

# Horton Kirby and South Darent Parish Council Newsletter March 2018



Parish Office, Horton Kirby and South Darent Village Hall,  
Horton Road, South Darent, Kent, DA4 9AX

Clerk: Heather Rohard

Assistant Parish Clerk: Dawn McFall

office@hksdparishcouncil.co.uk

01322 865193

Join our group on Facebook

The office is open Monday and Friday

9.00am to 12.30pm

**St George's Fun Day Event**  
**SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup> April 2018**  
**12 noon till 4pm**

The Parish Council meet on the first Monday of each  
month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

All welcome to come along

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

Newsletter edited by Dawn Mitchell, HKSD Parish Council



## **USEFUL CONTACTS**

**POLICE** - 999 (emergencies if life is in danger or crime is in progress)  
101 (non-emergencies)

**Sevenoaks District Council** - 01732 227000

Fly tipping, street cleaning, dog fouling, parking issues, bottle banks, graffiti, planning applications, abandoned vehicles

**Dartford Borough Council** – 01322 343434

Fly tipping in Roman Villa Road (outside our boundary)  
[www.dartford.gov.uk](http://www.dartford.gov.uk) for online reporting

**Kent Highways** - 03000 418181 (emergency number – 24 hours)

Anything that may cause accident or injury, Kent Highways on line reporting [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk) - go to 'Roads and Transport' for roads, potholes, streetlights, pavements, drains, traffic lights and any other problems

**Environment Agency** - 03708 506 506

For any problems with the river, (although often issues are the responsibility of landowners either side of the river)  
[www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk) for Flood Alerts

**Citizens Advice**

Swanley – 0300 3309001

Dartford - 0300 3309001

**Thames Water** – 0845 9200 800

**Devon Road Surgery** – 01322 862121

# What does the Parish Council do?

Horton Kirby and South Darent Parish Council is made up of nine Councillors who live locally. They are voted into their posts by the electorate of the Parish, or co-opted, to form a Council whose role it is to make decisions in the interests of the local community. Councillors are not paid but volunteer their time to serve our villages. Parish Council meetings are open to the public and the minutes, which record the business and decisions, can be found on the Council's website. You can also read them in the Parish Office.

The Parish Council receives a precept (an amount of money) from Sevenoaks District Council which is collected as part of your Council Tax. With this money the Parish Council pays for many of the facilities that we enjoy as a community and for which it has responsibility.

The Parish Council owns and maintains the following land and buildings: The Village Hall and Jubilee Hall, Heathside, Westminster Field, the Pavilion in Westminster Field, including the public toilets and the Hundred Year Wood on the left of the pathway approaching the Dartford Road. The burial ground opposite St Mary's Church, Paper Mill Green in South Darent, allotment site and area next to Wide Horizons. We have adopted areas of responsibility for the play areas at Saxon Place and Shrubbery Road and are currently undertaking a 12 month trial of cutting the KCC owned verges, to avoid a reduction in the number of cuts.

Some pathways are maintained by the Parish Council but the majority are either looked after by Kent County Council or private landowners. Dog bins and regular emptying is paid for by the Parish Council.

There are 97 streetlights and their running costs fall under the Parish Council's care across the Parish with others being maintained by KCC or local management groups.

All this responsibility does mean that the Council is kept busy ensuring their administration is executed properly and within budget, whilst keeping abreast with changes and plans from District and County statutory bodies such as Sevenoaks District Council, Kent County Council and Kent Police.

You are always welcome to attend meetings, visit or call the Parish Office or get in touch with your local Councillors with ideas, concerns or information that you feel is important. Agendas for meetings are placed on notice boards at least three working days before a meeting. These boards can be found outside the Parish Office, on the Green in South Darenth and near the entrance to Westminster Field in Horton Kirby. Dates for upcoming meetings and agendas can also be found on the website.

Could you be a Parish Councillor? Next year (2019) elections will be taking place so please register your interest with the Parish Clerk if you would consider standing.

## **Precept costs**

This year the Parish Council precept request for 2018/19 is £103,672. Using the Estimated Council Tax Base of £1,298.26 this equates to a rise of only £3.45 each household for the year based on a Band D property.

# Report from the Recreation and Open Spaces Committee



The year has started with great success as the new playground at Heathside was officially opened on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2018. The opening concluded 18 months of many hours of hard work with planning, surveys and then developing.

We are now in discussions for the next phase for Heathside that could include an outdoor gym, lighting, car park and toilets.

In the coming months there will be new semi-mature trees planted at Heathside and at Westminster Field. These are to replace trees that have been removed due to storm damage, age or disease.

The pavilion at Westminster Field has had some remedial works, including an electrical upgrade and repair work to the roof and guttering, while feasibility studies are being carried out on the current car park.

We are discussing upgrading the equipment at Shrubbery Road playground, as replacement parts are now obsolete due to their age. However, as many of you will be aware, the Parish Council does not own this land and therefore it was put forward by Sevenoaks District Council for their 'call for sites'. Until we know for definite the outcome from this survey we are reluctant to spend your money on upgrading any of the equipment.

I am pleased to report that, since our purchase of the allotments, all the plots are now rented and the land adjoining has been leased to Wide Horizons. If you would like to be considered for an allotment plot, then please contact the Parish office to be added to the waiting list.

James Stewart - Recreation and Open Spaces Chairman

# St George's Family Fun Day

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2018

Gates open 12noon until 4pm

Heathside (behind the Village Hall)

Free event hosted by the Horton Kirby  
and South Darenth Parish Council

BBQ, Archery, Plants, Train rides,  
Crafts, Pony rides, Face Painting, Free  
Bouncy Castle, Beat-the-Goalie, Games  
and much, much more!



## **Street Lights – LED replacements in future**

After consultation, the Parish Council has considered LED replacements for its 97 street lights. It has decided to replace existing lights with LED when a current light fails. Consideration was given to replacing all the lights with LED at one time but the saving on energy costs would not outweigh the cost of buying replacement lights for several years. KCC have already replaced all their lights with LED in the Parish, having economy of scale and greater savings across Kent to justify the expense.

### **Refuse Sacks from Sevenoaks District Council delivery dates:**

Black and clear sacks are due to be delivered to you in the weeks commencing 26th March and 13th August. You can buy extra rolls and garden refuse sacks from the Parish Office or Swanley Link (opposite Asda). These are priced at £1.50 Black sacks, 50p clear sacks and £14 for the Garden Refuse Sacks

## **Quiz Dates**

16<sup>th</sup> March for St. Mary's Church

4<sup>th</sup> May for the British Heart Foundation

31<sup>st</sup> August for Kent Association for the Blind

19<sup>th</sup> October for St. Mary's Church

In the Horton Kirby and South Darenth Village Hall 7.45pm

for an 8pm start. Maximum of seven in a team

Contact David Crowhurst on 01322 863205 or Stephen

Allport 01322 862782 to book a table (essential)

## News from the Village Hall and Jubilee Hall

There will be a change for the damage deposit for children's parties (children aged 12 and under) – this will now be £50. All the other damage deposit charges will remain the same.

Crockery is now available for hire in the Jubilee Hall - a complete set of 50 items (cups, saucers, plates) can be hired for £10

The hanging baskets outside the halls are new and are slightly larger than the old ones - the current winter/spring flowers will be replaced by summer flowers in the late spring.

From 1<sup>st</sup> April the cleaning of the Village Hall and Jubilee Hall will be undertaken by May Harris (a multi-service company). The current contractor (Mark Ginno) did not wish to renew the contract but we thank him for his hard work over the past few years.

The Befriender's Group, which meets in the Jubilee Hall on a Tuesday afternoon, held a very successful and enjoyable Christmas lunch for the members on 15th December 2017. Good comments were received about the quality of the food in particular and the friendly chat!

Terry Moyle  
Chairman of Halls Committee

# **Agricultural Waste Digester and ancillary infrastructure at Court Lodge Farm, Stack Road, Horton Kirby, DA4 9DU**

Application to set up an anaerobic digestion system of up to 37,000 tonnes per annum of agricultural waste.

## **What is an Agricultural Waste Digester?**

Anaerobic digestion is a natural biological process whereby organic material (feedstock) is broken down by bacteria, in the absence of oxygen. The feedstock is fed into the fermenter tanks, where this digestion process is optimised and controlled. The resultant, digested product is a bio fertiliser which separates into a liquid and solid fraction. The liquid fraction is stored in the lagoon.

Once digested (typically 40 days) the plant produces an inert digestate fertiliser/soil conditioner consisting of indigestible material. The volume of digestate is typically around 90-95% of what was fed into the digester. 1A by-product of this process is the production of combustible biomethane which can be exported to the national grid for renewable energy generation. Onocoland intend to use this biogas to power Court Lodge Farm and export any excess gas to the national grid.

The proposed AWD will utilise all existing agricultural waste from the farm estates including; farmyard manure, slurry, straw (a waste product of wheat production) and rye grass. Hence, it provides a full agricultural waste solution for Onocoland Ltd.

## **Why here?**

Court Lodge Farm is the chosen location for the AWD due to its location for key inputs i.e. farmyard manure from the beef and dairy followers cattle that are going to be present on site but also its shared borders and farm tracks with the adjacent Gay Dawn Farm which will minimise on road vehicle movements. There will be no traffic movements associated with moving farm yard manure from the farm yard at Court Lodge Farm and the AWD given its immediate proximity.

## **What about transport and road use?**

It is proposed that maize, rye grass and straw from Gay Dawn Farm will be transported almost entirely on internal farm tracks through shared boundaries with Court Lodge Farm thereby negating the need for road movements except for very short stretches.

Some of the Maize will be grown at West Kingsdown (part of Bower Park farm) and transported to Court Lodge via Gay Dawn Farm in Longfield. This is estimated to generate up to 200 farm vehicle movements per year. It is however considered that this will be offset by the current 196 farm vehicles (392 two way movements) from Gay Dawn Farm to West Kingsdown as part of the current transport of wheat, straw, and fertiliser to storage facilities at West Kingsdown which would become obsolete as part of the proposed development. The planned route will be via A20, A225, Station Road, Horton Road and Jacobs Lane by tractor towing and will avoid peak times as much as possible.

Slurry from Bower Park Farm, West Kingsdown will be transported to Court Lodge Farm via sealed slurry tanker. It is anticipated that this will generate approximately 550 journeys to Court Lodge Farm per year (approximately 1.5 journeys per day or 11 per week). Movement of Glycerol is predicted to generate 50 trips per year but offset on the wider road network by the decrease in road movements associated with the current extent of imported fertiliser.

It is proposed that as and when digestate fertiliser is required at West Kingsdown, these trips will be co-ordinated with the trips to deliver slurry to Court Lodge Farm and therefore negate the need for additional road movements.

There will be no traffic movements associated with moving slurry/farm yard manure from the farm yard at Court Lodge Farm and the AWD given its immediate proximity.

There are no anticipated regular vehicle movements associated with the export of gas to the grid post construction.

Given the volume of traffic associated with the proposed development it is not considered that it will affect the capacity of the local road network.

No significant traffic and transport related effects are therefore considered likely to result from the proposed development.

### **What about the smell?**

The proposed AWD is likely to result in a beneficial effect to odour across Oncoland's estate. Manure piles in fields will no

longer be required and all agricultural waste is to be transport to the AWD in sealed tankers and then transposed into sealed fermenter tanks and subsequently the sealed lagoon.

Furthermore the AWD will negate the need for storage of 'raw' slurry in open pits and for the spreading of 'raw' slurry and farmyard manure.

The result of the AD process is inert odourless compost that will be spread on the land and the contained biomethane gas by-product that will generate electricity for Court Lodge Farm with all excess gas contained and exported to the national grid

The proposed development will not therefore result in significant adverse odour related effects.

### **Is this a flood risk area?**

The Environment Agency (EA) online flood-mapping tool shows the site to be in flood zone 1 (at low risk from flooding). No inundation of the site by flood waters into the silage clamps or AWD is therefore likely, particularly given the sites elevated position.

### **Will it be noisy?**

The AWD is not a significant noise generating installation by virtue of its reliance on micro-organisms in sealed containers to decompose the feed stock and therefore significant noise related effects are not anticipated. There will be a small generator on site required as part of the AWD but this will be housed in an insulated plant room such that the acoustic treatments of the plant room can easily achieve the noise levels

set out in the WHO guidelines at the closest residential receptor (New House, farm managers accommodation).

### **What about risk to human health?**

The likely significant health impacts of the proposed development are considered to be dust related air quality effects, noise and groundwater.

As stated under the relevant headings above no significant effects subject to the mitigation set out will occur on human health from air quality, noise or groundwater effects resultant from the proposed development.

Studies have found that "digesting farm manure reduces nearly 90% of the usual greenhouse gas emissions caused by conventional farm manure as the plant is a sealed system, capturing all gases.

### **What about the laying of pipework and extra traffic caused by delivery?**

There will be a one off HGV delivery of the pipework

### **Will the site get bigger?**

There are no plans to increase the existing proposals

### **What about the effect on the green belt?**

The elevation will not be higher than the existing bard and screened by hedging.

## **Role of the Parish Council in planning applications**

Parish councils must be notified of, and display for residents, any planning applications for the area. Any comments submitted to the planning authority by the parish council must be taken into account. In planning terms it is regrettable to say that, despite the Localism Act, most Local Planning Authorities treat Parish Councils as a single individual (just as you or any other individual person) when it comes to assessing public interest in planning applications - irrespective of how many people they actually represent. Therefore, the Parish Council urges parishioners to register their own views with Kent County Council via their website. [www.kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/planning-applications/look-at-planning-applications](http://www.kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/planning-applications/look-at-planning-applications)  
[KCC/SE/0007/2018](http://www.kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/planning-applications/look-at-planning-applications)

Your objection will have more effect if a number of people write in to object, but do not be tempted to organise a petition; it will not carry any weight and is a waste of time. Also avoid using a 'standard' letter. Objectors should use their own words and write, type or word process their letters themselves. Objections will not carry the same weight if they are seen to have been written or produced in a standardised form.

# **DRiPS news from Malcolm Dunn**

I am happy to report that our river is flowing well. Rain over Christmas and the New Year, plus recent days, has raised flow and volume and can be classified as exceptional.

Heavy rain between 19th and 24th January inclusive has boosted the river. Rainfall measurements over this time - 250mm or 10 inches. Previously flow and volume was just meeting average with no improvement in sight. Reports are coming in of excellent flow in other locations in the valley.

No doubt all areas of Kent will see the benefit. Bewl reservoir was in serious trouble and was only 36% full! This recent rainfall was much needed and a welcome boost to the county water supplies.

## **FLOOD WARDENS**

Thank you to Julian Rowley for his volunteering as one of the parish flood wardens these last two years. If you would like to take on this role in his place please contact Heather at the Parish Office. The role involves keeping an eye on water levels periodically and reporting any issues with the river to the Environment Agency or the Clerk to alert land owners. In the event of a flood, the wardens would help assist with any emergency plans from Sevenoaks District Council and call for sand bags etc. Janet Fitzpatrick and Heather Rohard are also flood wardens. A Horton Kirby resident near the river would be a welcome addition to covering the Parish.

## **TREES, TREES, TREES**

It is with sadness that we report that the Field Maple in Westminster Field, a long standing feature by the footpath, has become diseased and must be felled. As this is in a conservation area permission has been sought and granted by Sevenoaks District Council for the work to be carried out. A semi-mature Field Maple will be planted close by in February as a replacement.

Semi mature spring flowering trees will also be planted in Heathside in February for visitors to enjoy this year.

# ADVANCE NOTICE

**BATTLE'S OVER – A NATIONS TRIBUTE  
100 YEARS OF REMEMBRANCE  
WW1 BEACONS OF LIGHT 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2018**



- The Parish Council is registered to take part in this event to commemorate the Centenary of the Armistice and the guns falling silent.
- The aim is for 1000 Beacons to be lit across the United Kingdom and in the Commonwealth countries
- The Beacon Lighting will be at 7pm on Sunday 11 November 2018
- It is hoped that church bells will ring at 7pm
- The event will take place on Heathside
- Further details will be provided nearer the time



## The Village Hall & Jubilee Hall

A well loved and central part of our community

Available to hire

Parties for all ages, meetings, weddings, christenings, classes

## OUR VILLAGE HALLS ARE HERE FOR YOU

The Village Hall (max 150 people) has been serving the Parish for many years, seeing changes over that time to keep it a warm and welcoming venue. The Jubilee Hall (max 80 people) was added in 2012 and is a great addition as a flexible space for smaller gatherings, meetings and classes. Find us at:  
[www.hksdpc@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:www.hksdpc@tiscali.co.uk)



Rates range from £11.50 - £28 ph

HKSD PARISH COUNCIL  
Parish Office

[01322 865193](tel:01322865193)

Mon and Fri  
9am – 12.30pm

**Message from Liz Crockford - Housing Enabling  
Officer, Housing Policy - Strategic Planning,  
[liz.crockford@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:liz.crockford@sevenoaks.gov.uk)  
[www.sevenoaks.gov.uk](http://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk)**

We featured an article in the Autumn edition of the district-wide newsletter, In Shape, regarding local house prices and how they affect the ability of local employees to live and work locally, as well as the effect on local businesses to recruit and retain staff. See page 9 of In Shape [https://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/downloads/file/1008/in\\_shape\\_104\\_-\\_autumn\\_2017](https://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/downloads/file/1008/in_shape_104_-_autumn_2017).

A survey was attached to the In Shape article, asking local people for their views. We have been very pleased with the number of responses we have received. However a number of Parish/Town Councils have asked us to re-issue the survey as they feel, with their promotion, even more parishioners will be encouraged to respond.

The survey can be completed on line at the following address: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/localemployeesurvey>. Alternatively, hard copies of the survey can be printed.

At this stage, we do not propose to set a closing date for the survey. In this way we hope the survey may be promoted as much as possible.

The results of the survey will be fed into the new Local Plan and new housing policies developed to help our local employees.

Thank you in anticipation of your help.



NatWest

We are what we do

Clare Oldfield and Augusta Cook-Overy are delighted to have become NatWest's local Community Bankers.

This is a new and exciting role which enables them to hold local events to help members of the community be financially fit, protect themselves from scammers and help them find alternative ways to bank. They can also help young people learn about finances through NatWest's free and engaging MoneySense programme. They can visit customers at home where there is a real need.

Clare covers the area towards Swanley and Crockenhill while Augusta covers Dartford, Longfield and New Ash Green, so both can visit Horton Kirby and South Darenth.

Feel free to get in touch. Their contact details are:

Clare - [Clare.oldfield@natwest.com](mailto:Clare.oldfield@natwest.com) Mobile 07711762265

Augusta - [Augusta.cook-overy@natwest.com](mailto:Augusta.cook-overy@natwest.com) Mobile 07711761849



# Your community needs a robust Flood Plan and volunteer Flood Wardens



Could you help others in a crisis and  
make a real difference?

*Come along and find out more:*

Flood Warden Training Session  
12 March, Addington Village Hall, 7-9pm

### Our commitment to you:

- Free emergency kit bag, Flood Warden Handbook and Newsletter
- We will help you develop and test your Community Flood Plan

*You could be a vital link between your  
community and those responding to a flood*

For more information contact the Kent Resilience Forum on 01622 212409  
or [krf.events@kent.fire-uk.org](mailto:krf.events@kent.fire-uk.org)





## SCHOOL GOVERNORS NEEDED HORTON KIRBY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Governing bodies make decisions which are in the best interests of the children and young people at Horton Kirby C of E Primary School. Not only do governors bring their own knowledge and skills to the role, but, in learning how schools are run, they often develop their understanding of leadership. Fulfilling the role of a school governor is, therefore, both a serious undertaking and enormously rewarding. In addition, contributing to the growth and development of a school and seeing tangible improvements in the attainment and wellbeing of the children is a satisfying and important contribution to the local community. The majority of employers appreciate this and are supportive of their staff taking on the responsibility.

We are currently looking for governors who have an interest in supporting the school to develop further. These children are the future of our village.

Maybe you are a young professional looking to further your career or a retired person with a lifetime of experience you can share. If you have some knowledge of building, health and safety, legal matters, IT, management and leadership etc. You could be the person we are looking for. Or maybe you know someone who is looking to support a local community.

If this interests you (or someone you know) and you feel you have some skills which could be beneficial to the running of the school please in the first instance contact Glenn Pollard at:  
[headteacher@hortonkirby.kent.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@hortonkirby.kent.sch.uk) for further information.

# DOES YOUR BUS PASS EXPIRE IN MARCH 2018?



# DON'T WORRY -YOU DON'T NEED TO DO ANYTHING!

195,000 English National Concessionary Travel Scheme passes in Kent will expire on 31 March 2018 and cannot be used on buses after that date.

## DON'T WORRY - WE'LL BE IN TOUCH

If you have used your bus pass on a Kent bus in the past year, we will send you your new bus pass by the middle of March 2018.

If you haven't been able to use your bus pass in the past year, you will receive a letter from us during January or February 2018 explaining how you can renew your bus pass if you still want it.

## MOVED HOUSE?

If you have moved house since getting your current bus pass and you haven't told us, make sure you let us know so that your new bus pass arrives at the right place.

Visit [www.kent.gov.uk/buspasses](http://www.kent.gov.uk/buspasses) or your nearest library or Gateway for more information.



# Pauline Rowley - President

## Horton Kirby & South Darenth WI

Meeting every 3rd Thursday at 7.30pm at the Village Hall is your local W.I.

Just a few myths to dispel

1. We do not all make jam
2. We do not always sing Jerusalem (although sometimes we do!)
3. You do not have to be retired to join!

We do have, a monthly meeting (sometimes with speakers, sometimes not), a walking group, a knit and natter group, two book groups (one afternoon and one evening), theatre trips, outings, holidays, craft afternoons and much more.

We are a lively friendly group of ladies (aged 18 + to be a member). You get two free meetings to see if it's for you so why not give it a try?

A sample of upcoming dates;

7/3/18 Coffee morning

15/3/18 Monthly meeting

11/4/18 Bangers & mash lunch

## Contact

Pauline Rowley (President) 01322 869556 [Pauline@the-rowleys.co.uk](mailto:Pauline@the-rowleys.co.uk)  
Linda Lees (Secretary) 07894 066262

# SEVENOAKS DISTRICT COUNCIL FAMILY FUN DAY

**Our date will be 5<sup>th</sup> April at the Horton Kirby and South Darenth Village Hall and Heathside 10am to 2pm!**

**'Sevenoaks District Council funded free fun day' activities and games provided; children must be accompanied. Bring a picnic if you want to stay all day.**

## **YOUR DOG'S POO COULD RESULT IN KILLING A CALF**

In the last six month's one local dairy farmer has lost 26 baby calves all because of dog's poo.

*Neospora caninum* is a parasite-type organism which can infect grazing cattle.

It is carried in the faeces of dogs.

Cows grazing on pastures contaminated by faeces from dogs are susceptible.

When the parasite is in a pregnant cow it can cause an abortion of the calf.

There is now evidence of an increase in our valleys.

But there are no licensed drugs or vaccines available for the cows.

There is NO evidence to suggest *Neospora* can infect or harm humans.

The impact of infection can be catastrophic on any dairy herd causing large numbers of cows to abort and leading to inevitable financial loss.

**PLEASE, PLEASE, PICK UP YOUR DOG'S POO  
ESPECIALLY ON GRAZING FIELDS**

**PICK IT UP AND SAVE A CALF'S LIFE!**



**Royal British Legion, Legion Hall,  
Devon Road  
South Darenth**

Christine Page – President  
Chair – Clare Toomey 07949 405909  
Vice Chair–Margot Glover 07463 454004  
Treasurer – Lola Reffell 07984 627886  
Secretary – Denise Fry 07816 629670

I would like to thank everyone who helped me with the Waitrose, Longfield Poppy Appeal collection. We collected £6100 for the Charity. Well done everybody!

In total, with all the shops, schools etc South Darenth District British Legion paid into the Charity £13,483.96. Well done to Jo Armstrong and Margot Glover for all their organisation. Thank you also to the Parish Council and St Mary's Church for their help on Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday.

The British Legion meet every third Friday at 1.30pm at the Legion Hall, Devon Road. All welcome.

Upcoming events at the Legion Hall, Devon Road:

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March BINGO 7pm  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April QUIZ NIGHT 7pm please bring own drinks and nibbles  
Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May PLANT SALE 10.30am

Thank you for your continued support.

Christine Page  
President



**VILLAGERS GARDENING CLUB**  
**Programme - 2018**

15th January AGM – Mike Bundock – Floral Clocks

19th February Terry Clare – A life in the year of a Beekeeper

19th March Darren Everest – Dahlias

16th April Philip Oostenbrink – Canterbury Cathedral gardens and grounds

13<sup>th</sup> May Outing – Kew Gardens

21<sup>st</sup> May Alison Marsden – More garden impact for less effort

18<sup>th</sup> June Mick Lynn – The effect of climate change on Gardening

16<sup>th</sup> July Chris Stewart The good, the bad, the ugly & the beautiful.

20th August Members Garden – Forge House – 6pm

16th September Outing – Hyde Hall – Autumn Plant Day

17th September Melanie Gibson Barton Parks & gardens of Flanders

15th October Tom Hart Dyke The World Garden at Lullingstone Castle

19th November Caroline Halfpenny Working in Monet's garden

17th December Christmas Social - Emeralds Steel Band

**Horton Kirby and South Darenth Village Hall 8.00pm**

***New Members and Visitors Always Welcome***

We have a full programme of Lectures, Visits and Social Events

**Annual Subscription £25 - per Calendar Year Visitors £3.50 per visit**

For further details contact Peter Bradley on 01322 862005

# St Mary the Virgin Horton Kirby



**Vicar: Revd. Emma Young 01322 227153**

**Churchwarden: Anne Williams 01322 862551**

We were delighted to welcome the Revd. Emma Young, to St Mary's on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2017 when she was installed as the vicar of the Darent Valley Benefice. Revd. Emma has asked that we thank all those who played any part in her installation service and for the warm welcome she has received across the villages.

**To arrange a wedding, a baptism or a funeral please contact:**

Revd. Emma Young,

Vicar of St Margaret's, Darenth, St John's, Sutton at Hone and St Mary's, Horton Kirby.

The Vicarage, Lane End, Green Street Green Road, Darenth, Kent, DA2 7JR.

Telephone: 01322 227153

Email: [revd.emma.young@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:revd.emma.young@hotmail.co.uk)

**Services:**

Sunday services in the Darent Valley Benefice will usually follow the pattern below. Details of all services and a full calendar of events can be found on the Darent Valley Benefice website <http://www.darentvalleybenefice.org.uk/> In addition the venue for all services is displayed adjacent to the main church gate at St Mary's.

Week 1 St Mary's 10.00am Holy Communion

Week 2 St Margaret's 10.00am Holy Communion

Week 3 St John's 10.00 am Holy Communion

Week 4/5 (venue rotates) 8.30am Holy Communion (1662) 10.00am All Age Service/Songs of Praise

Variations may occur at Christmas, Easter, Harvest or Remembrance and on other special occasions; these will be advertised on the Church notice board, on the blue pew sheets and on the Darent Valley Benefice website: <http://www.darentvalleybenefice.org.uk/> and Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/darentvalleybenefice/>

**Messy Church:**

Have you tried Messy Church yet? We meet on the second Saturday in the month at 2.00pm. All are welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult. The charge per child is £2.00 which includes a light tea. For further information please contact Anne Johnson 01474 853442 or find us on Facebook 'Messy Church MJM'

<https://www.facebook.com/MessyChurchMJM/>

**Fundraising:**

Our annual **Summer Fete** in June was enjoyed by all thanks to the wonderful weather and beautiful setting. A big thank you to all those who ran stalls and attended the fete and in particular to the faithful team who help to "put up and take down the fete". In particular our thanks go to the Ward family for allowing us to use their stunning garden; to the W.I., to all the bakers and donators and to the Gravesend Concert Band. With your support we raised in excess of £2,000 which will go towards the everyday running of the church which annually costs the parish some £25,000!

## St Mary the Virgin Horton Kirby



Thank you, too, to all those who came and supported St Mary's popular **cream teas**, during July and August. The proceeds, over £300, have been put towards our fabric fund to cover necessary repairs to keep the building in good condition for future users. The harvest gifts were distributed to the Dartford and Swanley Food Banks and the Love in a Box and the Bishop's Poverty and Hope appeals were also supported by the congregation. Thank you for your donations.

In order for the church to meet its financial commitments we shall continue to fund raise in earnest and your help will be much appreciated in doing this. We have collecting boxes available for you to have at home and if you would like to make a regular weekly/monthly offering towards the upkeep of the church please contact the churchwarden for details of the best way for you to do this.

The end of the year is always busy and 2017 was no exception. The **Christmas Bazaar** just short of £1000 towards the running of the church. Our thanks go to the Women's Institute (WI), members of the Darent Valley Benefice (DVB) Social Committee, Peter Flewin, Father Christmas and the owner, staff, children and parents of the Riverside Preschool whose singing delighted us all. Other Darent Valley Benefice outreach activities included a Toy Service (toys were donated to the Salvation Army), the Angel Festival when lovingly knitted angels were given away free to those who visited the church, hosting the Horton Kirby Primary School Carol Service and the benefice Christingle Service. Once again we made the Christingles during the service which proved very popular.

Please don't forget that St Mary's is open on a Tuesday afternoon in term time for **tea, coffee, cake and a chat** between 2.00pm and 4.00pm. Why not incorporate a cuppa in the school run on Tuesday afternoons?

Our "**Talks at St Mary's**" series continues this spring with three talks. Each talk will begin at 7.30pm and will be in two parts with an intermission for refreshments and a raffle. There is no entry fee but there will be a retiring collection in aid of the fabric repairs.

Saturday 10th February 7.30pm, Glimpse of the parish in 1899 as told by the Parish Magazines of that year. Malcolm Green

Saturday 17th March 7.30pm, Churchill: Journalist, author (Statesman). Stephen de Winton

Saturday 21st April 7.30pm, You are who? John Williams and others

## St Mary the Virgin Horton Kirby



**We all value our beautiful villages and St Mary's Parochial Church Council will be continuing to monitor the churchyard around St Mary's to ensure it is being kept in good order and adheres closely to the Diocese of Rochester Churchyard Regulations. Details can be found here:**

<http://www.rochester.anglican.org/content/pages/documents/1428486156.pdf>

### **Services for Lent, Holy Week and Easter in the Darent Valley Benefice:**

Wednesday 14th February (Ash Wednesday) 7.00 pm Eucharist at St John the Baptist, Sutton at Hone

Saturday 10th March 2.00pm Messy Church at Sutton Court, Sutton at Hone.

Sunday 11th March 10.00 am (Mothering Sunday) at St Margaret's, Darenth.

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March (Palm Sunday) 10.00am Eucharist at St John's, Sutton at Hone.

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 7.00pm Compline at St Mary's, Horton Kirby.

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 7.00pm Compline at St Margaret's, Darenth.

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 7.00pm Compline at St John's, Sutton at Hone.

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March (Maundy Thursday) 7.00pm Joint Eucharist at St Mary's, Horton Kirby.

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March (Good Friday) 12.00 noon Stations of the Cross at St John's, Sutton at Hone, 1.00pm Silent prayer at St John's, Sutton at Hone.

2.00pm Joint Eucharist at St John's, Sutton at Hone.

Sunday 1st April (Easter Day) 6.00am Dawn Service Eucharist of Easter at St

Margaret's, Darenth 10.00am Eucharist with Easter Egg Hunt St Mary's, Horton Kirby.

### **Other dates for your diary:**

Saturday 14th April 2.00pm Messy Church at Sutton Court, Sutton at Hone.

Monday 7th May Walk around the parish boundaries and bbq at Sutton Court

Saturday 12th May 2.00pm Messy Church at Sutton Court, Sutton at Hone.

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May An exhibition entitled "The Parish in Pictures 1900 - 1960's" to be held in St Mary's Lady Chapel. Refreshments will be available. Please see posters for full details.

Saturday 9th June 2.00pm Messy Church at Sutton Court, Sutton at Hone.

Saturday 23rd June 2.00pm St Mary's Summer Fete at Court Lodge

Anne Williams  
Churchwarden



Is it time you came back to church?  
**The Twenty Minute Church Service**

Sutton-at-Hone Methodist Church,  
Ship Lane, DA4 9EF

18<sup>th</sup> March

15<sup>th</sup> April

13<sup>th</sup> May

Join us for a short service-you'll find a warm welcome.

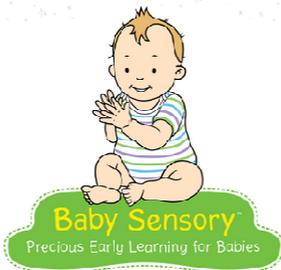
Doors open at 5pm for tea and cake, service 5.30 - 5.50pm  
Find us on Facebook: Sutton At Hone Methodist Church

*Back home in time for Countryfile...*



# Advertise here!

The cost of advertising in the Parish Newsletter is £10 for quarter page, £20 for half page, £30 full page; please submit your advert by email to the Parish Office by 31st May for the July edition and 28th September for the November edition. Distribution is to all homes and businesses in Horton Kirby and South Darenth. If you are a local club or charity you can advertise for free.



## **Come and join Baby Sensory at South Darenth Village Hall!**

Wednesdays at 10am, 11.10am & 12.30pm

Please pre-book your space

Classes suitable from birth

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



## **South Darenth Village Church New Road, South Darenth**

Service of Worship every Sunday morning at 11:00am  
Each Wednesday during term time Fellowship meeting at 2pm

### **Special events**

Easter Good Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 10:30am at Southdowns Church.

Easter Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 11:00am Easter Praise.

Contact Ben and Gwen on 01322 862443

# HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



DATE	SPEAKER	TITLE
8 January	Christoph Bull	Gravesend – Gateway to the Thames
12 March	Doug Lindsay	Kent and East Sussex railway – Then and Now
14 May	Melanie Gibson-Barton	Wandering in Flanders Fields
9 July	Alex Ferris	1917 – Bombs on Kent
10 September	Malcolm Scott	Development of South Darenth before 1900
12 November	AGM	Short AGM and Talk, Launch of First World war Book and Cheese and Wine

- **Meetings** held in the Jubilee Hall, Horton Road starting at 8pm
- **All visitors welcome** (£2 admission)
- **Annual membership** - £7 and £10 for a couple
- **Refreshments** served after the meeting (tea/coffee/biscuits)
- **Raffle** at each meeting – 4/5 prizes
- **Publications** available from the Parish Office and Sutton at Hone Library
- **The new Walking Tour of Horton Kirby and South Darenth (£1) available from most outlets in South Darenth and Horton Kirby (shops, café, pubs)**

**Further information from Terry Moyle  
(LHS Chairman) 07939 581572 [trenoweth@btinternet.com](mailto:trenoweth@btinternet.com)**



The Southern Golden Retriever Society

# CHARITY FUN DAY

## FOR GOLDEN RETRIEVERS

- and their owners -  
will be held on

**SUNDAY 27th MAY 2018**

**HORTON KIRBY VILLAGE HALL,**  
Horton Road, South Darenth, Kent, DA4 9AZ

**GATES OPEN AT 11.30am.**

Lots of Fun Classes for Goldens Judged by Miss Victoria Polie (from 12.15pm)  
Let your dog 'Have-a-Go' at Agility, The Scurry, Three Dummy Retrieve, Obedience,  
Hide and Seek, Temptation Alley, Treat Snuffling and Gun Dog Exercises  
with the chance to win Rosettes and prizes.

Watch the Parade of Rescue Dogs and listen to their wonderful stories in  
finding loving new homes through Southern Golden Retriever Rescue.

Vet on site to give advice, Trade Stalls, Raffle, Bric-a-Brac Stall,  
Trimming and Nail Clipping for Golden Retrievers,  
Plant Stall, Tasty BBQ and Refreshments,  
Silent Auction, Stalls for Medical Detection Dogs and  
Southern Golden Retriever Rescue.

The exciting four heats and final of The Golden Retriever Steeplechase

**PLUS - A performance by  
THE SOUTHERN GOLDEN RETRIEVER SOCIETY  
DISPLAY TEAM**

For information contact David Wimsett - email- [david-wimsett1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:david-wimsett1@hotmail.co.uk)

*Proceeds will be divided between the SGRS elected charity,*

**MEDICAL DETECTION DOGS and SOUTHERN GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE.**



# Hartbeeps

Magical, musical and highly interactive play experience classes for babies -4 year olds

Tuesdays

Royal British Legion Hall, Devon Road, South Darenth

Come journey down the rabbit hole and fall into our world of imagination.  
Our award winning classes:

- Awakens babies senses
- Help to develop muscle tone
- Encourages babbling and language development
- Helps develop physical coordination and movement
- Help develop those all-important toddler:
  - Social and verbal skills
  - Self-confidence and sense of fun
  - Imagination and learning through play

BOOK your taster class Email [sarah.h@hartbeeps.com](mailto:sarah.h@hartbeeps.com)

## Baby Bells

Babies from 6 weeks  
sitting



## Baby Beeps

Babies sitting to  
toddling



## Happy House

Toddlers-4yrs & younger  
siblings



hartbeeps.com



# 1<sup>st</sup> Horton Kirby Scout Group

Our Scout Group, together with the Sutton at Hone Brownies, are putting on a GANG SHOW on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7pm and Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm and 6pm at the Horton Kirby & South Darenth Village Hall.

The price of the tickets are £5 each and they are on sale now and can be purchased from Norman and Brenda French on 01322 662487 or 07729 710806 or [normanffrench@gmail.com](mailto:normanffrench@gmail.com). Early booking is essential as seats are allocated.

Two of our Scouts were selected to represent our district of Swanley at the WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE being held in North America in July 2019. These young people have won their places because of their hard work and the help from their leaders and are to be congratulated. They have to raise around £1500 each so we are looking for your support when you see them out fundraising in the villages at local events during this year. Thank you

If you would like your child to take part in scouting activities in our group, please contact Barbara Bradley on 01322 862005 or [bradleyforgelane@btopenworld.com](mailto:bradleyforgelane@btopenworld.com). We are always looking for adult leaders particularly in our Scout section, so please do get in touch if you can help.



## **SOUTH DARENTH FC**

**Senior Team** We have signed a full squad of 18 players. We were promoted this season but have additional support for training and everyone is working hard to achieve maximum results.

**U16's** The team are really doing well again this season and are currently sitting 5th in the league with 4 games in hand so will hopefully finish the season within the top three which, considering we were only moved to this higher league at the start of the season, shows the hard work and determination that all team members put in to get the desired results.

**U14's** The U14s continue to look for players to add to their squad. We play in the C division of the SELKENT league and train at Heathside playing fields on Saturday from 10-1130. Please contact Danny Pedley (07771822642) if your child is interested.

**U9's** The under 9s were promoted by two divisions for the Spring League. They are battling hard every match, and all the boys are enjoying the challenge of the B League. They are in the SELKENT vase competition, hoping to go on a good run.

**U7's** If your child is interested in playing please contact Anthony on 07792697959. Training is at Heathside on a Saturday morning.

**Mini soccer** South Darenth Wc are now running a footie session on a Saturday morning from 10 till 11 at Heathside for 4 to 6 year olds. Boys and girls welcome to come along and have a bit of fun, please contact Steve on 07794562364 for more information.



# Riverside Kindergarten Pre-school

Horton Kirby & South Darent Village Hall, DA4 9AX

## High Quality Early Years Education & Care Learning Through Free-Flow Play

- A choice of 8 sessions for 2, 3 & 4-year-olds
  - Funded places for 2, 3 & 4-year-olds\*
  - Settling in sessions, extended sessions and lunchtimes
  - Large outdoor play area accessible all year round
  - Spacious indoor area
  - Ofsted registered 'GOOD'
  - Healthy snacks provided
  - Experienced, friendly staff
  - Qualification Levels 2, 3, 5, BA(Hons) and PGCE
  - All staff DBS checked and Paediatric First Aid trained
  - Close links with all our local Primary Schools and beyond
- \* Subject to eligibility

## Sessions held term time Monday to Friday



**Main Hall**  
**Jubilee Hall**

Monday to Friday: 9.15am-12.15pm and Thursday: 12pm-3pm  
Monday: 9.15am-1pm and Friday: 9.15am-12.15pm

We welcome you to call in and see what we have to offer during the times above.  
You can also contact Anne to arrange a visit, or for details of our open afternoon dates.

**Call Anne on 07968 019759**

Email: [anne@riversidekindergarten.co.uk](mailto:anne@riversidekindergarten.co.uk)

**Our new website will be available soon!**

# Darent Valley Lions Club

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported the sleigh runs around our villages when we helped Father Christmas on his journey. Over £2,000 was raised which will help with our Lions work locally and our Charity Trust Fund.

Our **GRAND SUMMER FETE** and **CLASSIC CAR SHOW** is being held at Heathside (behind the Village Hall) on **SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY** from 12 noon until 4.30pm. Please contact us if you would like to have a stall or enter your car. Get your dogs ready for the **DOG SHOW!**

We are always looking for help on this day particularly early morning. Can you help us please? Thank you.

Our **OPEN GARDEN** at Forge House, Forge Lane, Horton Kirby DA4 9DR is on **SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2018** from 2pm to 5pm and all monies raised will go the Ellenor Hospice.

New members will always be welcome and for more details please contact Peter and Barbara Bradley on 01322 862005 or [bradleyforgelane@btopenworld.com](mailto:bradleyforgelane@btopenworld.com)

Ordinary People - Amazing Things  
Serving the communities of  
Culverstone, Fawkham, Hartley, Horton Kirby, Longfield, New Ash Green, South Darent and Vigo



If you are recently retired or in need of some gentle exercise why not give short mat bowling a try. Join us at South Darenth Short Mat Bowling Club, Village Hall, Horton Road, South Darenth, on Wednesday and Friday afternoons 1.45-4pm.

We are always looking for new members. For the



first two sessions you are invited to try your hand free of charge, and also enjoy a cup of tea and a friendly

chat. Just drop in at the village hall on a Wednesday or Friday afternoon (1.45-4pm). Bowls are available, but you will need soft shoes with no heels or patterned tread.

**For further information contact the secretary**

**Maureen Collopy on 01322 270735**

*e-mail: [maurice\\_maureen@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:maurice_maureen@hotmail.co.uk)*

# FALCONS TABLE TENNIS CLUB



We are looking for players of all abilities to join the club for social and match table tennis.

Some of the benefits of table tennis:

- Improve hand-eye coordination
- Improve reflexes
- Burn calories
- Improve balance
- Stimulate your brain and keep your brain sharp
- Exercise that is easy on the joints
- Develop mental acuity
- Offers a social outlet

40

When: Wednesday match night evenings

Where: The Village Hall, South Darent

Contact: Chris Mitchell:  
01322 556642

or

Mike Tyler:  
020 8300 2491



# **BOWLS CLUB**

## **NEW MEMBERS WELCOME**

We welcome both new and experienced Bowlers to one of the most successful Bowling Clubs in Kent. All types of membership are available and tuition is provided free of charge to new bowlers both male and female.

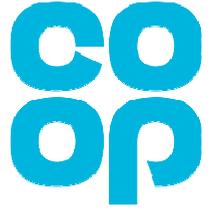
We are now closed until the season starts again in April but if you would like to find out more about us in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us by telephone or email.

All in all, there is a lot going on for bowlers of all ages and standard. Young bowlers are also very welcome. If you are interested in finding out about joining, please contact us by telephone, email or by visiting the Club when it opens next April.

In the first instance, please call 01322 866031 or email: [hkbcenquiries@gmail.com](mailto:hkbcenquiries@gmail.com). Alternatively, please call in at the club when we reopen.

**Heathside, South Darent, DA4 7AX**





## Being Co-operative in South Darent

I'd like to introduce myself as the Co-op Member Pioneer covering the South Darent store. My job involves helping the Co-op to support even more good causes locally. This might be as simple as encouraging you to put information about local groups or events on our noticeboards. One of the big ways that we have been helping is through our Local Community Fund which has raised thousands for charities in the village and locally. This year the support lasts longer and is likely to be worth more to your local good cause. Go to <https://www.coop.co.uk/membership/local-community-fund> to find out more. The fund opens in March.

If you have other ideas about how the Co-op can help your group then my email is [karen.jefferys@coopmembers.co.uk](mailto:karen.jefferys@coopmembers.co.uk) and I aim to check this weekly. You can also leave a message for me in store or keep in touch via Facebook. The store's Facebook page is: Co-Op South Darent (search @coopssouthdarent) and I am in the process of creating one linked to my role. This is called Coop South Darent Member Pioneer (search @CoopSouthDarentPioneer).

I look forward to hearing from you and exploring how we can be Co-operative in South Darent.

Karen Jefferys  
Member Pioneer



## Recent Planning Decisions

SE/17/01772/FUL - Horton Kirby Fire Station Horton Road, South Darenth  
Change of use of Horton Kirby Fire Station into a chilrens day nursery. Removal of the old temporary outbuilding and erection of a wood cabin – GRANTED

SE/17/02195/LDCEX - Oakview Stud Farm, Horton Kirby  
Certificate of Existing Lawful Development in respect to the continued use of land for B8 storage – REFUSED

SE/17/02622/HOUSE - 3 Glebe Place, Horton Kirby  
Erection of a single storey extension to the side and rear – GRANTED

SE/17/02803/HOUSE - Little Franks, Franks Lane, Horton Kirby DA4 9JJ  
Enlargement of an existing single-storey side extension and a slight increase in the heighth of the existing ridge line. Installation of dormer window and rooflight. Internal alterations and associated external works, including the removal of a section of garden wall to the rear terrace. (Amended drawings) – GRANTED

SE/17/03838/AGRNOT - Hortons Wood Three Gates Road, Fawkham  
Steel Framed Barn - PRIOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED

SE/17/02656/FUL - Plot 4 Grazing Land South of Viaduct Terrace, Horton Road, South Darenth  
Erection of 3 stables and 1 tack room – GRANTED

SE/17/03801/FUL - Hill Farm, Franks Lane, Horton Kirby  
Conversion of agricultural barn to 6no two bedroom dwellings – GRANTED

SE/17/03170/HOUSE - The Green House, The Street, Horton Kirby  
Erection of proposed two-storey partial rear extension including internal alterations, roof lights and new garden wall and gate - GRANTED

SE/17/03085/HOUSE - Tanhurst, Dartford Road, Horton Kirby  
Demolition of existing rear conservatory. Erection of a single storey rear extension with roof lights. Alterations to fenestration - GRANTED

SE/17/02408/FUL - Land North East of Croft House, The Street, Horton Kirby  
Erection of one dwelling - GRANTED

# Parish Council Information

Parish Council Meetings held on the first Monday of every month in the Village Hall

## **Parish Councillors**

Chair: Ian Blackamore - 01322 864024  
Vice Chair: Colin Willson - 07387 589791  
Roger House - 01322 862724  
Dawn Mitchell - 07910 312710  
Terry Moyle - 07939 581572  
Christine Page - 01322 864776  
Peter Rushbrook – cllrPCR@hotmail.com  
Mike Stead – 07985 938323  
James Stewart – 07805 063821

## **District Councillors**

Philip McGarvey  
Tel: 01322 862870  
Mobile: 07803 121830  
Email: [cllr.mcgarvey@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mcgarvey@sevenoaks.gov.uk)  
Ingrid Tennessee  
Email: Ingsonly2@gmail.com

## **County Councillor**

Roger Gough  
Tel: 01959 525109  
Email: roger.gough@kent.gov.uk

## **Member of Parliament**

Michael Fallon  
Tel: 0207 219 6482  
Email: michael.fallon.mp@parliament.uk