the Department for Transport about whether GTR are breaching their contract by not delivering the service, as I think they are.

We’re lucky to have friends who see the benefit to this as well. I was sitting next to Sevenoaks MP, Laura Trott, when she raised this at Prime Minister’s Questions a few weeks ago. I’m pleased that the Prime Minister knows how important this is and gave his assurance that it would be delivered. I look forward to seeing this happen.

tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk

(Continued from page 25)

Waste). This plant has an advanced mixed plastics polymer separation facility and recycling plant. Here it is separated into 9 different grades of plastic, ranging from bottles, yoghurt pots, retail food sales trays. Steel and aluminum products are separated and also recycled offsite.

Paper and board is recycled mainly within Kent, at local board and paper making factories.

I recently visited a recycling plant near Sittingbourne which receives timber and wood products from amongst other suppliers, KCC household waste recycling sites, where it is degassed. The remaining material is chipped and then shipped overseas from Ridham Dock, to be used as fuel in local heat and light plants in North Germany and Scandinavia.

Next month: KCC and the TMBC Local Plan making process – interesting times ahead!

Harry Rayner, Kent County Councillor
Tel 03000 421606 Email:Harry.Rayner@kent.gov.uk
Motivation

We all need to motivate ourselves to do something. Somethings are easy to do, some, at first glance, are unachievable. If somethings seem like that is there a real obstruction or just an excuse not to do something? I’ve asked my son: if you decide that you want to be an astronaut and go to the Moon, what are your excuses and what are real obstructions? Your age? Height? Where you live? Lack of knowledge? Or the fact that you don’t have a spaceship? After a while my son said: the fact that I don’t have a spaceship. Well done my boy! Only the fact that you don’t have a spaceship prevents you from traveling to the Moon in the future. The rest is in your hands and depends on you. If you really want to be an astronaut, you can! But there are two conditions that you need to fulfil: first is your strong confidence. Second is your belief, the fact that you give credence to your goal. That’s it. You will fail in your life not once and not twice. What really matters is how you will treat your failure and what lesson you will learn. Most people are not even trying, some are giving up after their first attempt, but very few are motivated to carry on until they reach their goal.

As Brian Tracy said: “The history of human race is the history of ordinary people who have overcome their fears and accomplished extraordinary things”. But somehow they are strong enough to motivate themselves to do this. Constantly seek for the motivation my son. Remember your failures but also remember your moments of glory when you managed to do this little step that leads you to your big goal.

When you get a bit older quite often you’ll be doing lists of your Top 5 or Top 10 of animals, favourite friends, most beautiful girls, beloved cars and so one. Don’t forget to do your Top 10 list of the greatest achievements in your life so far and try to remember how you felt when you achieved them. This will help you to reach for more… And please: repeat this exercise quite often…

Bartosz Wlodarczyk

THOSE MAGNIFICENT MEN
FRIDAY 1 MAYabar opens - 7.30 performance
Tickets £15 (£5 children) includes first drink
Email: fiecaroli@tiscali.co.uk or text 07876 475 890

A hit play about pioneering aviators Capt. John Alcock and Lt. Arthur Whitten Brown and their daredevil dash across the Atlantic in the tiny open cockpit of a converted Vickers biplane. How can a couple of actors tell it all with just cardboard, two chairs and some left over props?

Presented by The Foundry Group—a band of writers and performers committed to producing affordable, popular, intelligent touring shows with a broad appeal. Proceeds of this event go to Platt Church stained glass window restoration fund.
For questions directly relating to our fundraising activity, please contact the fundraising team on 01622 790195. We are carefully considering all of our immediate fundraising plans and working with our supporters to identify how we can minimise the impact of lost fundraising opportunities on delivering the vital care that our patients and their loved ones need. We are carefully monitoring the advice and recommendations from Public Health England and other relevant organisations and the safety of everyone attending is our utmost concern and will be a priority in any decisions we make. Please regularly check www.hokh.org/events for the latest updates.

**Concert of Favourite Music**, Invicta Grammar School for Girls, Maidstone ME14 5DS, **Saturday 25 April** 6.00 to 8.00pm
Please join us for a concert of favourite music featuring Heart of Kent Orchestra, The programme includes The Blue Danube, Mars, Jupiter, Elizabethan Serenade, Sabre Dance, Bohemian Rhapsody, The Simpsons, Hungarian Rhapsody No.2 as well as Simon Proctor’s Original and Hollywood Piano Concertos. Tickets are £15 for adults and £7 for children. A 20% discount will be applied for groups of 10 or more if booked by 6 April.
To book your tickets please visit www.hokh.org/support-us/events, call us on 01622 790195 or email fundraising@hokh.co.uk.

**Barn Dance and Supper** Grove Green Community Centre, Maidstone ME14 5BT. **Saturday 25 April** 7.30 – 11.00 pm
Yeeeeehaw!!! Do-si-do down to a Barn Dance and Supper featuring live music from Boughton Ceilidh Band. No dancing experience required. Ticket price is £15 (over 14s only) and includes a ploughman’s supper. There will be a bar on the night selling a selection of wines, beers, gin and tonic and soft drinks only. Doors open at 7.00 pm.
To book tickets for a rootin’ tootin’ time visit www.hokh.org/events - call 01622 790195 or fundraising@hokh.co.uk. We look forward to seeing y’all!!

**Bluebell Walk Sunday 3 May** Starting and finishing at Harrietsham Village Hall, ME17 1AP, anytime between 8.00 and 10.30am. Dogs on leads welcome.
For full details of all entry fees or to make a booking please visit www.hokh.org/events, contact us on 01622 790195, or pick up a form from one of our shops or the Fundraising desk at the Hospice. Early bird prices apply to all bookings made by 3 April.

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING RAMBLERS** have cancelled all walks until at least the end of May.