

# THE VOICE

June 2024

## COGS Summer Fayre 2024



**Saturday 29 June, 12 pm - 3 pm**

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## **Editorial from the Church of the Good Shepherd**

June 2024

### **God's music....**

I heard a story about Luis who dreamt about meeting Jesus and being invited to a party in honour of Beethoven. When Luis and Jesus arrived they found lots of guests there along with Beethoven himself and an orchestra playing the great composer's music. However, the orchestra was out of tune, not in time with each other and playing a lot of wrong notes. The other guests started getting upset, turned on Beethoven and started throwing things. Jesus pulled Luis to one side and said, "Just because they can't play his music properly, don't reject the composer."

One way to think about Christians (and the churches they make up) is they are musicians playing God's music in the world. Occasionally we'll play it perfectly and it's a wonderful thing to experience. Most often there are a few wrong notes or slightly off-key – not perfect, but still pretty good. Sometimes the tune is barely recognisable and there are even times when some completely different music is being played and people pretend it's God's.

Sadly, there are many people who have had bad experiences of the church and of 'Christians'— those claiming to be playing God's music. Those experiences can lead people to turn away from God, to curse God or deny God's existence. But should we hate the composer because an orchestra gets the music wrong?

There are lots of different orchestras and most of them try really hard to play God's music well. So, if you've only experienced it done badly or you've listened and thought, "did God really write this?" - maybe try another orchestra? Or if you're not ready for that perhaps listen to the music God is humming in your heart? Though He does want us to join in, God can make His own music in the world too!

As people, we are never going to get things 100% right all the time. And parts of God's music for the world are that we can mess up and still be invited to pick up our instruments and carry on playing. But when others, or even ourselves, get the music wrong, remember that the composer, the creator of the piece, still wants us to know the beauty of the notes He laid down.

God bless  
Revd. Chris



## Raise money for charity while you do your shopping?

**Doing more shopping online? Ever heard of *easyfundraising*? Would you like to donate just by doing your normal shopping?**

We need your help! If you shop online, please could you sign up to *easyfundraising* to support The Church of the Good Shepherd?

It's a really easy way to raise money for us – you just use the *easyfundraising* site to shop online with more than 3,500 well known online stores like Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S and when you make a purchase, the retailer sends us a free donation, at no extra cost to you!

We want to raise as much as possible to help with our continuing work in Borough Green, so please visit our *easyfundraising* page at

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cogsbg/> and click 'support us'.

Thank you!



### Breakfast Church

9am on 3rd Sunday of the month  
Church of the Good Shepherd  
It's a chance to share some good food, chat and worship.

All the family and friends are welcome.  
**No charge.**



### Children's Church

A chance for the younger members of our church family (and their parents if they want) to learn of God's love and grow in their own faith, exploring through craft, play and imagination a different Bible story each week.

Children's Church meets on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 10am, starting in the church.

(Our Children's Church Leader are all DBS checked)

Church of the Good Shepherd

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

RIP Dennis Collins

*We offer our condolences to all those recently bereaved.*



### Games, Tea & Chat

On **Mondays 10 and 24 June** at 2 - 4pm in the annexe to the Church of the Good Shepherd. Come and enjoy board games, tea and a chat. Plenty of room for new folk so, if you are wondering whether it's for you, do get in touch and ask for more information or just turn up at 2.00. Contact Elaine Almond on 886440 or [etalmond@aol.com](mailto:etalmond@aol.com)



### Monday Minis Toddler Time

Play and socialising for pre-school children and their grown ups. **Mondays 3 and 17 June** 10 to 12 noon in COGS annexe. No charge, just a donation for tea and coffee please.



### Church of the Good Shepherd Foodbank



Thanks to your continuing generosity we have been able to support many local families in need.

Donations of non-perishable goods may be left in the Church's porch (where there is a list of the items we need most) on any day - the Church is usually open 10am - 5pm.

#### Thank you

For any enquiries regarding our Foodbank please contact Ian Simpson on **07801 135 460** or [foodbank.cogs@gmail.com](mailto:foodbank.cogs@gmail.com)

**The Foodbank will be closed on Bank Holiday Monday 27 May. Instead we will be open to accept donations and to make deliveries on Tuesday 28 May.**



### The Church of the Good Shepherd

COGS website [www.cogsonline.co.uk](http://www.cogsonline.co.uk)

Facebook - [COGSBG](https://www.facebook.com/COGSBG)

Email - [vicar.cogs@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.cogs@gmail.com)

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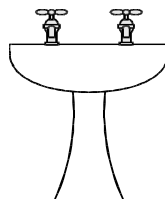
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# **BOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

## **ANNUAL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

### **MAY 2024**

It has been an interesting year, a very interesting year, but the trials we have been through together have brought us all closer and I thank all my Councillors for their support during the year. Christian and Ian left and will be sorely missed, but we welcome our newcomers and wish them well.

I want to pass on special thanks to Tim and Scott - we have been a team for longer than I can remember - to Sue for her support as my Vice Chair and her skills at organising events like the Coronation Celebration, 4x4 Santa and next month's D-Day80 event, and to Mark for his commitment but also his navigation skills in the murky world of the internet and social media.

My gratitude to my Clerk, Bernie, without whose unfailing support and knowledge I could not have managed. I can happily leave the money side to him - his knowledge of accounting and his uncanny ability to obtain grant funding have allowed us to give real support to our residents. And we just had notification that the Internal Auditor has given Bernie's 2023/24 accounts a 100% clean bill of health, again.

Bernie has also welded Rob and Barry into an effective team and the three of them together in their spare time have generated thousands of pounds for multiple charities, at home and abroad, but crucially for Ukraine and Gaza.

The community ethos has led to us clashing with the Village Hall Management and we are stepping back from our former close involvement. A community asset like the hall should be managed to benefit our residents and the Parish Council will continue grant aid to the hall if and when required. The survival of the hall is more important than individual personalities and it has survived worse than this in the past.

The Parish Council's main ethos is our community, first and last. We have done that by increasing our ownership of wild amenity land around the village, converting our streetlighting to LED saving thousands in annual power costs, the solar projects at Potters Mede and the Bowls Club, and the Alliance Shopper Bus Scheme. Some of our land off Harrison Rd will soon be used as overflow parking for our Medical Practice which has grown dramatically and is pushed for space.

The Borough Green Junior Football Club continues to grow and has taken on a far greater responsibility for pitch maintenance as a partner with the Parish Council. (See report on page 13)

Bernie has managed significant growth in bookings at Potters Mede over the past year, but we never lose sight of our duty to the whole community and we now support a range of events from the youngest to the oldest, nursery to sitting exercise, and providing a venue for groups that help the more vulnerable through these difficult times.

*(Continued on page 9)*



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You will all have heard that Reynolds Retreat at Basted House have evicted the Borough Green Scout Group from their home for the past 40 years. We are in talks with the leaders and, by the time you read this if the Scouts agree, they may soon have a fine new home.

The spectre of TMBC's Local Plan and BGGC still threaten our local countryside, but with Wendy and I now both at the top table we can wield significant influence over the process.

Finally, and most importantly, my thanks for the people of Borough Green for their trust in me for the last 20 odd years as a Parish Councillor, and 13 years as Chairman - it has been a labour of love.

Mike Taylor  
Chairman Borough Green PC May 2024

### **Council Contacts**

Chairman [mike.taylor@boroughgreen.gov.uk](mailto:mike.taylor@boroughgreen.gov.uk) **01732 882880**

Clerk [clerk@boroughgreen.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@boroughgreen.gov.uk) **07568 536405**

**Full minutes** are posted at [MINUTES](#) | [mysite \(boroughgreen.gov.uk\)](#)

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### **Advertising**

Any commercial bodies or people offering services who wish to advertise should contact **Chris Atkins** email [chris.atkins1952@gmail.com](mailto:chris.atkins1952@gmail.com) or phone **01732 366615** 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.

The views expressed in 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.

The magazine is also available to read on the COGS, BG Community and Parish Council websites.

### **Articles for the next magazine**

The Voice is your community magazine and it relies on the people of Borough Green to make it as interesting as possible. Organisations, clubs and individuals are welcome to submit articles on their activities and subjects likely to be of interest to the village.

The deadline for articles for the next magazine will be **Tuesday 11 June** and these should be sent to the address below. The next magazine will cover July 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](mailto:m-jeffery@talktalk.net)

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BOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL REMEMBERS

# D-DAY 80

**D-Day 80th Anniversary**  
**Thursday 6th June 4pm-10pm**  
**in Borough Green Recreation Ground**

**Order of Events (All timings are approximate)**

<b>4pm</b>	<b>Start of event/ with Face painting, Sizzle food truck and a DJ playing music of the era and general fun</b>
<b>6pm</b>	<b>Introductions and Speeches</b>
<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Pipe and Drum band</b>
<b>7pm</b>	<b>Singing Choir</b>
<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Pipe and Drum band</b>
<b>9pm</b>	<b>Lighting of the beacon</b>
<b>10pm</b>	<b>Close</b>



**Hope to see you there**

For further information please contact Councillor Sue Butterfill on  
[sue.butterfill@boroughgreen.gov.uk](mailto:sue.butterfill@boroughgreen.gov.uk)

Dear residents.

**Traffic and the solution for improving life in our constituency.**

**Inclusion of long overdue - missing East Facing Slip Roads in the vicinity of M25, J5 Sevenoaks, Kent in Transport For Southeast Strategic Investment Plan**

We have supported previous consultations from Transport for the Southeast (TfSE), a team made up of representatives from LEPs, councils across the South East and businesses too. They are consulting on the next Strategic Investment Plan (SIP), and the priorities for investment across the South East in the coming years.

As a community we should be concerned that there is still no reference to the challenges of the current road network on the A25 and A227 in our West Kent area in their current Strategy, or mention of the construction of the long overdue missing **'East facing slip roads in the vicinity of M25 Junction 5 Sevenoaks, Kent'**.

It is important for the next SIP to include the re-instatement of these slip roads. We have continued to contribute to the strategy and are once again requesting support from our residents for these slip roads.

We support Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council along with Sevenoaks District Council aims to become regions of 'net zero carbon' via their Carbon Neutral 2030 plans that are dependent upon improving highways and traffic schemes that are underpinned by the re-instatement of the missing slip roads in the vicinity of M25 J5 Sevenoaks to connect the M26 and A21. The connectivity will enable all 'passing through' freight and traffic to remain on the Strategic Highways Network rather than get stuck in West Kent villages. A big improvement for all concerned.

A high-quality, reliable, safe and accessible highways network is achievable in West Kent via the J5 slip roads and will offer seamless door to door travel enabling business to compete and trade more effectively in the local, UK and European marketplace and giving our West Kent residents and visitors the highest quality of life.

The slip roads are aligned to sustainable development in economic improved productivity, social improved health, safety, wellbeing, quality of life and providing access to opportunity for everyone. Additionally, the West Kent and wider South East unique natural and historic environment will be ensured of protection and nurturing whilst tackling climate change. They form part of Kent County Council Local Transport Plan (LTP) 4 Delivering Growth Without Gridlock (2016-31). Local authorities of Tonbridge and Malling, Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells along with the Road Haulage Association, Freight Transport Association, Kent Chambers of Commerce and Kent Area Local Councils (KALC) have always been active campaigners in the case for the re-instatement of these slip roads. The slip roads will facilitate an M26 – A21 West Kent Bypass.

On behalf of so many people, I have continued to request that our transport body represents our concerns on health, safety, environment and overall quality of life, and to ensure that this broken network at the M25 J5 interchange is improved by the connection of M26 and A21 to keep passing through freight and traffic on the motorway network and not in our West Kent villages.

The slip roads have also been continually short listed in the National Highways Roads Investment Strategies (RIS1) 2015-20 and (RIS2) 2020-25 Strategies. We believe with support from our governing transport body that the inclusion can be successful this time around in (RIS3) 2025-30.

But it is also critical that our J5 campaign, which has been sitting on desks in Westminster, is driven passionately and eagerly by elected representatives. That I can assure you I intend to do if elected. Meanwhile, I would like to encourage everyone to email or write to Transport for Southeast requesting the slip roads be included in their transport strategy going forward.

**Address:** Transport for Southeast, County Hall, St Anne's Court, Lewes, BN7 1UE

**Email:** [tfse@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:tfse@eastsussex.gov.uk)

Best wishes to you and your family, Tim Shaw  
Independent Parliamentary Candidate 2024

[Timshaw1@btinternet.com](mailto:Timshaw1@btinternet.com) [www.timshaw.info](http://www.timshaw.info)



## **BOROUGH GREEN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

### **Report to Annual Parish Meeting**

Borough Green JFC, with the support of the Parish Council, has built and grown again this last season. We now have around 350 local kids and young people playing for the club, in 25 teams, learning not just football related skills and having regular exercise, they are also given some of the life lessons sport can give. All our managers and coaches are DBS checked and are working hard developing under the club and FA umbrella.

The girls' section of the club is now a full season old. We currently have 3 teams, ranging from 7 year olds up to 12 year olds and would like to build on this. We are looking for more players and all levels are welcome. So if you know any young ladies looking to try football and make friends, please get in touch.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many local businesses that sponsor the teams, enabling the club to keep fees to a minimum and provide excellent equipment and facilities.

Howard Passingham - Chairman

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Potters Mede Youth Group are looking for volunteers to help our growing youth group

Wednesdays 3 - 5pm

Are you passionate about supporting young people, growing their confidence, skills and community?

Are you looking for hands on experience with young people?

Do you have the skills to help our young people in a safe and supportive environment?

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
[TONBRIDGEYOUTHUB@KENT.GOV.UK](mailto:TONBRIDGEYOUTHUB@KENT.GOV.UK)

Kent County Council  
TONBRIDGE YOUTH HUB

## **YOUTH CLUB**

### **AT POTTERS MEDE**

KCC's Tonbridge Youth Hub have advised the Parish Council that, due to restructuring towards family hubs and staff shortages, they will be unable to staff the youth club after 22 May. They may be able to return when their vacancies have been filled but would need some volunteers to support them.



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**A Christian Charity sending tools across the world to help people out of poverty.**

A **big thank you** to all the kind folk of Borough Green and Wrotham who generously donated their unwanted tools, sewing machines, knitting machines and computers to Tools with a Mission during April. All these donated items were greatly appreciated, will be refurbished here in the UK by volunteers at our refurbishment centres and then sent to some of the poorest parts of the world to help people work their way out of poverty.

If you still have items you would like to donate, please email me on [davidh@twam.uk](mailto:davidh@twam.uk) or phone 01732 883305 and I will be delighted to come and collect them from you. If you visit our website at [www.twam.uk](http://www.twam.uk) you will find a list of those items we can use and those we cannot. Many thanks.

David Heren

Volunteer County Ambassador for West Kent, Tools with a Mission.

If you want more details about Tools with a Mission, please look at our website at: [www.twam.uk](http://www.twam.uk).

## **Borough Green Medical Practice June 2024**

This is produced for the benefit of all patients for sharing information and updates on a regular basis.



My name is Ryan and I am the Clinical Pharmacist at Borough Green Medical Practice.

I began working in general practice in 2016 and qualified as a prescribing practitioner in 2018, whilst starting at Borough Green in September 2022. Since then I have developed a keen interest in cardiovascular prevention mainly by optimising patients' blood pressure and cholesterol-lowering medication. I am always keen to proactively diagnose and optimise treatment in various areas and am involved in facilitating this for osteoporosis, heart failure and chronic kidney disease.

I have daily telephone clinic appointments (booked through reception in the usual way) speaking to patients about general medication queries as well as the above. In March 2024 we also employed a Pharmacy Technician who assists with medication supply problems, basic medication queries and many of the administrative tasks involving medication such as audits and updating repeat medication following hospital admissions and outpatient clinics.

### **Are you eligible to top up your COVID-19 protection this spring?**

The criteria for this year's spring vaccine are:

Adults aged 75 years and over.

Residents in a care home for older adults.

Individuals aged 6 months and over who have a weakened immune system.

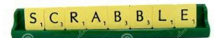
### **How do I get my spring COVID-19 vaccine?**

The Practice are not giving vaccinations this time. You can book your vaccine online at [www.nhs.uk/get-vaccine](http://www.nhs.uk/get-vaccine). If you or someone you know can't get online, book by calling 119 free of charge.



## Events in the Village for the month of June

- 1 Saturday Open House - COGS - 10.00 to 12.00**
- 2 COGS - Holy Communion said - 8.30**  
SJCC - Mass - 9.30  
**COGS - All-Age Communion - 10.00**  
BGBC - Service - 10.30  
Bash the Trash - BGVH - 11.30 to 12.30
- 3 Toddler Time - COGS Annexe - 10.00 to 12.00**  
BG Parish Council - BGVH - 7.30
- 4 BG Library - Scrabble Club - 2.15 to 4.15**
- 6 SJCC - Mass - 10.00**  
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00  
BG Library - Coffee & Chat - 10.15 to 12.15  
BG Rec - D-Day 80 - 4.00 to 10.00
- 7 Potters Tots Playgroup - Potters Mede - 9.30 to 11.00**  
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00  
BG Library - Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time - 10.15 to 10.45
- 8 Saturday Open House - COGS - 10.00 to 12.00**
- 9 SJCC - Mass - 9.30**  
**COGS - Holy Communion and Children's Church - 10.00**  
BGBC - Service - 10.30
- 10 Games, Tea and Chat - COGS Annexe - 2.00 to 4.00**  
BGVH - u3a meeting - 2.00
- 11 BG Library - Scrabble Club - 2.15 to 4.15**
- 12 Sticky Fingers - BGBC - 10.00 to 11.15**  
BGBC - Women's Fellowship - 2.00 - Searchword Trust
- 13 SJCC - Mass - 10.00**  
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00  
BG Library - Coffee & Chat - 10.15 to 12.15
- 14 Potters Tots Playgroup - Potters Mede - 9.30 to 11.00**  
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00  
BG Library - Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time - 10.15 to 10.45  
Friday 2 Book Club - BG Library - 2.00  
Wrotham Historical Society - 8.00 - Wrotham Village Hall
- 15 Saturday Open House - COGS - 10.00 to 12.00**
- 16 COGS - Breakfast Church - 9.00**  
SJCC - Mass - 9.30  
**COGS - Holy Communion - 10.30**  
BGBC - Service - 10.30
- 17 Toddler Time - COGS Annexe - 10.00 to 12.00**
- 18 BG Library - Scrabble Club - 2.15 to 4.15**
- 20 SJCC - Mass - 10.00**  
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00  
BG Library - Coffee & Chat - 10.15 to 12.15



- 21 Potters Tots Playgroup - Potters Mede - 9.30 to 11.00  
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00  
BG Library - Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time - 10.15 to 10.45
- 22 **Saturday Open House - COGS - 10.00 to 12.00**
- 23 SJCC - Mass - 9.30  
**COGS - Holy Communion and Children's Church - 10.00**  
BGBC - Service - 10.30  
**COGS - Tea-Time Church - 4.30**
- 24 **Games, Tea and Chat - COGS Annexe - 2.00 to 4.00**
- 25 BG Library - Scrabble Club - 2.15 to 4.15  
Ightham Gardeners' Club - Ightham Village Hall - 7.15
- 26 Sticky Fingers - BGBC - 10.00 to 11.15  
BGBC - Women's Fellowship - 2.00 - Audrey's Desert Island Hymns
- 27 SJCC - Mass - 10.00  
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00  
BG Library - Coffee & Chat - 10.15 to 12.15  
BGVH - Heart of Kent Hospice Charity Sale - 2.00 to 4.00
- 28 Potters Tots Playgroup - Potters Mede - 9.30 to 11.00  
BG Lunch Club - BGVH - 10.00 to 1.00  
BG Library - Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time - 10.15 to 10.45
- 29 **COGS Summer Fayre - Vicarage Garden,  
24 Maidstone Road - 12.00 to 3.00**
- 30 SJCC - Mass - 9.30  
**COGS - Holy Communion - 10.00**  
BGBC - Service - 10.30



### Abbreviations

COGS	Church of the Good Shepherd
BGBC	Borough Green Baptist Church
SJCC	St Joseph's Catholic Church
BGVH	Borough Green Village Hall



## Potters Tots Playgroup



Potters Mede, Borough Green, TN15 7RD.     W3W [///fund.olive.loose](http://fund.olive.loose)

**Fridays 9.30-11am. Term time only.**  
**£2.50 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!



# Tackling Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG)

Kent Police are committed to eradicating all forms of violence against women and girls. We want all women and girls who live, work, and socialise in our communities to feel safe.

For more information and to find out about our **VAWG Walk and Talk events** visit:  
[kent.police.uk/VAWG](https://kent.police.uk/VAWG)



You can respond community alerts from your local officers by signing up to **My Community Voice** and receive updates on future VAWG events.



**Kent  
Police**



## Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council items



### New team to tackle anti-social behaviour

A specialist team of three trained officers will target anti-social behaviour hot spots in Tonbridge and Malling this summer, responding to complaints about rowdy behaviour, drinking and other activities, such as car meets, which cause a nuisance or disturbance to residents. Their presence on the streets is also aimed at deterring offenders and providing public reassurance. The officers will be deployed by Tonbridge and Malling's Community Safety Unit which is staffed by officers from the borough council and Kent Police.

Anyone wishing to report anti-social behaviour can do so via the "help tackle crime and anti-social behaviour" page on the TMBC website.

### Solar Panels

Residents and local businesses are encouraged to find out more about Solar Together, a group-buying scheme which aims to increase the number of solar panels installed across Tonbridge and Malling.

To find out more go to [www.tmbc.gov.uk/housing/energy-efficiency/3](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/housing/energy-efficiency/3)

### Let's Get Digital Project

Funding has been allocated to KCC's Digital Inclusion and Capabilities Service, Digital Kent, to deliver digital support to our residents. The project can provide laptops and digital skills development sessions to eligible residents. To find out more or apply go to

[www.digitalkent.uk/information/projects/externally-funded/tmbc](http://www.digitalkent.uk/information/projects/externally-funded/tmbc)

### Community Fete and "Parade of Superheroes"

The Community Fete is organised each year by Tonbridge Lions Club with support from TMBC. This year's event will take place on **Sunday 9 June** 12 - 4 pm at Tonbridge Castle. For more information or to register for a stall visit [www.tonbridgelions.org/carnival-fate](http://www.tonbridgelions.org/carnival-fate). Money raised will be distributed to local charitable causes and Lions Club charities.

### Local Plan

The TMBC website indicates that the Regulation 18b second stage public consultation is now scheduled for July, with the Council's Housing and Planning Scrutiny Committee due to discuss an update on the subject at their meeting on 18 June.

*Margaret and Richard Jeffery*

### Result of Kent Police and Crime Commissioner election

Matthew Richard Scott (Conservative Party) was elected on a turnout of 20.2%.



# THE WORKS

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Meetings are normally held every second Monday of the month at 2pm in Borough Green village hall.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 10 June - "Folly Wildlife Rescue"

Thursday 4 July - A special afternoon with refreshments, cakes and a quiz. More details to follow.

The April event 'Tools With A Mission' was a great success with very positive feedback from members. We heard from Dave Heren about how this charity provides essential refurbished tools for mechanics, plumbers, carpenters and builders in Africa. Tools are refurbished at TWAM's workshop in Ipswich before being assembled into kits to be sent to trainees in Africa. If you have any unwanted tools lurking on your shed or garage including computers, dressmakers, sewing and knitting machines, please contact [mvw781@gmail.com](mailto:mvw781@gmail.com) or call 01634 670115 to arrange for a collection across Kent.

U3A welcomes members of all ages. Please contact Irene at [membershipsec.bgwu3a@gmail.com](mailto:membershipsec.bgwu3a@gmail.com) for more information. Annual fee is only £20, non-member guests fee is £3.

Best wishes, Christine Ward, V Chair.

**IGHTHAM  
OPEN GARDENS**  
**Sunday, 23 June 1-5pm**

*Adult £7, children free*  
*Tickets on the day at Ightham Village Hall*  
*Teas, plant stall, Ightham Primary School plant competition*  
*Bring cash and wear comfy shoes*

*Enquiries: ighthamopengardens@gmail.com*  
*All proceeds to nature-based children's charity Dandelion Time*

(Charity Nr 1136613)



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### **Borough Green - Links to Normandy Landings**

*It is uncertain if there is such a link but the only person named on the Borough Green War Memorial who may have been involved was David Summers given his regiment and the service he was in. Despite the uncertainty I am repeating below the article that Suzanne Young produced about him as it references landing craft used in the Normandy Landings and so may be of interest.*

*Margaret Jeffery*

### **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*



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secretary@thealexandrasalestrust.co.uk

**Borough Green Lunch Club**



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mobility is a problem.

For further information contact  
Pauline on 07503 156 713.

## Tom Tugendhat MP's Column

### *May article*

I am determined to make sure our community remains a great place to live, while also making sure that we have better services and value for money. It is a privilege to serve Borough Green and since 2015 I have always fought the corner of everyone locally, to ensure we have better services and value for money.

To help me in doing that it is always important that I know your views on what can be improved in Borough Green. To allow me to be able to do this I am running a survey which has, and still is, being delivered across our community to randomly selected households. However, that doesn't stop those of you who haven't received one from letting me know what you think. You can find a link to the survey on my website [www.tomtugendhat.org.uk](http://www.tomtugendhat.org.uk) or, if you don't have access to the internet or a computer, please do still let me know your thoughts on what you think my priorities need to be. You can write to me or call my office via the information below.

No matter how detailed, please do take the time to let me know what you think so that I can continue to best represent all of your interests, the more responses the better so please do share this with your family, friends and neighbours.

130 Vale Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1SP  
01732 441 563

[tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk)

### *June article*

It has certainly been a busy May with elections taking centre stage at the beginning of the month. For us we had the opportunity to vote for our next Police and Crime Commissioner, and I was incredibly pleased to see Matthew Scott be re-elected. Matthew has put in huge amounts of hard work over his last two terms and I am looking forward to working closely with him to make our streets across Tonbridge and Malling safer. I was delighted that he received the majority of votes cast in Tonbridge and Malling Borough at the election. He has certainly been a visible and effective Police and Crime Commissioner.

However, this is not to say that there aren't areas of improvement for us to make. I am in regular contact with our local policing teams and am always grateful for you letting me know your thoughts on what needs to be prioritised in Borough Green. Please do keep me informed and I can try my best to pass this on to Kent Police.

Away from the elections it has been an incredibly busy period in the Home Office. Myself and the team are doing all we can to keep everybody across the United Kingdom safe. We have some fantastic security service who all do a wonderful job and protecting us from day to day and I will continue to work as hard as I can to represent Tonbridge and Malling to the best of my ability.

With the summer holidays on the horizon, I'm sure we are all looking forward to a well-earned break. I have plenty to be getting on with throughout the rest of June and into July and am looking forward to seeing many of you out and about throughout the community over the coming weeks.

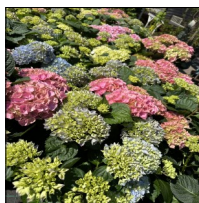


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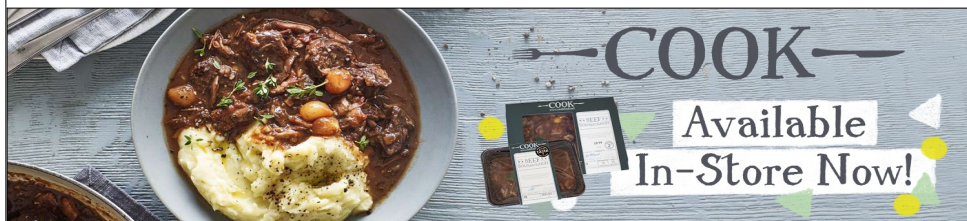
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## BOROUGH GREEN LIBRARY

The library is open – with a wide range of services, from free access to books, computers, WiFi and information on the hire of music, audio books and films.

Opening hours are

10 - 1 and 2 - 5 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday  
and 9 - 1 on Saturday.

Ancestry - Monday 10.15 - 12.15 need to book an appointment

Scrabble - Tuesday 2.15 - 4.15



Coffee & Chat - Thursday 10.15 - 12.15

Baby Bounce & Rhyme Time - Friday 10.15 - 10.45

Friday 2 Book Club (second Friday of each month) 2.00

For more advice please call the library on 03000 413 131 or email [boroughgreenlibrary@kent.gov.uk](mailto:boroughgreenlibrary@kent.gov.uk) where staff will be able to help.

**We look forward to seeing you.**



**DIGITAL  
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is working to improve digital inclusion and capabilities. The next events are on Fridays 7 June and 5 July at 11.00 - 1.00. To book a session and find out more please visit [www.digitalkent.uk](http://www.digitalkent.uk) or call 0300 0410950.

The next clinic for sound support for deaf and hard of hearing people is on Friday 28 June 2.00 - 3.30.



**Hi Kent**



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For further information contact  
Pippa Coulthard - 01732 883041  
Dee Samways - 07799 002129



### Wrotham Historical Society

**Friday 14 June**

**Dover Castle**

- a fortress down the ages  
a talk by James Dickinson

8.00pm Wrotham Village Hall

All visitors welcome - £4

[www.wrothamhistorical.org.uk](http://www.wrothamhistorical.org.uk)

# SMALL NOTICES



**Slimming World**  
Group on  
Wednesdays  
8.00am, 9.30am, 5.30pm and 7pm  
at Borough Green Village Hall.

Phone Anita on **07725 484 361**



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## **Hall bookings**

**Parish Hall - Quarry Hill**

Alan Williams 01732 886557

**Village Hall**

[www.boroughgreenvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.boroughgreenvillagehall.co.uk)

01732 646040

**Potters Mede**

Bernard Galopin 07568 536 405

## **Defibrillator Locations**

a) **24 hours a day**

The Village Hall

Potters Mede

The Recreation Ground

The Fire Station

b) **When premises are open**

The Medical Centre

BG Primary School

Fourways Dentists



## **What's on at Borough Green Village Hall**

For information on forthcoming events see

[www.boroughgreenvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.boroughgreenvillagehall.co.uk)

and for a full list of events in the next month see

[www.facebook.com/groups/bgvillagehall](https://www.facebook.com/groups/bgvillagehall)

and on boards at the village hall.





## What's happening when?

Get ready to be amazed! Our colourful collection of ewe-niquely designed Shaun the Sheep sculptures (51 large and 54 small)

created by local and national artists will pop up overnight in Maidstone and be on display from **Saturday 29 June**. Our free art trail runs until Friday 30 August.



We are excited to launch the trail and share these fantastic art pieces with everyone. We know everyone, young and old, will enjoy the trail. We are grateful to all our partners and sponsors for making it possible; not only will the trail raise money for Heart of Kent Hospice, but it will also help raise awareness about how we are there for those who need our care, comfort and support.

## Where are the Shauns?

The sculptures will be located in parks, town centre and river walks in Maidstone and the surrounding areas. We've got you covered: when the trail goes live you can get a free printed trail map from the Shaun headquarters in town or you can download our Shaun the Sheep in the Heart of Kent app. Use the map to navigate around Maidstone. Each Shaun will display a unique app code. Once you tap the code into your mobile device, it will reveal exciting rewards.

## Can ewe help us?

We're looking for volunteers to help us deliver this incredible, free public event. If you enjoy meeting and talking to new people and are looking for something fun to do this summer, this could be just the role for you! To register your interest in being a Shaun Trailmaker please email [shaun@hokh.co.uk](mailto:shaun@hokh.co.uk).

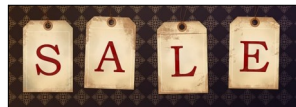


## See ewe soon!

We can't wait to see you on the trail! For more information about the trail or any of the events, please visit [www.sh ShaunHeartOfKent.co.uk](http://www.sh ShaunHeartOfKent.co.uk) or follow the flock at [#shaunheartkent](https://twitter.com/shaunheartkent).

## Heart of Kent Hospice Charity Shop in BG High Street

The opening hours are from 9.00-4.00 Monday to Friday and 9.00-1.00 on Saturday.



Look out for flash sales at the village hall. The next one will be on **Thursday 27 June** from 2.00 to 4.00 with everything £1.



## Tonbridge and Malling Ramblers

You don't have to be a Ramblers member to try up to three 'taster' walks with us. If you're new to our walks, please contact the walk leader to check that their walk will suit you.

For details of these and other upcoming walks and walk leaders, see our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/groups/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/tonbridgeandmallingeramblers)

[tonbridgeandmallingeramblers](https://www.facebook.com/groups/tonbridgeandmallingeramblers) or visit [www.tonbridgeandmallingeramblers.org.uk](https://www.tonbridgeandmallingeramblers.org.uk).



Dates in June	Route	Distance in miles
Sunday 2nd	Lamberhurst Loop - circular walk taking in Cooksbrook Wood, Snagg's Well, Furnace Mill and Owl's Castle Farm. Several short steep ascents and descents, some stiles and lovely views throughout. Moderate difficulty.	5.5 miles with 3.8 miles option
Thursday 6th	Circular walk from Penshurst to Leigh. Moderate difficulty.	5
Sunday 9th	Circular walk from Borough Green on quiet lanes and footpaths to Basted, Plaxtol Spoute and Dunks Green. Picnic stop at the Kentish Rifleman. Return via Plaxtol and Yopps Green through the orchards. Moderate difficulty. We will be guiding members of London Blind Ramblers along the route. Support from sighted walkers will be greatly appreciated.	7.5
Thursday 13th	Circular walk through the woods from Southborough Common to Bidborough with great views north. Then down to Haysden and back. Moderate difficulty with one steady climb.	5
Sunday 16th	Circular walk below the North Downs from Ryarsh via Trosley Court and along the Pilgrim's Way. Good views to the south. Moderate difficulty.	5
Sunday 23rd	Circular walk from Shoreham to Eynsford with a fairly steep climb up the Otford Hills. Return via the Roman villa, Lullingstone Castle and the country park of Lullingstone. Moderate difficulty.	6.5
Walks usually start mid-morning. There's a short half-way break (bring refreshments) and we usually finish near a pub. Most walks are dog-friendly (see website).		



**Borough Green Baptist Church**  
**For ages 5 and under**  
**10am - 11.15am**  
 Alternative Wednesdays see diary section  
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